

Consular Section at the South African Embassy Seoul provides immigration services and information on South African visas on behalf of the Department of Home Affairs of the Republic of South Africa. For more information, you may visit the website of the [Department of Home Affairs](#). South African Immigration Regulations has been amended effective from 26 May 2014. Click [HERE](#) for the details.

Please note that the Embassy is operating consular work on a reservation basis to improve its service delivery for clients. Therefore, please ensure that you make a reservation (Tel 02-2077-5900 e-mail:consular.seoul@dirco.gov.za) before visiting the Embassy for consular matters.

For enquiries related to South African immigration services and visas, you may contact Consular Section via e-mail: consular.seoul@dirco.gov.za. The following information is subject to change without prior notice.

COUNTRIES EXEMPT FROM SOUTH AFRICAN VISAS

The citizen who is a holder of a national passport (diplomatic, official and ordinary) of the foreign countries/ territories/ international organisations listed in the following link is not required to hold a visa when reporting to an immigration officer for an examination at a South African port of entry, subject to the terms and conditions set out in this list, including inter alia the intended period of stay in the Republic of South Africa. Please click and see [LIST OF VISA EXEMPT COUNTRIES](#)

[ANNOUNCEMENT] With effect from 16 January 2017, all diplomatic, official and ordinary passport holders of New Zealand who wish to travel to South Africa are required to be in possession of a visa. Please read the statement by Minister Gigaba at the Media Briefing on the withdrawal of visa free travel arrangements for New Zealand Passport holders: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/914-statement-by-minister-gigaba-at-the-media-briefing-on-the-withdrawal-of-visa-free-travel-arrangements-for-new-zealand-passport-holders>.

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Russian Federation have, by mutual agreement, decided to exempt each other's ordinary passport holders from the requirement to be in possession of port of entry visas for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days for holiday and business visits. The visa exemption will enter into force and effect on 31 March 2017.

[IMPORTANT] If you visit for the purposes other than transit, tourism, holidays, conferences, business meetings, OR your intended stay in RSA exceeds your exempted period (90 days or 30 days), you will need to apply for a visa at the South African diplomatic mission in your country of origin or permanent/long-term residence.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All the travellers must comply with the following requirements in the Republic of South Africa:

- **Machine -Readable Passport** must have two (2) unused visa pages and expire in no less than 30 days after the intended departure from SA.
- Valid visa, if required.
- **Minors' new requirements**, in the above.

- Proof of sufficient funds to pay for your day-to-day expenses during your stay.
- A return or onward ticket.
- **Yellow fever certificates** for the travellers over one year of age, where applicable.

If you are visiting SA for a business meeting or conference, it is advised to travel with an invitation or written proof thereof.

OVERSTAY APPEALS

Persons who are declared undesirable persons in terms of Section 30(1)(h) read with 50(1) of the Immigration Act, no 13 of 2002 as amended (no. 13 of 2011) must submit the written representative as indicated below. The following documents shall be submitted to the Department of Home Affairs:

- Written representation;
- The declaration of undesirability (Form 19) issued at the Port of Entry;
- The relevant pages of the passport, including bio page;
- Acknowledgment of receipt, in cases where the applicant has applied for a permit and the status is still pending. If the applicant overstayed due to medical reasons, a medical certificate must be submitted.

The appeal must be e-mailed to overstayappeals@dha.gov.za

Please refer to the website of the Department of Home Affairs: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/overstay-appeals>

TYPES OF VISAS

Before applying for visas at the South African Embassy in Seoul, please ensure that you know exactly which visa you would like to apply for and make sure that you have all the relevant documentation available.

1. TRANSIT VISA in terms of Section 10B of the Act

A transit visa may be issued to the visa restricted passport holders who is proceeding from a place outside South Africa to a destination outside South Africa. All non-visa exempt foreigners approach South African port of entry for transiting purposes *enroute* to neighbouring countries are required to apply for a transit visa.

