

GUIDE TO SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS

Socio-Legal Regularization

Process support,
Types of Visa,
Residence permit.



02 GUIDE TO SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS

Title

Guide to Support the Integration of Migrants – Socio-Legal Regularization

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Porto takes care of its own

“

A trip to Porto is always a lesson in what it means to be Portuguese.

VITORINO NEMÉSIO

This booklet is part of the Porto City Council's Guide to Support the Integration of Migrants. Use it to learn about the rights and duties of the immigrant and find practical answers to questions related to **Socio-Legal Regularization**.



- > How can I enter and stay in Portugal legally?
- > What types of visas are there, and how to obtain them?
- > What are the most important documents to keep?

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There are four additional booklets in this collection, designed to help you build a full life as a Portuguese citizen.

Education

- > How does education work in Portugal?
- > How do I enrol my children in a public school?
- > Which schools are there in Porto?



Health

- > What are the health services in Porto?
- > How to access the National Health Service (SNS)?
- > How to protect my health and that of my family?



Employment and Entrepreneurship

- > What are the requirements to work legally?
- > What types of jobs are available?
- > How can I create my own business?



Social Protection and Citizenship

- > Which institutions and associations can support my integration?
- > What support can I receive in cases of particular vulnerability?
- > What are the fundamental rights and duties to reside in Portugal?



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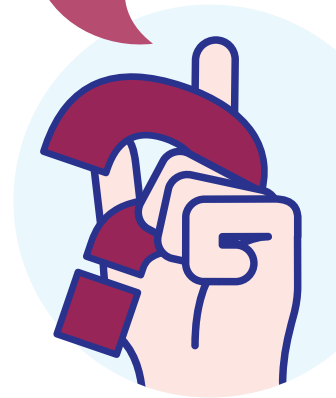
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CAP.
.1

Before arriving in Portugal

Before arriving in Portugal, in order to ensure that everything takes place safely and in accordance with the law, it is essential to understand how the entry and regularization process works. You should take into account your nationality, the purpose of your trip and the length of time you intend to stay.

// I want to live and work in Portugal. Where do I start? //



To support this process, this booklet provides detailed information on:



Visa Types



Residence Permits



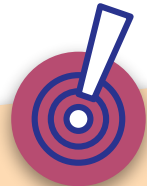
Required Documents



Support & Essential Services



Naturalisation



AIMA – Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum



Avoid misinformation and fraud.

Regulations, processes, and practices may change. Confirm that you are making decisions based on up-to-date information, through official sources such as:

Government – Foreigners in Portugal



Parliament – Immigration-related laws




There are entities and professionals that provide specialized support to migrants, often free of charge. Learn how to identify and contact them in **2.1 Find Support, p.22**.

The Regularization Process



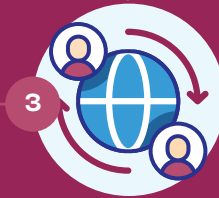
It begins with a decision:
obtaining the appropriate visa.



It continues with a key moment: **Legal entry** into the country, with valid documentation.




It concludes with a status:
Residence, which authorizes you to live in Portugal and carry out activities on a stable and long-term basis.



It then involves a temporary status: **Legal stay**, which allows you to remain in the country of entry.



You may then continue the process of obtaining **nationality** through naturalization, which requires an extended period of residence and/or the fulfilment of other legal criteria.







It is granted through the Residence Permit, issued by the Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum (AIMA). This step grants full access to rights, including Social Security registration, formal employment, tax benefits, healthcare, and higher education.

