



Revised Guidelines for Issuing Non-Immigrant Visa Category “M” (Media Visa) and Official Visa Category “F” for Foreign Media

With reference to the Press Release issued by the Department of Information dated 3 February 2021, regarding Guidelines for issuing Non-Immigrant Visa Category “M” (media visa) for foreign journalists and correspondents and Official Visa Category “F” for official media working in Thailand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand has revised the said Guidelines to reflect various changes made in the past 2-3 years.

1. These revised Guidelines apply to foreign media wishing to work in Thailand for a minimum of 90 days, and those seeking extension of stay to work as foreign media in the country. The term ‘media entity’ hereinafter shall include both traditional and online media agencies that are credible and duly registered with the competent authority in Thailand or abroad, with a significant number of viewers and followers.

2. For foreign media applying for Visa Categories “M” or “F” for the first time, or who are required to submit a new application, criteria are as follows:

2.1 Eligibility criteria

- (1) Must be affiliated with, or employed by, a credible media entity duly registered with the competent authority in Thailand or abroad for a minimum of six months at the time of submission of the visa application;
- (2) Employed solely as a media professional without engaging in other occupations during the entire period of stay in the Kingdom of Thailand;
- (3) Discharge media duties in the Kingdom of Thailand for a minimum of 90 days and produce a minimum of twelve pieces of content per annum pertaining to Thailand or Thailand and the region;
- (4) Must not have previously produced any content or engaged in behaviour in such a way that would constitute a threat to society, public order, and public safety, nor be a wanted individual pursuant to an arrest warrant issued by a foreign government; and
- (5) Must not have previous records of providing false information on a visa application.

Approval of the visa shall be at the discretion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on a case-by-case basis

*This guide is in accordance with Ministerial Regulation on the Organization of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs B.E. 2558.

**No fee is required for the service given by the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Please note:

In cases where accredited members of the media are no longer gainfully employed by the same media entity as specified on their visa application, the said accredited member must immediately request the cancellation of their Visas, Work Permits and Press Cards with the issuing agency.

Should the accredited member of the media fail to extend their stay to work as Foreign Media in Thailand due to unforeseen circumstances, the said person is required to undergo the entire process to apply for a new media visa, once again.

2.2 List of required documents for application for Non-Immigrant Visa Category "M" and Official Visa Category "F"

- (1) A copy of the applicant's passport (with a minimum of 6 months validity)
- (2) An official letter issued by the head office of the applicant's media entity, addressed to the Director-General of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, containing the following information:
 - position of the applicant;
 - scope of work of the applicant;
 - period of employment of the applicant in Thailand;
 - type of visa requested; and
 - request for Work Permit and/or Press Card
- (3) Curriculum Vitae of the applicant
- (4) Company profile of the media entity
- (5) Proof of registration of the media entity with the competent authority in Thailand or abroad
- (6) A copy of the employment contract of the applicant (if applicable)
- (7) Certificate of Clearance (or Certificate of No Criminal Record) issued by the competent authority in the country where the applicant is a permanent resident (Note: Once a visa has been issued and the applicant has entered the Kingdom of Thailand, the Public Relations Department will also require a Certificate of Clearance issued by the Royal Thai Police for application for a Press Card)
- (8) Portfolio of twelve most recent pieces of media content produced by the applicant.

3. For extension of stay to work as Foreign Media, list of required documents is as follows:

- (1) A copy of the applicant's passport (with a minimum of 6 months validity)
- (2) Proof of visa/permit issued by the Thai Immigration Bureau

* This guide is in accordance with Ministerial Regulation on the Organization of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs B.E. 2558.

** No fee is required for the service given by the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(3) Work Permit
(4) Press Card (if applicable)
(5) An official letter issued by the head office of the applicant's media entity, addressed to the Director-General of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, containing the following information:

- position of the applicant;
- scope of work of the applicant;
- period of employment of the applicant in Thailand;
- type of visa/permit requested; and
- request for Work Permit and/or Press Card

(6) Curriculum Vitae of the applicant
(7) Company profile of the media entity
(8) Proof of registration of the media entity with the competent authority in Thailand or abroad
(9) Portfolio of twelve most recent pieces of media content produced by the applicant about Thailand or Thailand and the region. In case the applicant holds the position of senior/executive editor, media content from the applicant's media entity may be submitted

(10) Proof of income and submission of taxation documents in Thailand

(11) Certificate of Clearance issued by the Royal Thai Police, only for the years in which the applicant is required to submit the said Certificate to the Public Relations Department for renewal of their Press Card (Note: According to the Public Relations Department's Regulations, Press Cards are valid for a period of no longer than two years)

4. The Guidelines mentioned above shall take effect as follows:

4.1 For new applicants, or those required to submit new applications, these Guidelines shall take effect on the date of issuance of this Press Release; and

4.2 For extensions of stay to work as foreign media, these Guidelines shall take effect 180 days after the date of issuance of this Press Release.

* * * * *

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand
19 March 2024

* This guide is in accordance with Ministerial Regulation on the Organization of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs B.E. 2558.

** No fee is required for the service given by the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.