

## APPLICATION FOR AUTHORISATION FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS TO WORK ON A VISITOR'S PERMIT

Dear Student,

We refer to your enquiry and wish to inform you that a foreigner, who intends to work in the Republic of South Africa, with or without remuneration or reward, must apply for a work permit.

Foreigners who do not qualify to apply for a work permit may be regulated on a visitor's permit in terms of section 11(2) of the Immigration Act as amended, but must receive prior authorisation from the Director-General of the Department of Home Affairs. This regulation applies to the following categories of foreigners **for visits not exceeding six (6) months** (there may be other categories not mentioned here):

- persons in the entertainment industry;
- persons in the film / media industry;
- models;
- sport persons;
- technicians;
- interns (applicable only to foreign **students** who must engage in an internship that is necessary for the completion of their studies abroad);
- medical electives (applicable only for visits of less than three (3) months);
- trainees;
- dancers; and
- anyone conducting such activities consistent with being employed or consistent with the profession of the person, with or without remuneration or reward.

This authorisation to work on a visitor's permit must be applied for in writing, including the following documentation (not applicable to nationals of a country that is a member of the Southern African Development Community):

- copy of the applicant's valid passport;
- application letter
- letter from the educational institution/company abroad confirming the purpose and duration the visit;
- letter from the South African educational institution/company confirming the applicant's capacity/ designation/ position and duration the visit (invitation letter of company);
- details regarding date of arrival and port of arrival in the in the Republic of South Africa/ copy of flight reservation, if available;
- self-addressed envelope (registered mail) for the authorisation letter to be sent to the applicant.

Furthermore, we wish to inform you that the authorisation mentioned above:

1) may be subject to the relevant terms and conditions contemplated in regulation 7(8) of the Immigration Act as amended, which relate to—

- (a) limitations on the type of activities that may be undertaken in the Republic;
- (b) the places where the activities contemplated in paragraph (a) may be undertaken;
- (c) the submission of—
  - (i) outstanding documents, which had to accompany the application, within a specified period not exceeding six months; and
  - (ii) proof of sufficient financial means;

- (d) payment of a deposit: Provided that such deposit shall be refunded to the depositor after the final departure of the applicant or after a permanent residence permit has been issued to the applicant; and
- (e) limitations on the period of the visit or the validity of the permit.

2) may, where applicable, be granted subject to a recommendation from the relevant organ of state; and

3) if approved, be endorsed on the visitor's permit:

Once such a request has been approved, an authorisation letter will be issued to the applicant.

Foreigners who are subject to South African visa control must submit the authorisation letter with their application for visas at the relevant South African Mission abroad.

Foreigners who are exempt from South African visa control may proceed to the Republic of South Africa in line with the period for which they are exempted (30 or 90 days) and must produce the authorisation letter to an immigration officer at the South African port of entry. The immigration officer will then issue the necessary visitor's permit and endorse it accordingly.

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact our relevant office at your convenience.

Kind regards  
Consular Section  
Embassy of the Republic of South Africa