

Regulations on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals (1973)

Article 1 - Border officials who have permission from the police department can, at the authorized border stations, issue a transit visa for the holders of valid foreign passports who intend to transit through Iran. Transit visas shall be issued for a period not exceeding 15 days on the basis of the previous recommendations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This must be done in compliance with Article 2 of the Act on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals (1931) after receiving the fee for issuing visa in accordance with the relevant tariff.

Article 2 – Issuing visa for persons mentioned below shall depend on special permission to be obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

- A) Stateless persons, or persons who hold a foreign Laissez Passer.
- B) Nationals of certain governments determined by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 3 - The police officials in the capital of the country and also in the capitals of provinces and townships can issue exit-return visas for foreigners holding valid residence permits, in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Note 1 - The visa shall be issued for one exit and return.

Note 2 - The validity period of an exit-return visa is three months from the date of exit from the frontier.

Note 3 - The validity period of an exit-return visa, to exit the country is one month. Such a period may be extended.

Note 4 - For foreigners who are in the service of Ministries and governmental entities, upon the request of the relevant Ministry or entity, exit-return visas can be issued for one or multiple exit and entry during the validity of the residence permit of the foreigners.

Note 5 - For foreigners who are employed by non-governmental entities in Iran, upon the request of the relevant entity and its undertaking to pay income tax of its employee, the multiple or one-off exit-return visa can be issued during the validity of the residence permit of the foreigners.

Article 4 - Any foreigner who intends to reside in Iran must, within 8 days of entering the country, fill in and sign the application for issuing a residence permit. Then the applicant must submit the application, together with other necessary documents, to the district police department of the place selected as the foreigner's place of residence. The district police department, after having considered the submitted documents, shall either issue a temporary residence permit and take the legal fees, or may refrain from

issuing it.

Article 5 - The police department of the center of the province or the township of the intended place of residence of the foreigner may issue a residence permit for him according to the provisions of Article 3 of the Act on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals (1931). The permit shall be issued with the agreement of the central police department if the applicant meets any of the following conditions:

- A) The applicant has legally resided in Iran for five continuous or periodic years, and on the date of application is over 18 years of age.
- B) The applicant has legally resided in Iran for two continuous or periodic years and his/her high level scientific qualifications, profession or specialty in productive and development affairs has been confirmed by competent authorities of the country.
- C) The applicant has legally resided in Iran for two continuous or periodic years and the competent authorities of the country have confirmed his/her remarkable and valuable services to the public utility affairs of Iran.
- D) The applicant has an Iranian wife and children.
- F) The applicant has legally resided in Iran for two continuous or periodic years and as confirmed by the competent authorities of the country, s/he has invested in production and development activities of the country.
- F) The applicant has legally resided in Iran for two continuous or periodic years and his /her personal income or salary or regular pension has been confirmed by one of the authorized banks of Iran.

Note - For the purposes of these Regulations, the residence of foreigners shall be considered legal when a residence permit is obtained by the foreigner.

Article 6 - The issuance fee of the temporary or permanent residence permits shall be equal to the amount indicated in Article 14 of the Act on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals. Stamps equivalent to the above amount shall be fixed and marked on the residence permit.

Article 7 - After issuance of a residence permit, the police department shall send a copy of the application papers for the residence permit to the district police office of the zone in which the foreigner will reside. The relevant district police office is required to keep such records for future reference.

Article 8 - Foreign refugees who have received refugee booklets from the police department, in accordance with the Regulations relating to Refugees, shall be excluded

from the provisions of Articles 4 and 5 of these Regulations.

Article 9 - Holders of temporary or permanent residence permits are required to notify the change of their place of work or residence, to the office of the police of their previous place of work or residence. They are also required to notify, in writing, the police office of their new place of residence or work, within 8 days of arrival in the new place.

Article 10 - All foreign nationals are required to present to the officials of the police, upon demand, their residence permits or other travel documents.

Article 11 - According to current regulations, it is authorized to issue a duplicate of the residence permit. The duplicate shall be issued after receiving legal fees and after the stamp has been affixed thereon.

Article 12 - Foreign nationals must refer to the district police office personally (or by their representative) in order to submit their applications and get a residence permit.

Article 13 - Foreigners employed by the Ministries and governmental entities or institutions affiliated to the government, can fill in the application papers needed to obtain a residence permit. After having the application papers confirmed by the relevant ministry, entity or institute, they shall send the papers to the district police department through a representative introduced by the Ministry, the entity or the institution where the foreigner works.

Article 14 - Persons in charge of public places are required to indicate in special arrival declaration forms, the identity and date of arrival of any foreigner to their place and submit such forms to the nearest police office within 24 hours after the arrival of the foreigner.

Note 1 - For the purposes of these Regulations, public places are meant to be hotels, public houses, guest houses and pensions and in general all the places where guests are received in any manner.

Note 2 - The special arrival declaration forms for guests shall be prepared by the Central Police Department and shall be made available to owners of the public places.

Article 15 - The owners or the occupants of personal residences are required to inform the nearest police office, by any possible means of the fact that a foreigner stays for one night or more in their house under any title.

Article 16 – Where the Central Police Department, according to legal rules, refrains from issuing, extending or renewing the residence permit, and makes a decision to expel a foreigner, the foreigner shall be notified in writing of this decision. Within 15 days of the notification, in accordance with Article 12 of the Act on the Entry and

Residence of Foreign Nationals, the foreigner may submit an application to the Ministry of Interior asking for a review of the decision of the Central Police Department. The Ministry of Interior, after receiving the application, shall present the matter to a commission composed of the political director general of the Ministry of Interior and the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Information and the Police Department. The Ministry of Interior shall subsequently notify the Central Police Department of the decision of the commission.

Article 17 - The Central Police Department of the country must print the Articles of the Act on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals (1931) and its amendments and the provisions of these Regulations as public notices in Persian, English and French languages. The Department must also publish them in widely circulated newspapers. Further, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall send the said texts and their translations to the missions abroad and to foreign diplomatic and consular missions in Iran.

Article 18 - All the regulations on the entry and residence of foreign nationals contrary to the provisions of these Regulations shall be null and void from the date of adoption of these Regulations.