

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGNERS WHO INTEND TO CONDUCT WORK ON A VISITOR'S PERMIT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING SIX (6) MONTHS

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to your enquiry and wish to inform you that foreigners who intend to work in the Republic of South Africa, with or without remuneration or reward, must apply for a work permit.

Foreigners who do not qualify to apply for a work permit may be regulated on a visitor's permit in terms of section 11(2) of the Immigration Act as amended, but must receive authorisation from the Director-General of the Department of Home Affairs. **This authorisation may be granted at a port of entry on entry into the Republic of South Africa, by the immigration officer (on behalf of the Director-General of the Department of Home Affairs)**, who will endorse the visitor's permit that he or she issues to the foreigner accordingly i.e. "Authorised to work on a visitor's permit in terms of section 11 (2)".

The authorisation in terms of section 11(2) applies to the following categories of foreigners for visits **not exceeding six (6) months** (there may be other categories not mentioned here):

- persons in the entertainment industry;
- persons in the film / media industry;
- models;
- sport persons;
- technicians (in respect of the installation, maintenance or repairing of machinery);
- interns at a company;
- trainees (in respect of an intra-company training programme);
- dancers; and
- anyone conducting such activities consistent with being employed or consistent with the profession of the person, with or without remuneration or reward (please verify with your South African employer, whether this category would apply to you).

[Passport / travel document holders who are exempt from the South African visa requirement](#)

(see below in respect of German passport holders) must provide the immigration officer at the port of entry with a letter from the host i.e. company, institution or organisation in the Republic of South Africa, confirming the purpose and duration of the visit.

Foreigners who require visas must submit a [visa application](#) and be issued with a visa at a South African mission abroad before proceeding to the Republic of South Africa.

German passport holders are exempt from South African visa control for a period of ninety (90) days. A visitor's permit for a period not exceeding three (3) months may therefore be issued to German passport holder at a South African port of entry e.g. international airport, provided that he or she is able to submit the following documentation to the immigration officer:

- a passport valid for no less than thirty (30) days after departure from the Republic of South Africa, and containing at least one (1) blank page for endorsements;
- documentation confirming the purpose and duration of the visit, if applicable;
- proof of a valid return air ticket or payment of a deposit, or both the return air ticket and deposit, which shall be refunded after the foreigner's final departure or after a permanent residence permit has been issued to the foreigner;
- a yellow fever vaccination certificate, if the applicant travelled or intends travelling from or through a yellow fever endemic area: provided that the certificate shall not be required when the applicant travelled or intends travelling in direct transit through such area;

Kind regards,
Consular Section
Embassy of the Republic of South Africa
Tiergartenstr. 18
10785 Berlin

Tel.: 030 22073 0 (Mon-Fri; 14:00-16:30)
Fax: 030 22073 202
Email: berlin.consular@foreign.gov.za

Note:

- Should the holder of a visitor's permit wish to stay in the Republic of South Africa for a period exceeding three (3) months, **but not exceeding six (6) months**, he or she may, at least thirty (30) days before the expiry of this visitor's permit, apply for an extension of the visitor's permit for a maximum period of three (3) months at any regional office of the Department of Home Affairs **in the country** (see <http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/regions.asp>).

The following documents must be submitted for such an application:

- a fully completed application form (see [Form BI-1739](#));
 - a passport valid for no less than thirty (30) days after departure from the Republic of South Africa, and containing at least one (1) blank page for endorsements;
 - documentation confirming the purpose and duration of the visit, if applicable;
 - proof of a valid return air ticket or payment of a deposit, or both the return air ticket and deposit, which shall be refunded after the foreigner's final departure or after a permanent residence permit has been issued to the foreigner;
 - proof of sufficient financial means;
 - the non-refundable application fee of 425 ZAR.
- In the case of an internship in the form of voluntary and charitable activities at a non-profit or charitable organisation for a period exceeding three (3) months, a [visitor's permit](#) may be applied for and issued at a South African mission abroad before proceeding to the Republic of South Africa.
 - In the case of an internship in the form of research at a university or research institution for a period exceeding three (3) months, a [visitor's permit](#) may be applied for and issued at a South African mission abroad before proceeding to the Republic of South Africa.
 - In the case of a medical elective at a university hospital for a period exceeding three (3) months, a [study permit](#) must be applied for and issued at a South African mission abroad before proceeding to the Republic of South Africa.