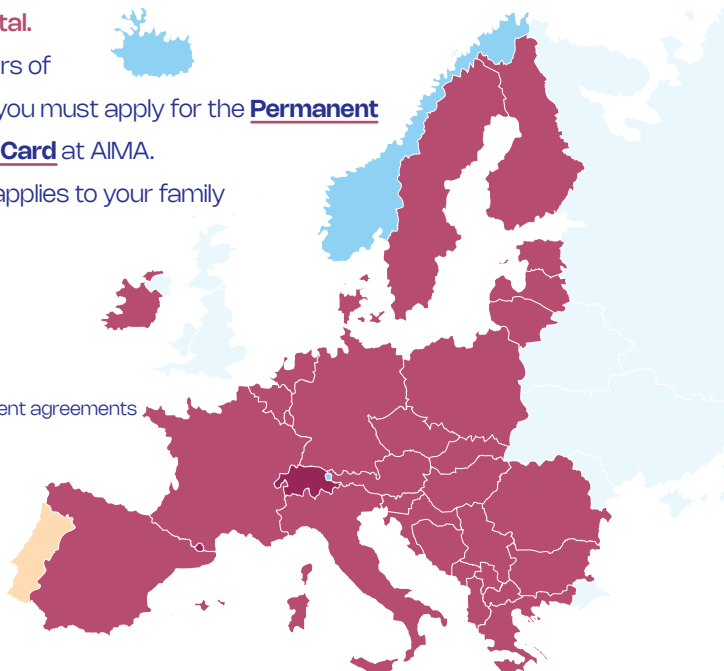


.1 VISA WAIVER: EUROPEAN UNION, EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA, ANDORRA AND SWITZERLAND

If you are a national of a country of the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA), Andorra or Switzerland:

- > You do not need a visa to enter Portugal, just a valid Identification Document/Passport.
- > To stay in Portugal for more than 3 months and up to 5 years, you must apply for the **European Union Citizen Registration Certificate (CRUE)** at the City Council of your area of residence. In Porto, you can do it online through the **Citizen Portal**.
- > After 5 years of residence, you must apply for the **Permanent Residence Card** at AIMA.
- > The same applies to your family members.

-  EU countries
-  Countries with free movement agreements
-  EEA countries
-  Portugal



.2 VISA: NOT APPLICABLE TO THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA, ANDORRA OR SWITZERLAND

If you are not a national of the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA), Andorra or Switzerland, and you wish to live in Portugal, you must obtain the appropriate visa from a Portuguese consulate while still in your country of origin. [Law No. 61/2025](#).





Planning ahead contributes to a more efficient arrival process. Without the appropriate visa, entry into the country may be refused and you may be required to return to your country of origin.



There are three types of visas that allow you to stay in Portugal for more than three months: **the Temporary Stay Visa, the Residence Visa, and the Skilled Work Search Visa.**

The figure below helps you understand which visa is best suited to your situation.



What is the purpose and duration of your trip to Portugal?



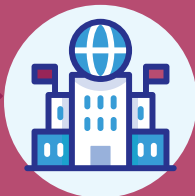
VISIT (up to 90 days)
Tourism, family visit, business trip, seasonal work, passage, others.



This booklet does not apply to your situation.
More info:
vistos.mne.gov.pt



LIVE (90 or more days)
Work, study, receive health treatment, etc.



Apply for a Long-Stay Visa at a Portuguese Consulate.



Select from this list, according to your country of residence.

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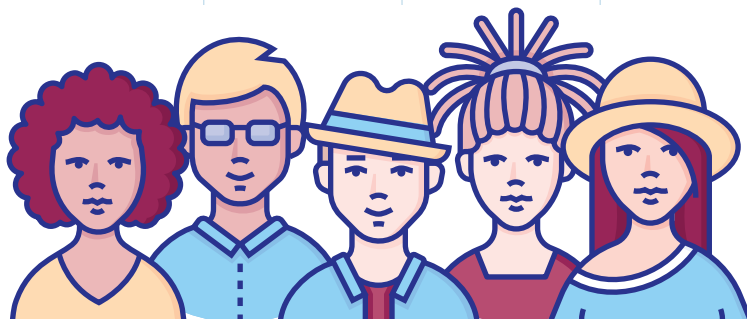
Between the two main visas – the Temporary Stay Visa and the Residence Visa – there are subtypes depending on the purpose of your visit. When applying for a Residence Permit in Portugal, you should take into account the type of Visa that was granted to you in your country of origin.

TEMPORARY STAY	RESIDENCE
Medical treatment (E1)	Employment (D1)
Transfer of professionals for the provision of services or training (E2)	Self-employment or entrepreneurship (D2)
Self-employment, face-to-face (E3)	Teaching, highly qualified or cultural activity (D3)
Scientific research, teaching, or highly qualified activity (E4)	Research, study, exchange, unpaid traineeship, volunteering (D4)
Amateur sport (E5)	Higher Education Student (D5)
Studies, exchange, unpaid internship, volunteering (E6)	Family reunification (D6)
Accompaniment of a family member undergoing medical treatment (E7)	Establishment of residence or religious activity (D7)
Seasonal work (90 to 270 days) or seasonal worker monitoring (E8)	Remote work, outside Portuguese territory (D8)
Attendance of vocational education or training course (E10)	Accompanying a family member with a pending residence visa (D9)
Remote work: digital nomad (E10)	
Accompanying a family member with a temporary stay visa (E11)	



