

Instructions for Foreigners to Apply for Permanent Residency

1. Legal Basis:

- (1) Article 25 of the Immigration Act
- (2) Article 41, Paragraph 2 of the Enforcement Rules of the Immigration Act
- (3) Article 12 and Article 15 of the Regulations Governing Visiting, Residency, and Permanent Residency of Aliens
- (4) Article 15, Article 16 and Article 18 of the Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals

2. Authorized Authority: Service centers of National Immigration Agency, Ministry of the Interior.

3. Application Procedures: Submit the completed Alien Permanent Resident Card (APRC) application form to a local service center of the National Immigration Agency. After the application form has been received and passed preliminary review, the National Immigration Agency, Ministry of the Interior will conduct a secondary review on the application.

4. Eligibility:

- (1) An alien, who has legally and continuously resided in the State for five (5) years and for more than one hundred and eighty-three (183) days each year, or the alien spouse and/or children of a ROC(Taiwan) national with registered permanent residence in Taiwan who have legally resided in the State for ten (10) years, during which period they have actually resided in the State for more than one hundred and eighty-three (183) days each year for five (5) years, and also meet the following requirements may apply to National Immigration

Agency for permanent residence. The foresaid periods shall not include the period of staying (residing) in the State by any of those aliens whose residence in Taiwan is permitted due to studies or employment in Taiwan as approved by authorities in charge of labor affairs or the field of their employment pursuant to Subparagraphs 8 to 10, Paragraph 1 of Article 46 of the Employment Service Act.

1. Applicants are at the age of twenty (20) or over.
 2. Applicants must be of decent character.
 3. Applicants have considerable property, skills or talents that enable them to make a living on their own.
 4. Applicants are beneficial to the national interests.
- (2) Aliens who had legally resided in the State for twenty (20) years or over before May 31, 2002, during which period they had resided in the State for over one hundred and eighty-three (183) days each year for ten (10) years, and have met the requirements as specified in Subparagraphs 1 to 3 and Subparagraph 5 of the preceding Paragraph can apply to National Immigration Agency for permanent residence.
- (3) The spouse and any minor children of any alien whose application for permanent residency is approved based upon investment immigration, may also apply for permanent residency.
- (4) Where a foreign skilled professional applies for permanent residency under the provisions of Article 25 Paragraph 3 Subparagraph 2 of the Immigration Act, said person's spouse and minor children, and children over twenty years old who are unable to live independently due to physical or mental disability, may apply for permanent residency with said person.
- (5) After a foreign professional hired to conduct professional work has been approved for permanent residence, h

spouse and minor children, and children over twenty years old who are unable to live independently due to physical or mental disability, and have resided in the State legally and continuously for five years, have stayed in the State for more than 183 days in each of those years, and have behaved properly in compliance with the national interests, may apply for permanent residency.

5. Required Documents

- (1) A completed APRC Application Form.
- (2) One (1) colored photograph (same size as ID card photograph).
- (3) Original copy and one (1) photocopy of new and old passport (original copy to be returned immediately upon verification).
- (4) Original copy and one (1) photocopy of Alien Residence Card (original copy to be returned immediately upon verification)
- (5) Satisfactory health examination certificate (health examination must follow the Items Required for Health Certificate (Form B) used by major medical institutions and their newly added health examination hospitals announced by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. List (pdf file) (xls file).
- (6) Proof of financial assets or special skills and talents. Not required for applicants pursuant to Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 under Item 4.
- (7) Police criminal record certificates issued by the government of the applicant's home country and by R.O.C. (Taiwan) in the most recent five (5) years
- (8) Other relevant identification documents

6. Processing time: 14 days (excluding the time of request for additional documents, interview or verification by the relevant authorities)

7. Fee: NT\$10,000

8. Note:

(1) Applicants pursuant to Paragraphs 1 and 2 under Item 4 shall submit an APRC application within two (2) years after fulfil the requirement of the period of stay and residence exceeding 183 days each year.

(2) The Certificate of Entry and Exit Dates, The backwards calculation of the applicant's physical presence in the State each year, and the Statement of Eligibility for the Required Residence Years and Physical Presence in Taiwan Areas are available at the service centers of National Immigration Agency, Ministry of the Interior in each municipality and county (city).

(3) Proof of financial assets or special skills and talents:

1. Anyone applying for permanent residence as the spouse of an R.O.C. (Taiwan) national shall present any of the following documents acknowledged by the National Immigration Agency:

(1) Statement of income, taxation, chattel or real estate in Taiwan;

(2) Statement issued by the employer to certify employment, or the applicant's own statement in writing detailing job descriptions and incomes;

(3) Certificate issued by the R.O.C. (Taiwan) government certifying that its holder is a professional or technician or has passed a technical test;

(4) Other document that is sufficient to prove that the applicant is capable of supporting himself or herself or making a living.

