APPLICATION FOR A CRITICAL SKILLS WORK VISA

Subject to any prescribed requirements, a critical skills work visa may be issued to an individual possessing such skills or qualifications determined to be critical for the Republic of South Africa from time to time by the Minister of Home Affairs by notice in the *Gazette* (see

https://www.suedafrika.org/fileadmin/CRITICAL_SKILLS_LIST.pdf) and to those members of his or her immediate family as determined by the Director-General under the circumstances or as may be prescribed.

PLEASE PRINT OUT THIS CHECKLIST AND SUBMIT IT WITH THE COMPLETE VISA APPLICATION!

The complete visa application must be submitted **in person** to the office of application (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Business_hours.doc).

	The following documentation must be submitted by each applicant. Please keep / submit the documentation in the order as listed below.	Mission
1	 Original machine readable passport Validity of no less than thirty (30) days after the foreigner's intended departure from the Republic of South Africa. Passports must have at least two (2) blank pages for endorsements. Non-machine readable / handwritten passports are not accepted / recognised. Original second passport, if the applicant holds one, shall also be presented. In the case of visa applicants who are not German citizens, proof of long term residence (Aufenthaltstitel) in Germany must be provided in the form of: a) the residence permit or original Chipkarte (and a photocopy); or b) in the case of EU citizens, the original 'Anmeldebescheinigung' (and a photocopy). 	
2	Passport photocopies	
	 Of the passport page with the applicant's personal data / photograph. Of all previous visas for the Republic of South Africa in the passport. Of second passport, if the applicant holds another passport. 	
3	 One fully completed application form DHA-1738 Must be downloaded and printed: http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/DHA-1738.pdf. All questions must be answered in English – questions that don't apply may be completed with 'n/a'. A 'fingerprint form' is not required to be completed by applicants. Applicants must provide an email address under Part 4 (may be written below telephone number). 'Contact person' under Part 4 refers to someone in Germany. 'Proposed date and place of departure for the Republic' under Part 5 means the date and place of departure from Germany. Full details of the intended duration of stay in, and intended date of departure from the Republic of South Africa must be completed under Part 5. The question, 'Have you ever been refused entry into or deported from the Republic' under Part 7 must be completed with either 'yes' or 'no', and details provided, if the answer is 'yes'. 	
4	 One (1) biometric photograph Should be a recent photograph, not older than 6 months. Photographs must be taken and printed professionally – photographs printed at home would be rejected. 	

5			
	 http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Critical Skills Categories.pdf) in the form of – a) a confirmation, in writing, from the professional body, council or board recognised by SAQA in terms of section 13(1)(i) of the National Qualifications Framework Act (see http://pbdesig.saqa.org.za/index.php), or any relevant government Department confirming the skills or qualifications of the applicant and appropriate post 		
	qualification experience; b) if required by law, proof of application for a certificate of registration with the professional body, council or board recognised by SAQA in terms of section 13(1)(i) of the National Qualifications Framework Act (see		
	 http://pbdesig.saqa.org.za/index.php); and c) proof of evaluation of the foreign qualification by SAQA (see http://www.saqa.org.za) and translated by a sworn translator into English. 		
6	An offer or contract of employment from the prospective employer / company in the Republic of South Africa in line with the respective critical skills category, and specifying the occupation and capacity in which the foreigner shall be employed		
	 If the original document is submitted, it must be accompanied by a photocopy, which will be certified; the original document will then be given back to the applicant. 		
7	A written undertaking by the prospective employer / company in the Republic of South Africa –		
	accepting responsibility for the costs related to the deportation of the applicant and		
	 his or her dependent family members, should it become necessary; to ensure that the passport of his or her employee is valid at all times for the duration of his or her employment. 		
8	 An <u>original</u> police clearance certificate Must be issued by the police or security authority in each country where the applicant, after attaining the age of 18 years, resided for 12 months or longer during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the visa application, in respect of criminal records or the character of that applicant. Shall not be older than six months at the time of its submission. In respect of the police clearance certificate for Germany, the 'normal' certificate regarding the entries over the last 5 years, which is sent to the applicant's private address, may be submitted. If there are no entries (<i>Keine Eintragung</i>) on a police clearance certificate for Germany, it does not have to be translated into English. 		
9	 A medical report The prescribed form BI-811 (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/BI-811 Medical Certificate.pdf) must be used (downloaded and printed). The prescribed form BI-811 must be completed, signed, stamped and dated by a registered medical practitioner (e.g. Hausarzt, Internist) with regard to the applicant's general state of health, detailing any medical condition he or she suffers from. Shall not be older than six months at the time of its submission. 		
10	In respect of dependent children accompanying the applicant or joining the applicant in the Republic of South Africa, proof of parental responsibilities and rights or written consent in the form of an affidavit from the other parent or legal guardian, as the case may be (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Parental consent letter.doc); certified copies of the parents' / legal guardians' passports or identity documents (<i>Ausweis</i>) must also be attached.		