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	TEMPORARY STAY	RESIDENCE	SEARCH FOR SKILLED LABOR
Maximum validity	1 year	4 months	120 + 60 days
How many times can you enter Portugal	Multiple	2	1
Reasons for Stay			
Job Search	✗	✗	✓
Health	✓ For treatment or accompanying family members	✗	✗
Living on own Income / Retirement	✓ Exceptional cases	✓ Residency	✗
Work	✓ Seasonal / Short period / Amateur sport	✓	✗
Research	✓	✓	✗
Study	✓	✓	✗
Training, internship or volunteering	✓	✓	✗
Familiar	✓ Follow-up	✓ Family Monitoring or Reunification	✗
Religious activity	✓	✓	✗





Documents to be Submitted

To safeguard your rights, avoid penalties, and simplify any future processes, you must keep all documentation organized and up to date.

First, all documents representing public acts must be properly certified, such as:

- > Birth Certificates
- > Qualification Certificates
- > Proof of Family Relationships
- > Criminal Record Certificates

The certification process depends on the country that issues the document:

COUNTRY OF ISSUE	CERTIFICATION
Belongs to the European Union	No need
 Is your country a signatory to the Hague Apostille Convention?	Must be apostilled
Your country is not a signatory to the Hague Apostille Convention	A diplomatic or consular agent must recognize it. If this is not possible, you must do it with the Directorate-General for Consular Affairs and Portuguese Communities Ordinance No. 123/2019

More information at

aima.gov.pt
Document Recognition



In addition, all documents not written in Portuguese, English, French, or Spanish must be accompanied by a certified translation.



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If you are a national of a Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) member state, you may apply for a CPLP Visa, which simplifies administrative procedures and removes certain barriers. It allows for obtaining a CPLP Residence Permit with an initial validity of one year, renewable.



DOCUMENT	REQUIREMENTS	CPLP VISA	TEMPORARY STAY	RESIDENCE
Own Application	Completed and signed. For minors or disabled individuals, signed by the legal representative	✓	✓	✓
Two passport-size photocopies	Up-to-date and clearly identifying the applicant	✓	✓	✓
Passport or other travel document	Valid for 3 months beyond the duration of the intended stay	✗	✓	✓
A photocopy of the biographical page of the Passport or travel document		✗	✗	✓
Return ticket		✗	✓	✗
Proof of regular residence/stay	If you are not a national of the country where you are applying for a visa. Valid for a period longer than the expiration date of the visa being applied for	✓	✓	✓
Valid travel insurance	Covers expenses required for medical reasons, including urgent medical care and repatriation	✗	✓	✓
Certificate of Criminal Record	From the country of origin or from the country where the applicant has resided for more than one year. With Hague Apostille	✓	✓	✓
Proof of means of subsistence	See the amount and how to prove it on the AIMA website	✓	✓	✓

ATTENTION

As of October 2025, only those who enter Portugal with a CPLP visa will be able to obtain residency. Those who enter the country as tourists can no longer apply for a CPLP residence permit.

Create a **physical folder** and a digital folder with all your documents. Save certified copies and **cloud backups** for online access, secure and quick.



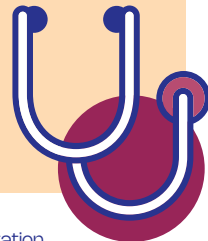
Always check the Ministry of **Foreign Affairs** for possible updates¹.

**Minors**

If a minor is traveling to Portugal without both parents, the following documents are required:

- > A travel authorization signed by the parent(s), notarized and duly legalized
- > Photocopy of the parents' identity cards

Nationals of certain countries – such as Brazil and the United Kingdom – do not need to provide **health insurance**, thanks to bilateral agreements with Portugal.



¹ At the time of revision of this booklet, the necessary documentation to obtain the **Qualified Work Search Visa** was not disclosed.

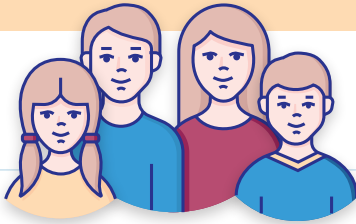
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Means of Subsistence:

Calculation and Evidence



The reference value corresponds to the national minimum wage (monthly) in Portugal, [Ordnance No. 1563/2007](#). In 2026, this value is €920. For a household, the calculation is made as follows:



- > 100% of the national minimum wage for the first adult
- > 50% of the national minimum wage for each additional adult
- > 30% of the national minimum wage for each minor

Example: family of 4 in 2026

adult 1 > 920€	920€
adult 2 > 460€	1.380€
child 1 > 276€	1.656€
child 2 > 276€	1.932€

