



REQUIREMENTS FOR BUSINESS VISA

(This is a permit issued to foreigners who intend to establish or invest in a business in South Africa in which they may be employed.)

Foreigners who are contemplating investing in the South African economy by establishing a business or by investing in an existing business in the country must apply for a business permit. As an applicant, you will be required to invest a prescribed financial capital contribution.

The capital requirements above may be reduced or waived in respect of the following types of industries/businesses:

- **Information and communication technology**
- **Clothing and textile manufacturing**
- **Chemicals and bio-technology**
- **Agro processing**
- **Metals and minerals refinement**
- **Automotive manufacturing**
- **Tourism**
- **Crafts**

REQUIREMENTS: (all forms to be completed in black ink)

- MACHINE READABLE VALID PASSPORT WITH MINIMUM TWO UNUSED VISA LABEL PAGES. PASSPORT MUST BE VALID FOR MINIMUM 30 DAYS AFTER THE INTENDED DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM SOUTH AFRICA.
- **NON-REFUNDABLE** APPLICATION FEE (IF APPLICABLE) IN THE FORM OF MONEY ORDER / CASHIERS CHECK: **\$127.00**
- **COMPLETED DHA-1738** SIGNED BY APPLICANT.
- TWO PASSPORT PHOTOS.
- CERTIFIED/NOTARIZED COPY BIO PAGE OF PASSPORT.

- CERTIFIED COPY OF VALID PROOF OF RESIDENCE IN US (Green Card/H1 B/ J1/ L1 etc) (Proof of residence must be valid for duration of stay in South Africa) **(B1/B2 US VISA HOLDERS NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY – MUST APPLY IN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN).**
- PROOF OF TENTATIVE TRAVEL ITINERARY OF ROUND-TRIP AIR TICKETS. **DO NOT PURCHASE AIR TICKETS PRIOR TO OBTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN VISA.**
- PROOF OF FINANCIAL MEANS IN THE FORM OF THREE (3) MONTHS OF THE MOST RECENT BANK STATEMENTS, **STAMPED** BY THE BANKING INSTITUTION (NO NOTARY STAMPS) OR WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM BANKING INSTITUTION-ONLINE BANKS.
- PROOF OF TENTATIVE ACCOMMODATION.
- IF HOSTED BY SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZEN OR PERMENANT RESIDENT: LETTER OF INVITATION, COPY OF CERTIFIED RSA ID DOCUMENT, PROOF OF RESIDENCE OF HOST (UTILITY BILL).
- IF HOSTED BY NON-SOUTH AFRICAN: LETTER OF INVITATION, COPY OF CERTIFIED VALID BIO PAGE OF PASSPORT AND VISA, PROOF OF RESIDENCE OF HOST (UTILITY BILL).
- YELLOW FEVER CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED FOR APPLICANTS TRAVELING THROUGH YELLOW FEVER BELT AREAS EN ROUTE TO SOUTH AFRICA.
- MEDICAL REPORT ON PRESCRIBED FORM – **DHA-811** (PHYSICAL). THE CERTIFICATE MUST NOT BE OLDER THAN SIX (6) MONTHS AT THE TIME THE APPLICANT SUBMITS AN APPLICATION.
- **ORIGINAL FBI CERTIFICATE** (FULL CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK REPORT) AND ORIGINAL POLICE CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FROM EACH COUNTRY WHERE THE RELEVANT APPLICANT RESIDED FOR 12 MONTHS OR LONGER AFTER ATTAINING THE AGE OF 18 YEARS (FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS) IN RESPECT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS OR THE CHARACTER REFERENCE OF THE APPLICANT, THE CERTIFICATE SHOULD NOT BE OLDER THAN SIX MONTHS AT THE TIME OF ITS SUBMISSION. SA POLICE CLEARANCE IF LIVED IN SA FOR 12 MONTHS.
- PROOF OF FINANCIAL/CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION EQUIVALENT TO R2.5MILLION.
- CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT CERTIFYING THE INVESTMENT AND THAT IT IS AVAILABLE AND ORIGINATED FROM ABROAD.
- A BUSINESS PLAN OUTLINING THE FEASIBILITY OF THE BUSINESS.
- MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE OR IN THE CASE OF A FOREIGN SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP, PROOF OF OFFICIAL RECOGNITION THEREOF ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITIES OF THE FOREIGN COUNTRY OF THE APPLICANT (WHERE APPLICABLE).

