



## Visa Information

### Please read this document fully and carefully

*Although every effort is made to keep this document up-to-date, information, links and websites may change without advanced notice. Please allow for such changes and feel free to let us know if you encounter a link or page not working appropriately*

### Visa Information

Irish embassies and consulates issue visas overseas on behalf of the Department of Foreign Affairs, while the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform [www.justice.ie](http://www.justice.ie) issues visas to applicants who are in Ireland. Visa information and contact numbers within Ireland are available through this website (see Visa Information and Decisions), you can also email [visamail@justice.ie](mailto:visamail@justice.ie)

Information is also available through Irish embassies and consulates abroad, at:

<https://www.dfa.ie/embassies/irish-embassies-abroad/>

In January 2006 the Government established the Irish Naturalization and Immigration Service within the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and this agency is responsible for processing all visa applications within Ireland.

The public office is located at 13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2. Please find link with up to date opening times. <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/contact-registration>

The GNIB are currently only contactable by e-mail, [visamail@justice.ie](mailto:visamail@justice.ie), and link to website <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/contact-visas>

### What is a Visa?

A visa is a form of pre-entry clearance which allows for travel to Ireland. It does not guarantee permission to enter Ireland. Permission to enter Ireland is granted by an Immigration Officer at the port of entry.

In Ireland, the [Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service](http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/contact-registration) (INIS), an Office of the Department of Justice and Equality, is primarily responsible for dealing with immigration and visa matters.

Applicants' passports must be valid for at least 12 months **after** their proposed dates of arrival in Ireland

### **Do I need a visa to come to Ireland?**

Citizens of certain countries require an entry visa for Ireland. To check if you need an entry visa, please go to <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/check-irish-visa>.

All citizens of non-EEA countries, whether they require a visa or not, are subject to immigration control at the point of entry to Ireland.

### **How do I apply?**

You must apply online for a visa -

<http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Apply%20for%20a%20visa>

When you have completed the online application process, you must follow the instructions on the summary application form that is created by the online system. The summary form will contain information on where you are to submit your supporting documentation.

The summary form which you must print, sign and date must be submitted with your supporting documentation.

You may be required to provide your [Biometrics information](#) part of the application process.

### **What documentation must accompany my visa application?**

Documentation will depend on the type and duration of the visa you're applying for. Please refer to the link below for more information:

<http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/check-irish-visa>

### **Application fees**

Application fee will depend on the type and duration of your visa.

Contact your local Embassy or Consulate for more details on the fee, or see

<https://www.dfa.ie/travel/visas/visas-for-ireland/>

An applicant who shows evidence that they are married to an EEA citizen is exempt from fees.

## **Completion of the application form**

You should make sure to complete your application form fully, sign it, and attach **ALL** the necessary documentation required. Failure to do so will result in the refusal of the application.

False, fraudulent, or misleading information will result in the failure of your application and will have implications for future applications you make.

## **Processing of applications**

The processing times for visa applications vary depending on the visa type and the Office to which the application is lodged. Visa applications are considered in as speedy a manner as possible but timeframes for decision can be dependent on a number of factors including, the number of applications received and the resources available to process them at any one time.

While the vast majority of applications are dealt with within a much shorter timeframe it is recommended that applicants allow as much time as possible when applying for a visa. Just in case further enquiries have to be made, we advise you to apply for your visa 8 weeks before the date you plan to travel.

**NOTE:** Applicants planning on a long term or permanent stay in Ireland, such as, in the case of joint family visa applications, should be aware that they will require more in-depth consideration than short-stay visa applications and it is recommended applicants make their applications 12 weeks prior to their proposed dates of travel.

Sponsors/references named in your application form may be contacted for further information, and other checks may be necessary to confirm the details provided with your application.

When a decision has been made on your application, you will be notified by the relevant Embassy or Consulate. Decisions are also posted on <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Visa%20Decisions> on a weekly basis. You can check for your decision using the Reference Number which will be issued to you.

More detailed information on applying for a visa can be found by accessing the relevant links above.

## **Re-entry Visas**

Applicants who have permission to remain in Ireland may apply for a re-entry visa. Please see link to 'Re-entry Visas' below for full details on how and where to apply.

<http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Re-Entry%20Visas>

## **Other useful links**

Department of Justice and Equality

<http://www.inis.gov.ie/>

Department of Foreign Affairs

<https://www.dfa.ie/>

Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation

<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/>

Citizens Information Office

<https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/>

---