Various documents can serve as proof, depending on the purpose and context of your stay. Always consult the agency through which you are applying for a visa to ensure that you meet all the requirements. Some of the most common documents include:





If you work for an employer in Portugal	>	employment contract and pay slips for the last 3 months
If you come to work for an employer in Portugal	>	offer of an employment contract in Portugal
If you are an independent professional	>	service/partnership contracts
Establishment of residence	>	proof of retirement/pension or financial investments
Entrepreneurs	>	declaration of intent to invest in Portugal or participation in the STARTUP VISA program

See Employment and Entrepreneurship Booklet



For the CPLP Visa, proof of means of subsistence can be replaced by:

- > Proof of admission to Higher Education
- > Declaration of Responsibility signed by the host:
 - > Host entity, in the case of internships, work, exchange, and volunteering
 - > Portuguese citizen or qualified foreign resident who guarantees food, accommodation, and other costs. They must submit an IRS Declaration (1 year) and a bank statement (3 months)



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Other Documents

Depending on the purpose of your stay (work, study, family reunification, etc.), you may need to submit specific documents. Always consult official sources and prepare all documents carefully. Remember that official documents must be apostilled or properly notarized.

These and other documents should be readily available to present to the Portuguese authorities, particularly during the process of obtaining a visa or a Residence Permit.

The most common are:

- > **Proof of family ties/Identification of family members,**
for family-related matters
- > **Medical Reports (proof of Medical Board),**
for health-related matters



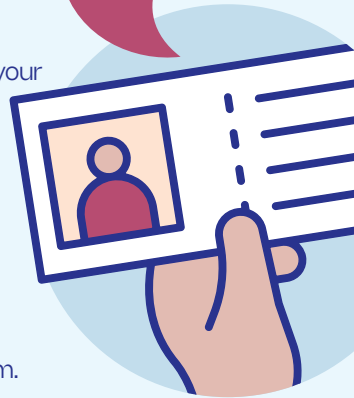
CAP. 2

When in Portugal

Prepare everything before you arrive in Portugal. Moving to a different country involves many changes and takes effort. If you plan your regularisation process and documents in advance, you will save time and be able to organise your life and stay in Porto.

To assist with the regularization process (and beyond), ensure that your main documents and supporting proofs are well organized and easily accessible. Each section of this booklet details the necessary documents and explains how to use them.

// I have arrived in Portugal and want to stay. What should I do? //



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**Consider the following list.
It will be helpful in various circumstances.**

- > Valid passport or equivalent document
- > Proof of means of subsistence
- > Criminal record
- > Certificates of qualifications
- > Proof of legal entry (Visa, SES Proof/Passport Stamp,
Transport Ticket)
- > Proof of address
- > Copies of official communication with authorities (emails sent
and received, proof of requests, notifications)
- > Proof of country of origin/residence (criminal records,
previous visas)



AIMA Portal



2

.1 WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT

The Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum (AIMA) is the public entity responsible for supporting the processes of migration, reception, and inclusion of foreigners in the country. It acts as a proximity service, with an **online portal** and service desks. You should familiarize yourself with the services, as your regularization process is conducted through AIMA.



AIMA STORE – PORTO

Avenida de França, 316
Edifício Capitólio, Loja 57
4050-276 Porto

Timetables

Information: 08h00–12h00

Lawyers' Assistance: 09h30 – 10h30

Delivery of Residence Permits: 08h30 –11h30

4 requests for Certificates: Tuesday and Thursday
09h00–11h00

Services

- > Issuance of residence permits
- > Schedules
- > Biometric collection
- > Application and renewal decisions
- > Family reunification



CLAIM

The Local Support Centres for the Integration of Migrants (CLAIM) are public services to support the integration of migrants, managed by AIMA. They provide **free services** and provide information on legalization, work, health, education, and social integration.

They can provide a range of services and support, including professional, legal, and psychosocial assistance.

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1 AIMA STORE – PORTO

Avenida de França, 316
Edifício Capitólio, Loja 57
4050–276 Porto

<https://aima.gov.pt/pt>
+351 217 115 000
aima.gov.pt/pt/lojas-aima



2 CLAIM Lusófona University

Rua Augusto Rosa, 24
4000–098 Porto

claim@ulusofona.pt
+351 222 073 241
www.ulusofona.pt/claim



3 CLAIM JRS

Rua da Fábrica Social 17
4000–121 Porto

jrs@jrspportugal.pt
+351 217 552 790 // 933 480 357
www.jrspportugal.pt



4 CLAIM Seiva

Rua de Vilar, n.º 130
4050–625 Porto

+351 224 937 818 // 911 009 699
seiva.co.pt/atendimento/atendimento-claim/



5 CLAIM FEUP

Rua Dr. Roberto Frias
s/n, Sala A 215
4200–465 Porto

ipoint@fe.up.pt
+351 220 414 502
fe.up.pt/ipoint/claim



6 CLAIM Porto University

Praça de Gomes Teixeira
3º piso – Sala 303
4099–002 Porto

international@reit.up.pt
scheduling in-person appointments:
<https://international.up.pt>



Depending on your needs, you may require additional services, such as consulates and embassies, for the issuance or renewal of documents, or the legalization of certificates.