2.1 VISITOR'S VISA in terms of Section 11(1) of the Act

- Tourism purposes, not exceeding 3 months
- Visits to family or friends, not exceeding 3 months
- Study purposes, not exceeding 3 months
- Conferences or business meetings, not exceeding 3 months
- To join spouse/parent who is in South Africa on a study/work visa or to accompany spouse/parent

- Charitable or voluntary activities
- Academic research or visiting professor/lecturer
- Teaching at an international school
- To work in the entertainment industry
- A tour leader or host of such a tour
- Medical purposes, when a patient needs to receive life - saving treatment , not exceeding 3 months
- Sport events

2.2 VISITOR'S VISA in terms of Section 11(2) of the Act

An authorisation to conduct work under section 11(2) of the Immigration Act No.13 of 2002 is required to all foreigners including those from *Visa Exempt* countries, who are urgently requested to visit South Africa for special needs for the work to be done for a period of not exceeding 3 months. This is not a casual work visa and addresses an immediate short term or urgent need of a limited duration of work activity that cannot be met by an application for a work visa.

3. DIPLOMATIC/OFFICIAL VISA

A diplomatic/official visa is issued to a diplomatic/official passport holder for official visits to South Africa.

4. STUDY VISA in terms of Section 13 of the Act

A study visa may be issued in a prescribed manner to a foreigner intending to study in South Africa for a period longer than 3 months.

5. BUSINESS VISA in terms of Section 15 of the Act

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 visa. As an applicant, you will be required to invest a prescribed financial capital contribution.

6. CREW VISA in terms of Section 16 of the Act

7. MEDICAL TREATMENT VISA in terms of Section 17 of the Act

8. RELATIVE VISA in terms of Section 18 of the Act

A relative visa may be issued for a maximum period of 24 months to a member of the immediate family of a South African citizen or permanent resident.

9.1 GENERAL WORK VISA

A general work visas is issued to foreigners where it has been proven beyond reasonable doubt that South African citizens and permanent residents with the relevant qualifications or skills and experience are not available for appointment. Prior to submitting an application for a general work visa, the applicant's prospective employer is required to apply to the Department of Labour for a certificate.

9.2 CRITICAL SKILLS WORK VISA

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, accordance with the list of critical skills (click [HERE](#)). The list was developed in conjunction with the occupations in high demand and the scarce skills lists of the Department of Higher Education and Training ([DHET](#)). The main objective of the critical skills work visa is to assist the

government to realise the achievement of the National Infrastructure Project, the Strategic Infrastructure Projects and Key National Strategic Projects in support of the [Department of Trade and Industry](#).

9.3 INTRA-COMPANY TRANSFER WORK VISA

Occasionally, multi-national companies may decide to transfer an existing employee from a foreign branch to a branch in South Africa. These employees must apply for intra-company transfer work visa. Intra-company transfer work visas are issued for a maximum period of four years and are not renewable or extendable.

10. RETIRED PERSON VISA in terms of Section 20 of the Act

A persons who wish to retire in South Africa may apply for a retired person visa, provided that he or she receives at least R37,000 per month from a pension fund or an irrevocable retirement annuity.

[IMPORTANT] Applicants must submit their visa application **in person** to the South African Embassy in Seoul during consular hours: 09H00-12H00, from Monday to Friday, except on the [Embassy Holidays](#). Please note that the application can be submitted to a South African diplomatic mission in the country of origin or normal residence where the applicant holds a long-term residence permit.

The South African Embassy Seoul ONLY accepts complete applications as instructed by, and as per the requirements of, the Department of Home Affairs. Please be advised that this is in line with regulation 9(1) of the Immigration Regulations and the Immigration Act, 2002, which provide, amongst other things, that visas to stay temporarily in the Republic of South Africa must be submitted with all supporting documentation.

Consular officer can request for an interview or additional information /documentation in certain circumstances. Visa applications are assessed individually and your case will be treated as unique. Visa refusals will be explained to the applicant in writing.

It is advised that the applicant apply for a visa well before the intended date of departure and do NOT purchase a ticket prior to obtaining a visa from the South African Embassy. Should you visit SA for the purposes other than above, please contact our Consular Section individually: consular.seoul@dirco.gov.za

1. TRANSIT VISA

Please be informed that the Department of Home Affairs exempted travellers transiting through the following international airports from transit visas in terms of Section 10B(4)(a) of the Immigration Act, 2002:

- OR Tambo International Airport
- Cape Town International Airport
- King Shaka Airport
- Lanseria Airport

Travellers transiting these airports must be subjected to biometric capturing and remain inside the transit facility.

