

Applying For a Resident's Visa in Thailand

1. Qualifications of applicant

1. Valid passport with a Non-Immigrant visa.
2. The applicant has lived in Thailand for 3 consecutive years.

2. Time for application

Applications can be submitted only during a specified time period, which is officially announced. It is not a fixed date. Each year, the Cabinet reviews the law allowing foreigners to have residency in Thailand. After it is approved, the Ministry of Interior releases the quota of foreigners to be accepted. After the quota is released, applications may be submitted from that time until the end of the year.

3. Place of Application

Apply at Section 1, Sub-Division 1, Immigration Bureau (Room 301) Soi Suanplu, Bangkok. Tel 287-3117 or at your local Immigration office.

4. Required Documents

Official brochures are available listing the documents required, depending on the reasons for wanting to apply for a resident's visa:

1. For business or work-related purposes.
2. For investment.
3. As a technocrat or consultant
4. To care for a wife and/or child who has Thai nationality
5. To be under the guardianship/sponsorship of a husband or father who is a Thai national.
4. To be under the guardianship/sponsorship of a husband or father or child who has received residency in Thailand.
7. For retirement purposes.

For further information and brochures, please contact the Immigration Bureau. (see 3)

5. Fee

1. A fee of 2,000 baht for each application
2. An official resident's certificate is issued after the visa has been approved. The fee for the certificate is 50,000 baht. For dependents (i.e., a wife or child not of legal age) of a Thai national or foreigner already holding a resident's certificate. The fee is 25,000 baht.

Note: A foreigner must apply in person as fingerprints and personal interviews are required.

Approval of temporary stay for investors of not less than 3 million baht.

1. Qualifications for an applicant.

1. Valid passport with a Non-Immigrant visa.
2. Bank statement proving the transfer of funds from an overseas bank to a Thai bank of at least 3 million bath. The applicant must be either the recipient of the money in Thailand or the person issuing the transfer from a bank abroad.

3. Evidence of investment of not less than 3 million bath after the money was transferred into Thailand in one of the following ways:
 1. Deposited into a fixed deposit account with government banks (Krung Thai Bank, Government Saving Bank, Bank for Agriculture and Agriculture Cooperatives, Rattanasin Bank, Bangkok Metropolitan Bank, Siam City Bank, Government Housing Bank).
 2. Government bonds, or state enterprise bonds, purchased only from government agencies or state enterprises or agencies commissioned by government or state enterprises.
 3. Buying a condominium unit/s from the owner according to the price registered with the Department of Lands.
 4. Other investments the Immigration Bureau deems beneficial to the country.
2. **Place of application.**

Asian applicants may submit their applications at Section 2 Sub-Division 2, Immigration Bureau 1. Tel 287-3905. Other nationalities may submit applications at Section 3, Sub-Division 2, Immigration Bureau 1. Tel 285-5143. Immigration Bureau, 507 Soi Suanplu, Sothorn, Bangkok 10120. For those living outside Bangkok, please contact your local immigration office.
3. **Documents required and fee**
 1. An application form (T.M.7)
 2. One 4x6 cm. Photo.
 3. A copy of passport.
 4. The documents required in 1,2 or 1, 3 as applicable.
 5. A fee of 500 baht for each application.
4. **Number of days needed for processing applications:**
 1. The first year of application will be processed within 15 days.
 2. Consecutive applications will be processed within 30 days.
5. **Conditions for approval.**
 1. The applicant must retain a continuous investment. The Immigration Bureau must first approve changes in investment. The foreigner must then retain a continuous investment after this change.
 2. The application must submit evidence of investment according 1.3 to an official within 150 to 180 days from the day the visa application is approved.