You can find their representation on the **Diplomatic Portal**.

Diplomatic
Portal





PORTO

You can also seek support from lawyers and legal professionals specialized in Immigration and Foreigners Law for issues such as refusals, administrative delays, appeals, deportations, notifications, or detentions.

WARNING: Avoid fraud and misinformation.

Seek well-qualified professionals who are registered with **the Portuguese Bar Association** and avoid unqualified intermediaries who promise to make the process easier or less bureaucratic.

Poorly handled applications can jeopardize your regularization and lead to serious penalties.



The Portuguese
Bar Association



.2

.2 RESIDENCE PERMIT



If you are a national of a country of the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA), Andorra, or Switzerland, this section does not apply.

See section **1.1 Visa waiver: European Union, European Economic Area, Andorra, and Switzerland, p.9.**



If you wish to stay in Portugal, the next step is to apply for a Residence Permit.

The Residence Visa gives you access to a pre-authorization, with important information about:

- › How to obtain the Residence Permit
- › Provisional numbers of essential services such as Tax Identification, Social Security, and National Health Service



The Residence Permit is issued by AIMA. You will receive a physical card, also called a **Residence Permit**, which serves as an official identification document for all legal purposes. It confirms that you reside in Portugal with lawful and ongoing residence, with all associated rights and duties, and are entitled to equal treatment.



You can consult all your rights in the other sections of this Guide.

<p>See Education Booklet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Access to education, teaching, and vocational training, including grants and scholarships
<p>See Employment and Entrepreneurship Booklet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Develop professional activity, for others or independently › Guidance, training, further training, and retraining
<p>See Health Booklet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Access to healthcare
<p>See Social Protection and Citizenship Booklet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Access to rights and justice

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In order to apply for a Residence Permit, it is necessary to have entered Portugal with a visa corresponding to the purpose of the stay – be it work, study, family reunification, or another purpose.

Some visas are issued with a scheduled appointment at AIMA, which simplifies the process. If this is not the case, you will need to schedule the appointment yourself.



To obtain the Residence Permit, you must provide the following:

- › Valid visa: either a Residence visa or a Job seeker visa
- › Presence in Portuguese territory: you must be physically present in Portuguese territory
- › Proof of means of subsistence: evidence that you can financially support yourself during your stay
- › Accommodation: documentation proving your place of residence, such as a rental contract or utility bill
- › Registration with Social Security (if applicable): required if you intend to work
- › Absence of legal impediments: you must not have convictions for crimes carrying a sentence of more than one year, a prohibition on entering Portugal, or other alerts recorded in the migration information systems.





Residence Permit: Step by Step



1

Scheduling

telephone or online



2

Preparation

prepare all the documentation (check on the AIMA portal)



4

Biometric collection

photo, fingerprints, and signature



3

Service

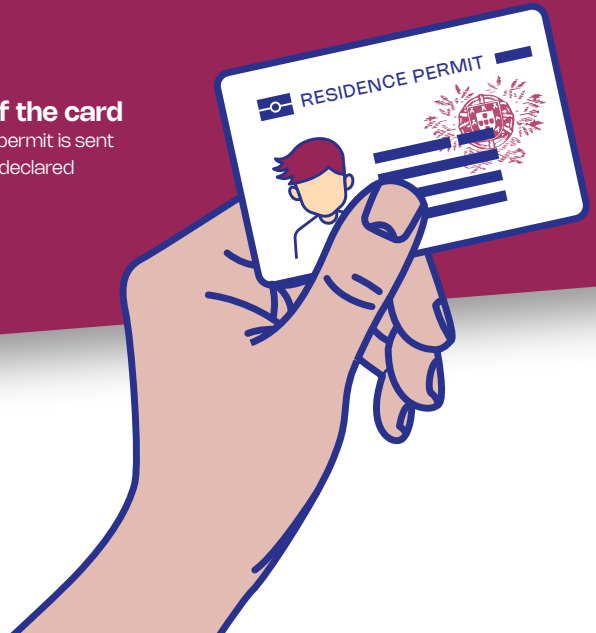
in person, at an AIMA counter, with all the required documents



5

Delivery of the card

the residence permit is sent by post to the declared address



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Types of Residence Permit

Under current legislation, there are two types of Residence Permit:

- > Permanent Residence Permit (see p. 38)
- > Temporary Residence Permit

If you arrive in the country with a Residence Visa, you may apply for a Temporary Residence Permit. There are several subtypes that you may consider, depending on the reasons for coming to Portugal.