To be able to submit the application for a transit visa, where applicable, please see below "REQUIREMENTS FOR A VISITOR'S VISA - NOT EXCEEDING 3 MONTHS".

2.1 VISITOR'S VISA 11(1)

REQUIREMENTS FOR A VISITOR'S VISA - NOT EXCEEDING 3 MONTHS

- Completed application form, [DHA-84](#)
- [Original and a copy of passport](#)
- One recent colour photo (35 mm x 45 mm)
- Original and a copy of [Korean Alien Registration Card](#)
- Original and a copy of a [Yellow fever vaccination certificate](#) , if required.
- [Proof of sufficient financial means](#)
- Confirmed flight reservation as proof of a valid return or onward ticket or purchase of ticket
- Documentation outlining the purpose and duration of your visit, or a written invitation by the host(s) in the Republic of South Africa, as the case may be: [CLICK](#)
- Additional documents, where the applicant is attending an activity or event: [CLICK](#)
- In respect of a minor under 18 years of age, click [HERE](#) to see additional documents.
- Non-refundable fee of KRW 40,000 in cash , if applicable. List of countries subject to the visa fees: [CLICK](#)
- Processing time is minimum 10 business days (it may take longer than 10 days during peak season of November to January).

REQUIREMENTS FOR A VISITOR'S VISA - EXCEEDING 3 MONTHS

- Completed application form, [DHA-84](#)
- [Original and a copy of passport](#)
- One recent colour photo (35 mm x 45 mm)
- Original and a copy of [Korean Alien Registration Card](#)
- Original and a copy of a [Yellow fever vaccination certificate](#), if required.
- [Medical Certificate](#) (BI-811)
- [Radiological Report](#) (BI-806)
- [Police clearance certificate](#) (Criminal Records Certificate) in respect of the applicants 18 years and older .
- [Proof of sufficient financial means](#)
- [Proof of accommodation arrangement](#)
- Additional documents as case may be :
 - In respect of an application by a person who is the spouse of the holder of a SA visa issued in terms of Section 11,13,14,15,17,18, 19, 20 or 22 of the Act, click [HERE](#) to see additional requirements.
 - In respect of an application by a person who is the dependent child of the holder of a SA visa issued in terms of Section 11,13,14,15,17,18, 19, 20 or 22 of the Act, click [HERE](#) to see additional requirements.
 - In respect of the other purposes, click [HERE](#) to see additional documents.
- Non-refundable fee of KRW 40,000 in cash, if applicable .

Processing time is 10 business days.

2.2 VISITOR'S VISA 11(2)

“Section 11(2) of the Immigration Act, No 13 of 2002 stipulates that : the holder of a visitor’s visa issued in terms of subsection (1)(a) or (b)(iv) may be authorized by the Director-General in the prescribed manner and subject to the prescribed requirements and terms and conditions to conduct work”.

The authorization to work shall not be extended beyond the validity period of the visa issued in terms of section 11(1) (a) of the Act. In line with the above provisions, Officials at the Missions are advised that on first issue a section 11(2) visa may be issued for not more than 3 months. Where a further extension is required within the Republic an extension may be allowed for a final period not exceeding 3 months.

Any person who has been issued with a section 11(2) visa and had it extended for another 3 months shall not qualify for a section 11(2) visa within the same calendar year. If a visa was issued with dates that overlap into a new calendar year, the dates falling into the new calendar year will be calculated as part of the new calendar year.

A visitor’s visa 11(2) is NOT issued for freelance self-employed persons, contract workers, exotic dancers, project managers, casual labour, seasonal labour who do not fall into this discretionary authorisation.

