

1. An applicant's qualifications

A foreign national may qualify to apply for a residence permit if he/she

1.1 holds a passport of his/her current nationality, which was granted a NON-IMMIGRANT VISA and has been permitted to stay in the Kingdom of Thailand on the basis of one year visa extension for the total of at least 3 consecutive years up to the application submission date.

1.2 has personal qualifications that fit one of the following categories:

(1) Investment category

(2) Working/Business category

(3) Humanity Reasons category: he/she must have relationship with a Thai citizen or an alien who already possessed residence permit as the followings:

1) A legal husband or wife.

2) A legal father or mother.

3) A child who is under 20 years of age up to the application submission date and must be single.

(4) Expert category

(5) Extra circumstances on a case by case basis (For more information please access to www.immigration.go.th – Applying for a resident's visa in Thailand - Criterion and Conditions of foreign nationals' residential permit consideration)

2. Submission period for the applications

Ministry of Interior will announce the annual quota of foreigners to be granted with residence permit and such announcement will be published in the Government Gazette. Application can then be submitted until the last working day of the year. Detailed information about the date and documents required for each category can be obtained at Sub-Division 1, Immigration Division 1, The Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty The King's 80th Birthday Anniversary, 5th December, B.E. 2550 (2007), Building B, 2 Floor, Counter D, 120 Moo 3, Chaengwattana Road, Thungsoyong Sub-District, Laksi District, Bangkok 10210 Telephone 0 2143 8224-5, 0 2141 9898-9 or at Provincial immigration offices, or www.immigration.go.th – Applying for a resident's visa in Thailand. Applicants must submit the applications in person and bring all documents required, for each category, together with all of their passports.

3. Procedures after the applications are accepted

3.1 The immigration officers will grant the applicants for 180 days extension of stay on the date of application submission first and the next extension will be granted for 180 days until the results of the applications come out from The Immigration Commission.

3.2 The applicants and those who get involved with the applications will get an appointment card to come for an interview with the immigration officers. The interview includes the test of the understanding of Thai language: speaking and listening (the applicants must come for the interview on the date of appointment; otherwise, without an appropriate reason, it will be automatically taken into the consideration that they cancel the applications.)

3.3 The applicants who are 14 years of age up to the application submission date must be checked their criminal records as the followings:

(1) Their fingerprint sheets are sent to the Criminal Records Division for the criminal record's check in Thailand.

(2) Their passports are checked by the black list system whether they are considered as "prohibited persons" according to the Immigration Bureau.

(3) They are to be checked whether they are wanted by a foreign warrant of arrest by the Foreign Affairs Division.

4. Applications Consideration

4.1 The applications will be submitted for the consideration by The Immigration Commission which consists of the representatives from The Ministry of Interior, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand, The Royal Thai Police Headquarters, The Ministry of Labour, Office of the Attorney General, The Board of Investment of Thailand, The Secretariat of the National Security Council, The Tourism Authority of Thailand, and The Immigration Bureau with the final approval by The Minister of Interior.

4.2 To grant approval for the residence permit application, The Immigration Commission will take into its consideration the applicants' qualifications in terms of income, assets, knowledge, professional expertise, relationship with a Thai citizen, national security, personality, health, the understanding of Thai language, and other appropriate conditions due to current economic and social surroundings, and government policy.

4.3 Timing for the consideration process varies each year, depending on the policy of The Immigration Commission and The Ministry of Interior.

5. Fees

5.1 A non-refundable fee for each application is 7,600 baht. (whether permission is granted or not. Application fee is not refund able.)

5.2 If the application is approved, the fee for the residence permit is 191,400 baht. However, the residence permit fee for spouses and children (under 20 years of age) of aliens who already had the residence permit or Thai citizens is 95,700 baht.

Remarks : Documents which are in foreign language must be officially certified by the applicant's national embassy located in Thailand, translated into Thai (e.g. name, telephone number), that can be verified later, must also be provided. And certified by the Official of Department of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand.

WARNING: Submission of false documents or the provision of false statements are criminal offences

This copy is for the applicant's guideline only. It would be subjected to change by government policies and economic conditions.