11	In respect of a spouse accompanying the applicant or joining the applicant in the Republic of South Africa, a copy of a marriage certificate or proof of a permanent		
	homosexual or heterosexual relationship (see		
	http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Permanent_spousal_relationship.doc)		
	If a marriage certificate is not in English, it must be translated and certified as a		
	correct translation by a sworn translator; alternatively, applicants who got married in		
	Germany may submit an 'international marriage certificate'.		
12			
	 Only required, if the foreigner travelled or intends travelling from or transiting through a yellow fever endemic area to the Republic of South Africa. 		
	The certificate shall not be required where that person travelled or intends travelling		
	in direct transit through such an area.		
	(See also http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Yellow_fever.doc)		
13	Proof of payment of the applicable fee		
	 Payment of the application fee must be made through an electronic bank transfer (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Application_fee.doc). 		
	A copy of the transfer / deposit slip must be submitted as proof of payment.		
	Payment must be made at least five working (5) days before submitting the		
	application.		
	Payment of the application fee may not be made in cash at the Embassy in Berlin		
	and Consulate-General in Munich!		
	An A4-size envelope franked with the ExpressEasy DHL-online label (National – 0,5kg)		
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Please note:

A critical skills work visa shall be issued for a period not exceeding five (5) years.

- The spouse and dependent children accompanying the main applicant may be issued with a visitor's visa (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Visitors Permit.doc); however, dependent children of school-going age accompanying the main applicant must be issued with study visas (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/Study Permit.doc).
- Should it become evident that the prospective employee i.e. applicant would not be able to meet one or more of the requirements, the South African employer should request the Director: Visas at the Department of Home Affairs to waive the requirements in terms of section 31(2)(c) of the Immigration Act, as amended. The employer must motivate each request with full particulars and background, and should the waiver be granted, confirmation thereof must be submitted with the application (see http://www.suedafrika.org/downloads/waiver-application.doc).
- Status / progress reports are not provided during the above-mentioned processing period.

 Furthermore, no 'express service' for processing visa applications is available complete applications are adjudicated on a First-In-First-Out basis.
- **Visa applications which are not complete shall not be taken in to be processed.** It is therefore the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that his or her visa application is complete as per the checklist.
- In the case of inconsistencies and / or incomplete information, our office reserves the right to request the applicant to submit additional documentation to substantiate the visa application.
- Documentation that accompanies the visa application shall be original or copies authenticated by the
 issuing authority of the country of origin and where necessary, translated into English and certified as a
 correct translation by a sworn translator (beeidigter Übersetzer) at the expense of the applicant.
- A visa issued at a foreign mission of the Republic of South Africa shall be affixed to the passport of the applicant and shall only be valid if an entry stamp has been affixed thereto at the port of entry and the date of such entry stamp shall be the effective date.



CRITICAL SKILLS WORK VISA

SECTION 19(4) OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT

Documents Required	Yes	No
Duly completed and signed application form.		
Proof of payment of the applicable fee.		
 A valid Passport that expires in no less than 30 days after expiry of the intended date of departure from the Republic in terms of regulation 9(1)(a). 		
 In the case of an application for extension, the application must be submitted in person, no less than 60 days prior to the expiry date of the applicant's visa and if the visa was issued for less than 30 days, not later than seven working days before the expiry of the visa. 		
 A medical report, signed by a medical practitioner, reflecting the practice number of the practitioner and their address and contact details, which report shall not be older than six months at the time of its submission. 		
 Police clearance certificate issued by the police or security authority of a country where the applicant resided for longer than 12 months in the last 5 years prior to submitting the current application, which certificate shall not be older than six months at the time of its submission. 		
 A yellow fever vaccination certificate if an applicant travelled or intends travelling from or transiting through a yellow fever endemic are, provided that the certificate shall not be required where an applicant travelled or intends travelling in direct transit through such area. 		
 A valid offer of employment or contract of employment stipulating the conditions of employment and signed by both the employer and the applicant. 		
 A written undertaking by the employer to: a) ensure that the passport of his or her employee is valid at all times for the duration of his or her employment; and b) accepting responsibility for the costs related to the deportation of the applicant and his or her dependent family members, should it become necessary. 		
 Proof that the applicant falls within the critical skills category by <u>specifically</u> selecting <u>one</u> occupation/critical skill for which the application is being made. The occupation/critical skill must be on the latest Critical Skills List. Selection must be done with a black pen. 		
 Confirmation, in writing, from a relevant professional body, council or board recognised by SAQA in terms of section 13(1)(0 of the National Qualifications Framework Act, or by any relevant government Department confirming the skills or qualifications of the applicant and appropriate post qualification experience. 		

•	If required by law, proof of application for a certificate of registration with the professional body, council or board recognised by SAQA in terms of section 13(1)(i) of the National Qualifications Framework Act. (Not required for Senior University Lecturers).	
•	Outcome of foreign qualifications evaluated by SAQA and translated by a sworn translator into one of the official languages of the Republic; or proof of application submitted to SAQA for evaluation of foreign qualifications if the outcome of the evaluation is not yet available.	