The authorisation cannot be used in lieu of a work permit for an on-going regular work activity. When granted, the authorisation should be for specified limited time-frame, to work for a specific entity and at a specific place, for instance, economic, medical, academic, sporting, cultural or social (e.g. religious) application. The specific entity of the abovementioned must identify itself and be a bona fide corporate body, medical or academic institution, sports body, social entity or cultural body, and in case of a sports body, cultural body or event, account must be taken of the bona fide of the advertised fixtures or performances and proof furnished. An application must be made in writing to the Director-General by the entity for which the applicant will be carrying out work, making the case for why the person cannot make an application for a work permit and furthermore provide reasons why the limited work envisaged is urgent and necessary.

REQUIREMENTS: Please see above “REQUIREMENTS FOR A VISITOR’S VISA - NOT EXCEEDING 3 MONTHS” and submit with a letter from the employer as follows: [CLICK](#)

3. DIPLOMATIC/ OFFICIAL VISA

REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application form, [DHA-84](#)
- [Original and a copy of diplomatic passport](#)
- One recent colour photo (35 mm x 45 mm)
- Original and a copy of diplomatic card
- Original and a copy of [a Yellow fever vaccination certificate](#), if required.

- Original Note Verbale issued by the embassy in Korea.
- Copy of a Note Verbale issued by the embassy in South Africa to DIRCO.

In respect of a minor under 18 years of age, click [HERE](#) to see additional document.

4~10. STUDY VISA, BUSINESS VISA, RELATIVE VISA, GENERAL WORK VISA, CRITICAL SKILLS WORK VISA, INTRA-COMPANY TRANSFER WORK VISA, RETIRED PERSON VISA, ETC.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application form, [DHA-1738](#)
- [Original and a copy of passport](#)
- One recent colour photo (35 mm x 45 mm)
- Original and a copy of [Korean Alien Registration Card](#)
- Original and a copy of [a Yellow fever vaccination certificate](#), if required.
- [Medical Certificate](#) (BI-811)
- [Radiological Report](#) (BI-806)
- [Marriage certificate](#)
- [Police clearance certificate](#) (Criminal Records Certificate) in respect of the applicants 18 years and older.
- [Proof of sufficient financial means](#), if required.
- [Proof of accommodation arrangement](#)
- In respect of a minor under 18 years of age, click [HERE](#) to see additional documents.
- Non-refundable fee of KRW40,000 (KRW140,000 for a business/work visa) in cash.
- Processing time is 10 business days.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF EACH VISA:

- Study Visa: [CLICK](#)
 - Business Visa: [CLICK](#)
 - Relative Visa: [CLICK](#)
 - General Work Visa: [CLICK](#)
 - Critical Skills Work Visa: [CLICK](#)
 - Intra-Company Transfer Work Visa: [CLICK](#)
 - Retired Person Visa: [CLICK](#)
- Non-refundable fee of KRW 40,000 (KRW 140,000 for a business / work visa) in cash.
 - Processing time is 10 business days.

DOWNLOADABLE FORMS

- **DHA-84** (Application for port of entry visa or transit visa): Transit Visa, Visitor's Visa, Diplomatic Visa, Official Visa

- **DHA-1738** (Application for visa to temporarily sojourn in the Republic): Study Visa, Business Visa, Relative Visa, Retired Persons Visa, Work Visa, etc.
- **BI-811** (Medical Certificate)
- **BI-806** (Radiological Report)

WAIVERS

Should a foreigner not be able to comply with the requirements for a visa, the employer or applicant may request the Department of the Home Affairs to exempt the applicant from submitting the relevant document(s).

For more information, **CLICK**

REPATRIATION REFUNDS

In the light of the provisions of regulation 7(8)(d) of the Immigration Regulations, the Director-General invites any person who, prior to the coming into operation of the Immigration Amendment Act, 2011 on 26 May 2014, paid deposit as a guarantee of the return to his/her country of origin, to approach, within a period up to 28 February 2015, any South African Embassy in his/her country of origin for a refund of his/her deposit. The Department of Home Affairs' Offices within the Republic may issue refunds only in exceptional circumstances where a person has acquired permanent residence permit or has changed his or her status in the Republic prior to 26 May 2014.

Please click on the following link to read more information and requirements: http://www.southafrica-embassy.or.kr/eng/visa/visas_4.php