RESIDENCE PERMIT FOR	DETAIL
Exercise of subordinate professional activity	You can carry out another type of activity, but you must change your Residence Permit
Self-employed professional activity or for immigrant entrepreneurs	
Highly qualified teaching or cultural activity	Does not require a valid residence visa You have an immediate right to family reunification
Investment	Does not require a valid residence visa Requires: investment of more than €500,000, or €250,000, if it is in arts and culture; or the creation of at least 10 jobs
Higher education students	For course attendance or in an extended mobility program
Researchers	For work in officially recognized research centres, on a permanent or temporary basis
Interns	The host entity must provide justification for extending the program in which it participates
Volunteers	

Validity > 2 years, renewable for an additional 3 years. The CPLP Residence Permit is valid for one year

Deadline for AIMA's decision > 90 days after the request is made

Renewal > The application must be submitted no later than 30 days before the previous document expires. A decision will then be communicated within 60 days

Evidence and requirements

- Means of subsistence
- Accommodation
- Compliance with tax and social security obligations
- Not have a conviction for a crime punishable by a sentence of more than one year in prison

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.3 ESSENTIAL SERVICES

In Portugal, legal and organized life begins with your relationship with the State. Official documents and identification numbers show that your presence is recognized and protected by law.

Shortly after arrival, you will need to obtain some fundamental documents. Some can only be requested after obtaining a residence permit, while others can be applied for at the start of the process to help organize your practical life and work.



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The procedures are regularly updated to make them simpler and more efficient. While you will need to visit some services in person, you will also benefit from extensive online communication options.

DOCUMENT	DESCRIPTION	ONLINE ORDER	FACE-TO-FACE APPLICATION MORE INFORMATION
Digital Mobile Key (CMD)	An electronic tool that gives access to the main online public services. It allows you to renew documents, consult records, submit requests and digitally sign official forms, without leaving home. Any foreign national can activate the CMD associated with a Passport, Residence Permit, or Residence Card.		Activated at ePortugal branches, at Citizens' Shops, or at CTT (Post Office) 
NISS — Social Security Identification Number	It allows you to register contributions and access benefits such as allowances, family benefits, sick leave, parental leave, and retirement.		Social Security Services or at the Citizens' Shop Av. de Fernão de Magalhães, 1862 4350-158 Porto
NIF - Tax Identification Number	It serves as your identification with the Portuguese Tax Authority ("Finanças"). It is essential for almost everything: signing contracts, opening a bank account, receiving a salary, making purchases with an invoice, and fulfilling tax obligations		Finance Counters or Citizens' Shops , by appointment 
SNS User Card - National Health Service	It provides access to the National Health Service (SNS), allowing consultations, exams, and care at health centres and public hospitals. With this registration, the citizen now has a family doctor and access to the same care as any resident in Portugal.		It is requested at the health center in the area of residence 
Proof of Address	This document shows your current residence and is used to receive official notifications. It is required for most administrative processes, such as school enrolment, opening a bank account, signing employment contracts, or applying for residency.		It can be issued by the Parish Councils (declaration of residence) or proven through a lease agreement or ownership document (deed). 

[See Health Booklet](#)

How can you obtain a NISS?

Here are some guidelines:



Social Security Registration – Step by Step



1

Gather the required documents

(standard documents + profile-specific documents; see the table below).



2

Confirm who makes the request: the employer (if there is a contract) or the employee (self-employed, students, minors, or migrants without a contract).



3

Go to a Social Security counter or Citizens Shop

to make the request in person.



4

Deliver the documents and fill out the form



5

You will **receive the NISS** (Social Security Identification Number) immediately or by subsequent communication from Social Security.

Contrary to popular belief, the NISS does not need to be included in the employment contract. You can sign an employment contract even if you do not yet have a NISS.

