



## REQUIREMENTS FOR A BUSINESS VISA

*(This is a Permit issued to Foreigners who intend to Establish or Invest in a Business in South Africa in which they may be employed)*

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 permit. As an applicant, you will be required to invest a prescribed financial capital contribution. The capital requirements above maybe reduced or waived in respect of the following types of industries/businesses:

- Information and Communication Technology
- Clothing and Textile Manufacturing
- Chemicals and Biotechnology
- Agro Processing
- Metals and Minerals Refinement
- Automotive Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Crafts

**Requirements:** (all forms must be completed in black ink)

**Please submit your application in the order outlined below:**

- A Printed Copy of the ‘**Confirmation of Appointment.**’
- **Completed DHA-1738** signed by applicant.
- **Machine Readable Valid Passport** with minimum two (2) unused visa label pages.  
Passport must be valid for minimum 30 days after the intended date of departure from South Africa.
- **Non-Refundable** Application Fee (if applicable) in the form of a money order/cashier’s check payable to the South African Consulate General New York:  
**\$160.00**
- Two (2) passport photos.
- A copy of bio page of passport.

- Original + copy of valid Proof of Residence in the USA (Green Card/H1 B/J1/L1 etc) (Proof of Residence must be valid for duration of stay in South Africa) (***B1/B2 USA visa holders are not eligible to apply and must apply in their Country of Residence***).
- A copy of Birth Certificate.
- A pre-paid, self-addressed FedEx or USPS Priority Mail envelope with **sender and receiver on applicant's name and address**. Collection of passport in person is an option.
- Proof of **Tentative Travel Itinerary** for round-trip air tickets. ***Do not purchase air tickets prior to obtaining your South African visa.***
- Proof of **Tentative Accommodation: Hotel booking with applicants name**
  - If hosted by South African Citizen or Permanent Resident, include the following:
    - A signed letter of invitation from Host
    - A certified copy of RSA ID document
    - A copy of proof of residence (utility/tax bill, bank statements).
  - If hosted by a Non-South African, include the following:
    - A signed letter of invitation from Host
    - A certified copy of passport and SA visa
    - A copy of proof of address (utility/tax bill, bank statement)
- **Proof of Financial Means** in the form of bank statements for the last three (3) months with no manual erasures.
- **A Yellow Fever Certificate** is required for applicants traveling through *Yellow Fever Belt* areas en route to South Africa.
- **Medical Report** on prescribed form – **DHA-811**(physical). The Certificate must not be older than six (6) months at the time of application.
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Clearance Certificate** (full criminal background check report), together with **original Police Clearance Certificates** from each country in which the applicant has resided for a period of 12 months or longer after the age of 18 (within the past five (5) years), confirming the applicant's criminal record status or character. All certificates must not be older than six (6) months at the time of submission.

#### **Additional requirements for Accompanying Spouse:**

- Marriage Certificate **OR** in the case of a Foreign Spousal Relationship please provide:
  - proof of official recognition thereof issued by the authorities of the foreign country of the applicant (where applicable).
  - Divorce Decree, where applicable.

### **For Accompanying Children:**

- A Court Order granting full or specific parental responsibilities and rights, where applicable.
- Death Certificate, in respect of late spouse, where applicable.
- Written consent from both parents and full parental responsibilities, where applicable.
- Proof of Adoption, where applicable.
- Legal Separation Order, where applicable.

**In Respect of an Application by a Person who is the Spouse OR Dependent Child of the holder of a visa issued in terms of Section 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 22 of the Act, include the following:**

- A certified/notarized copy of the visa holder's visa, together with an Affidavit confirming financial responsibility for the applicant.

**Additional documents in respect of a Business Visa by a Foreigner who intends to establish a Business or Invest in a Business that is not yet established in the Republic:**

- **A Statement or Documentation** detailing the purpose and duration of the visit.
- **Proof of Financial/Capital Contribution equivalent to R2.5million.**
- **Chartered Accountant certifying the Investment and that it is available and originated from abroad.**
- **A Business Plan** outlining the Feasibility of the Business.
- **A Certificate issued by a Chartered Accountant registered with the South African institute of chartered accountants or a professional accountant registered with the South African Institute of Professional Accountants to the effect that:**
  - at least an amount in cash to be invested in the republic as determined from time to time by the minister, after consultation with the minister of trade and industry, by notice in the gazette, is available, OR
  - at least an amount in cash and a capital contribution as determined from time to time by the minister, after consultation with the minister of trade and industry, by notice in the gazette, is available (Five (5) Million Rand)
- **Undertaking by the Applicant that at least 60% of the total staff compliment to be employed in the operations of the business shall by South African citizens or Permanent Residents employed permanently in various positions.** (Provided proof of compliance with this Undertaking must be submitted within 12 months of issuance of the visa.
- **Undertaking to Register with the:**
  - South African Revenue Service.
  - Unemployment Insurance Fund.
  - Compensation Fund for Occupational Injuries and Diseases.
  - Companies and Intellectual Properties Commission (CPIC).

- **Where legally required:**
  - Relevant professional body, Board or Council recognized by SAQA in Terms of Section 13(1)(i) of the National Qualifications Framework Act where applicable (*provided that upon Registration, all Certificates must be submitted to the Director-General*).
- **A Letter of Recommendation from the Department of Trade and Industry stating:**
  - the Feasibility of the Business; and
  - the Contribution to the National interest of the Republic.

**Additional supporting documents in respect of a business visa application by a foreigner who has established business or invested in an existing business in the Republic.**

A Certificate issued by a Chartered Accountant registered with the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants or a Professional Accountant registered with the South African Institute of Professional Accountants to the effect that a foreigner who Invests OR has Invested in an existing business shall submit:

- Financial Statement in respect of the preceding year; and
- Proof of Investment.

**Processing Time: 4-6 Weeks.**

**WHERE TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION**

**For Residents of:**

Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North and South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, and West Virginia:

South African Consulate General New York  
805 Third Avenue 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York NY 10022  
Tel: (917) 200 8396

Email: [consular.ny@dirco.gov.za](mailto:consular.ny@dirco.gov.za)

Website: [www.dirco.gov.za/newyork](http://www.dirco.gov.za/newyork)