- THE AFFIDAVIT WHERE A SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP TO A SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZEN OR RESIDENT IS APPLICABLE, AS WELL AS DOCUMENTATION PROVING COHABITATION AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RELATED FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ARE SHARED BY THE PARTIES AND SETTING OUT THE PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN IN THE SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP.
- DIVORCE DECREE, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- COURT ORDER GRANTING FULL OR SPECIFIC PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- DEATH CERTIFICATE, IN RESPECT OF LATE SPOUSE, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- WRITTEN CONSENT FROM BOTH PARENTS AND FULL PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- PROOF OF ADOPTION, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- LEGAL SEPARATION ORDER, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF A BUSINESS VISA IN RESPECT OF A BUSINESS VISA BY A FOREIGNER WHO INTENDS TO ESTABLISH A BUSINESS OR INVESTMENT IN A BUSINESS THAT IS NOT YET ESTABLISHED IN THE REPUBLIC.
- A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT REGISTERED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OR A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT REGISTERED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS TO THE EFFECT THAT:
 - AT LEAST AN AMOUNT IN CASH TO BE INVESTED IN THE REPUBLIC AS DETERMINED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE MINISTER, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, BY NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE, IS AVAILABLE, OR;
 - AT LEAST AN AMOUNT IN CASH AND A CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION AS DETERMINED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE MINISTER, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, BY NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE, IS AVAILABLE (5 MILLION RAND)
- UNDERTAKING BY THE APPLICANT THAT AT LEAST 60% OF THE TOTAL STAFF COMPLIMENT TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE OPERATIONS OF THE BUSINESS SHALL BY SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS EMPLOYED PERMANENTLY IN VARIOUS POSITIONS. (PROVIDED THAT PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH THIS UNDERTAKING SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF ISSUANCE OF THE VISA.
- UNDERTAKING TO REGISTER WITH THE:
 - SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE;
 - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND;
 - COMPENSATION FUND FOR OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND DISEASES;

- COMPANIES AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTIES COMMISSION (CPIC); WHERE LEGALLY REQUIRED, AND
- RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL BODY, BOARD OR COUNCIL RECOGNIZED BY SAQA IN TERMS OF SECTION 13(1)(I) OF THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT WHERE APPLICABLE (PROVIDED THAT UPON REGISTRATION, ALL CERTIFICATES SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL)
- A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY REGARDING
 - THE FEASIBILITY OF THE BUSINESS; AND
 - THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE REPUBLIC
- ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IN RESPECT OF A BUSINESS VISA APPLICATION BY A FOREIGNER WHO HAS ESTABLISHED BUSINESS OR INVESTED IN AN EXISTING BUSINESS IN THE REPUBLIC.
- A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT REGISTERED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OR A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT REGISTERED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS TO THE EFFECT THAT:
 - A FOREIGNER WHO INVESTS OR HAS INVESTED IN AN EXISTING BUSINESS SHALL SUBMIT
 - FINANCIAL STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF THE PRECEDING YEAR; AND
 - PROOF OF INVESTMENT.
- **PROCESSING TIME** FOR LONG VISAS EXCEEDING 90 DAYS MAY TAKE UP TO 3 TO 4 WEEKS.
- **WHERE TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION:**

For residents of Alabama, Arkansas, District of Colombia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and Wisconsin:

 - **The South African Embassy in Washington, DC**
3051 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