Source

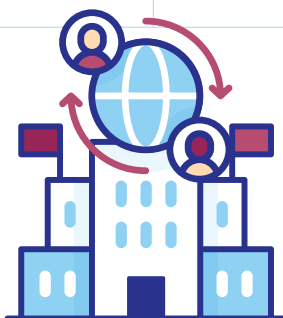
note from the Social Security Institute, dated 05/08/2025



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Required Documents

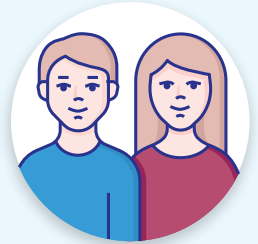
PROFILE	HOW TO ORDER /WHO DOES IT	SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED	DOCUMENTS STANDARD FOR ALL PROFILES
Employee	Employer's request (worker's register)	Employment contract (or contract data)	Valid passport or ID NIF (Tax Identification Number) Proof of address (declaration from the Parish Council, lease agreement, or invoice)
Self-employed (green receipts)	Request in person by the individual, at Social Security or the Citizens' Shop	Proof of commencement of activity in the Tax Office (declaration of commencement of activity/CAE)	
Migrant without a contract	Request in person by the individual, at Social Security or the Citizens' Shop	Residence permit (if any); proof of entry/legality (where applicable)	
Child/minor (requested by legal guardian)	Request made by the parent or legal guardian	Child's birth certificate; identification of the parent or guardian	
Foreign student	Face-to-face request by the person or by the parents/guardian (depending on age)	Proof of enrolment in the educational institution, NIF and passport	



.2

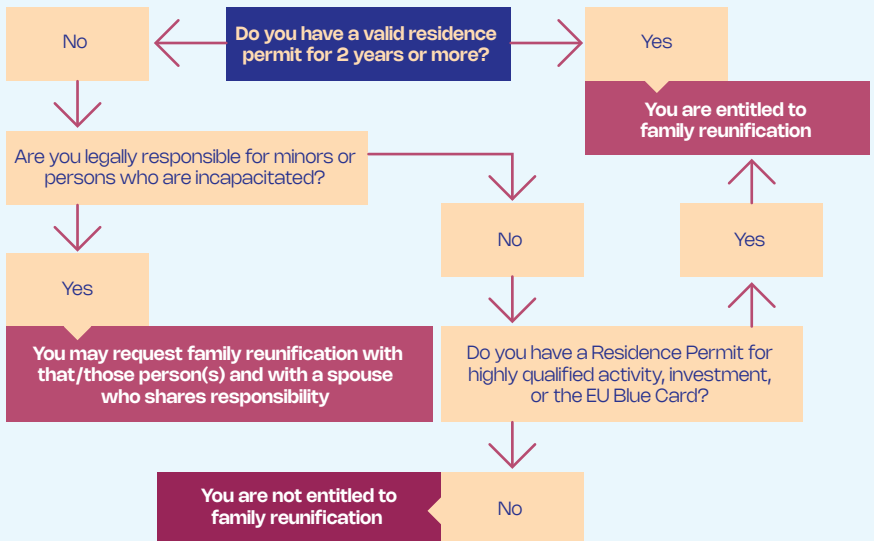
.4 FAMILY REUNIFICATION

In Portugal, there is the Right to Family Reunification Law 61/2025, Art 98



The objective is to allow legal residents to maintain their family unit, ensuring that family members enjoy the same fundamental rights to housing, health care, education, and work.

It applies only to those who have minors or dependents in their care, have been legal residents for two years or more, or are recognized as refugees.



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Who can join the Family Reunification?

FAMILY BOND	REQUIRED DOCUMENTS
Spouse or partner in a de facto union	Notarized marriage certificate or documents proving a de facto union for more than 2 years.
Children under 18 years of age	Notarized birth certificate.
Financially dependent adult, children or students	Notarized birth certificate Enrolment in school in Portugal or another document proving dependence.
Economically dependent ascendants (parents)	Proof of financial or caregiving dependence on the family members being reunited.

When the application for reunification is made for the spouse (or unmarried partner), the time limit is reduced from 24 months (2 years) to 15 months of legal residence



As the previous image indicates, no minimum period of residence applies in the following cases:

- > Minors or individuals unable to care for themselves
- > Spouse or partner, if together (spouse/partner and holder), are responsible for a minor child or someone incapacitated
- > Family members of the holder of authorization granted under articles 90 (teaching, highly qualified or cultural activity), 90-A (investment activity – Golden Visa) or 121-A (European Union Blue Card) of [Law 61/2025](#).