2. Anyone applying for permanent residence with

circumstances other than the one stated in the preceding subparagraph shall meet one of the following conditions:

(1) Having an average monthly income in Taiwan in the previous year that is more than twice of the Monthly Minimum Wage promulgated by the Council of Labor Affairs;

(2) Having chattel or real estate in Taiwan with a total value worth more than NT\$5,000,000;

(3) Having a certificate issued by the ROC government that certify people with specialized professionalism, techniques or have passed a technical test.

(4) Other condition(s) recognized by the National Immigration Agency.

(4) The original copy of the police records of the past five(5) years issued by ROC (Taiwan). (valid within three (3) months)

(5) The original copy of the police records of the past five(5) years issued by applicant's country of origin (valid within six (6) months) (including the Chinese translation of the certificate), with any of the following procedures to be completed:

1. The original certificate of the police records issued by applicant's country of origin and the Chinese translation which are verified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' overseas embassies. (the certificate may be sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for re-verification).

2. Where only the original certificate of the police records issued by applicant's country of origin which is verified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' overseas embassies. (the certificate may be for re-verification), the Chinese translation of the certificate must be notarized by the court in the R.O.C.(Taiwan) or certified by a local public notary.

3. Where the police records issued by the embassy or agency of applicant's country of origin in the R.O.C. (Taiwan) in a foreign language, the original certificate shall be re-verified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Chinese translation of the certificate must be notarized by the court in the R.O.C. (Taiwan) or certified by a local public notary.
- (6) The police criminal records issued by applicant's country of origin shall be the national record of the applicant's home country. For example, the police records of U.S. citizens must be issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).
- (7) Foreign nationals who have legally resided in the R.O.C. (Taiwan) for five (5) consecutive years, and exit the R.O.C. (Taiwan) each time for less than three (3) months, may be exempt from submitting satisfactory health examination certificates and the police records issued by applicant's country of origin.
- (8) Other relevant documents to be attached may vary according to purpose of residence.

1. Dependents

- (1) Proof of family relationships
- (2) Children over twenty years old who are unable to live independently due to physical or mental disability shall provide the relevant supporting documents.

2. Acceptance of employment

- (1) Approval letter from authorities.
- (2) Certificate of employment within one (1) month.

3. Missionary work

- (1) Letter of guarantee issued by the religious organization.
 - A. This letter shall indicate that the foreigner will perform unpaid, full-time work.
 - B. This letter shall provide assurance that the related

organization will be responsible for the livelihood of the foreigner after obtaining permanent residency.

- (2) Permit of the religious organization issued by the Ministry of the Interior or registration of legal entities of the religious organization.
- (3) Certificate of employment issued by the religious organization.

4. Investments

- (1) Business registration certificate, such as the permit of business registration and business registration copy.
 - (2) Shareholders list.
 - (3) Company change registration card.
 - (4) Letter issued by the Investment Commission, Ministry of Economic Affairs for applications within three (3) months.
 - (5) Additional supporting documents shall be requested for particular cases.
- (9) Letter of authorization: Unless the application is submitted personally by the applicant, applicants who authorize other people to engage in document submission shall also provide a letter of authorization. For applicants located in a foreign country, Hong Kong or Macau, the letter of authorization shall be verified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' overseas embassies.
- (10) The verification of foreign public documents which comply with Article 15-1 of the Document Legalization Act for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Overseas Missions shall be handled accordingly.
- (11) Foreign nationals who possess the nationality of the R.O.C. concurrently shall not be allowed to apply for permanent residency.
- (12) An APRC holder will lose his/her eligibility if they fail to physically reside in the R.O.C. (Taiwan) for at least 183 days

annually starting from the following year after his/her APRC is issued. However, this regulation does not apply to those who have obtained permission from the authorities or foreign professionals complied with the Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals. (Calculation of the "year" shall begin from January 1st of the following year after the APRC is issued.) The applicant whose Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) has been cancelled and who still qualifies for staying, shall apply for residency within 30 days following the nullification of the ARC.

- (13) For a foreign national whose APRC is revoked or cancelled in accordance with the Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals or Article 33 of the Immigration Act, the permanent residence permits of said person's spouse and minor children, and children over twenty years old who are unable to live independently due to physical or mental disability, shall be revoked or cancelled together therewith.