Notes:

- a) A critical skills work visa shall be issued for a period not exceeding five years at a time. In the case of an application where the outcome of an evaluation of foreign qualifications by SAQA is not yet available and the applicant submits proof of application to SAQA, the critical skills work visa shall be issued for a period of one year and will subsequently be extended to the full term provided that the applicant submits a positive outcome of foreign qualifications evaluated by SAQA within one year.
- b) For all Corporate General Manager (CGM) and Director occupations, check the additional requirements in Table 10 of the Critical Skills Technical Report available on http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/notices
- c) University Lecturers must specify the classification of education subject matter as per Annexure 2 of the Critical Skills Technical Report available on http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/notices
- d) Engineering applicants, and others similarly graded in the occupations listed above, who are registered as a "Candidate" with a professional body recognized by SAQA, will qualify for a critical skills work visa provided that they meet all other requirements and that, upon receipt of the critical skills work visa, they will be working under the supervision of a qualified professional.
- e) All supporting documents will be verified, including employment and qualifications. While optional, the submission of a MIE Report will assist with verification.
- f) Whenever it appears to the Director-General that a visa or permanent residence permit was acquired through misrepresentation or fraud, he or she shall withdraw the visa or permanent residence permit and, where applicable, cause criminal charges to be laid against all parties implicated in the misrepresentation or fraud.
- q) The applicant is personally responsible for all supporting documents submitted with the application.

I have read and understood the above and wish to continue with my application.

Applicant Name: Applicant Signature:

Date of Submission:

VFS Staff Name:

VFS Staff Signature:



USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION CONSENT FORM

PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (hereinafter referred to as POPI Act) DEFINITIONS IN TERMS OF BELOW CONSENT

- "Applicant" means the person completing this document to be considered by the Department of Home Affairs for purposes of providing Immigration Services.
- "Personal Information" have the meaning ascribed to it in Chapter 1 of POPI and includes, but is not limited to, a name, surname, address, telephone or fax number, or other personal credentials provided, or which is collected from the applicant or other third parties, before and/or during the adjudication process for a visa, permanent residence permit, appeal, waiver, exemption or visa verification request and/or thereafter.
- "POPI" shall mean the Protection of Personal Information Act, No. 4 of 2013, as mended from time to time including any regulations made under the Act.
- "Privacy and Data Protection Conditions" refers to the 8 (eight) statutory prescribed conditions for the lawful Processing of Personal Information.
- "Responsible Parties" means the Department of Home Affairs and its' representative VFS Global.

CONSENT FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

- I hereby authorize, by signing this form, the Department of Home Affairs and Visa Facilitation Services (VFS Global) employees at the Visa Application Centre (VFC) to access my Personal Information for the purpose of verification of all supporting documents attached to this application.
- I understand that verification requests form part of the visa and permit adjudication processes at the Department of Home Affairs.
- I acknowledge that any Personal Information supplied to the Department of Home Affairs is voluntary and that Home Affairs may not be able to comply with its obligations if the correct Personal Information is not supplied to Home Affairs.

CONFIRMING OWN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONSENT I PROVIDE

- I understand that privacy is important to the Responsible Parties and the Responsible Parties will use reasonable efforts to ensure that any Personal Information in their possession or processed on their behalf is kept confidential, stored in a secure manner and processed in terms of South African law and or applicable Data Protection Legislation, for the purposes I have authorised.
- I warrant that all information, including Personal Information, supplied to Home Affairs and its representative is accurate and current and agree to correct and update such information when necessary.
- By submitting any Personal Information to Home Affairs and its representative in any form I acknowledge that such conduct constitutes a reasonable unconditional, specific and voluntary consent to the processing of such Personal Information in the following manner by Home Affairs and its representative:
- Personal Information may be stored by Home Affairs and its representative, for legislated retention periods and where such periods are not legislated then my personal information may be stored by Home Affairs and its representative for as long as I may need my information to be verified, or any other period as I may agree with Home Affairs and its representative.
- Personal Information may be transferred cross-border to countries, for verification or storage purposes. In any cross-border transfer of personal information Home Affairs and its representative will comply with the security safeguards as provided for in the POPIA including but not limited to ensuring that the information is secured when transported to or from the recipient.
- I take note that if the Responsible Party has used the Personal Information contrary to the Privacy and Data Protection Conditions, I may first resolve any concerns with that Responsible Party. If I am not satisfied with such process, I have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Regulator.

• A copy of Personal Information kept by the Responsible Parties will be furnished to me upon request in terms of the provisions of POPI and I understand that I may dispute any information in the record provided.

APPLICANT'S INITIALS & SURNAME	
APPLICANT'S PASSPORT NUMBER	
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE	
DATE	

USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION CONSENT FORM