You must prove that you have:

- > Adequate accommodation for the household, such as a lease agreement, property deed or proof of residence
- > Regular means of subsistence, with an income that respects, at least, the formula presented in [point 1.2 Means of subsistence: calculation and proofs, p.18](#)
- > Criminal Record with no convictions, in Portugal and in your country of origin
- > Family bond, with official documents such as birth, marriage, guardianship, or economic dependency certificates, duly legalized and translated when issued in a language other than Portuguese, Spanish, French, or English

CAP. **.3**

Portuguese Citizenship

After 5 years of residence, you may apply for a Permanent Residence Permit, provided that you have continuously lived in Portugal, demonstrate knowledge of the Portuguese language, and meet the other requirements. This permit, although it has no expiry date, must be renewed every 5 years and allows you to reside indefinitely in the country, but without citizenship: you do not enjoy full political rights.

Law No. 23/2007, of 4 July, as currently amended



At the time of preparation of this booklet, no changes to the legal conditions for naturalization are known. In general, they are:

CRITERIA	BY 2025
Length of residence in Portugal, calculated from the date the Residence Permit was granted	5 years
Marriage or <i>de facto</i> union with a Portuguese person	No obstacles
Ancestry: having Portuguese parents, grandparents or great-grandparents	No obstacles
To have been born in Portugal as the child of legal residents who have been residing in the country for	1 year



Contacts

Some contacts that may be useful.

AIMA – Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum

<https://aima.gov.pt>

+351 218 106 191 (monday to friday, service in several languages).

AIMA Store – Porto

<https://aima.gov.pt/pt>

<https://aima.gov.pt/pt/lojas-aima>

+351 217 115 000

Bar Association

<https://portal.aa.pt>

+351 218 823 550

cons.geral@cg.aa.pt

Largo de S. Domingos, 14 -1º

1169-060, Lisboa

Opening Hours:

09h30 – 12h30

14h00 – 18h00

CLAIM – Local Support Centres for the Integration of Migrants

CLAIM FEUP

<https://fe.up.pt/ipoint/claim>

+351 220 414 502

ipoint@fe.up.pt

CLAIM JRS

<https://jrspportugal.pt>

+351 217 552 790 // 933 480 357

jrs@jrspportugal.pt

CLAIM Lusófona University

<https://www.ulusofona.pt/claim>

+351 222 073 241

CLAIM Porto University

https://international.up.pt/web/en_degrees.html

Scheduling in-person appointments:

<https://international.up.pt>

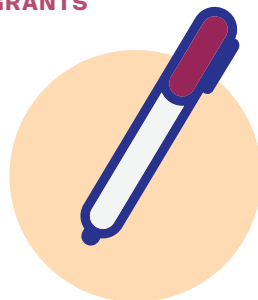
international@reit.up.pt

CLAIM Seiva

<https://seiva.co.pt/atendimento/atendimento-claim/>

+351 224 937 818 // 911 009 699

Diplomatic Portal – is the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Portugal
<https://portaldiplomatico.mne.gov.pt/>
 + 351 217 929 700



Glossary

Applicant – A person who makes an official application to a public entity, such as applying for residency, a visa, or other document.

CAE – Economic Activity Code – A code that indicates the type of work or activity carried out by a company or a self-employed person in Portugal.

Family Reunification – A process that allows an immigrant living legally in Portugal to bring their family to live with them.

Financial Dependence – A person who does not have sufficient income to support themselves and is financially dependent on another individual.

Hague Convention Apostille – It is an official seal placed on a document to confirm its authenticity, allowing it to be legally accepted in another country without the need for consular legalization.

Legal Entry – when the person crosses the Portuguese border with valid documents (an identification document or a passport and a visa, if necessary).

Legal Residence – authorization granted by AIMA that allows a person to live and carry out activities in Portugal on a stable and long-term basis. Legal residence is evidenced by the Residence Permit, a card issued by AIMA.

Legal Stay – The period during which a foreign citizen remains in the country within the timeframe authorized at entry.

National Health Service (SNS) – The public health system in Portugal that provides access to doctors, consultations, exams, and hospitals.

Residence Permit – An official document that allows a foreign citizen to live legally in Portugal.

Residence Permit Holder – A person who has a valid document that allows them to live legally in Portugal.

Residency Time Requirement – The minimum period a person must reside legally in Portugal to be eligible for permanent residence or family reunification rights.

Social Security – A public system that provides protection in situations such as illness, unemployment, maternity, paternity, or retirement.

STARTUP VISA – A program that allows foreign entrepreneurs to come to Portugal to create or develop an innovative startup.

Term of Responsibility – A document in which a person or company declares that they assume responsibility for another individual, such as guaranteeing accommodation or covering expenses.

Porto.

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4049 – 001 Porto

geral@cm-porto.pt

www.cm-porto.pt

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