



FRANCE: Paris Prefecture Restricts Translations To "Made in France" Only

The prefecture of Paris is no longer allowing translations to be prepared outside of France. They must be done in France by a French Translator registered in the Court of Appeals.

Thank you PLG/KGNM France for this important global update.

UNITED KINGDOM: New Visa Regulations for South African Nationals

From March 3, 2009, South African nationals will require a visa to enter or transit the UK no matter what the purpose or length of their stay. There is a Temporary Exemption through mid -2009.

If you are a South African national who has traveled to the UK recently and you have evidence of this visit in your current passport (i.e., a UK entry stamp), you can enjoy a temporary exemption to the new visa requirements. This means a visa is not necessary if you are traveling through the country, visiting for less than six months, and you do not plan to work in the UK.

If the evidence of entry is in an expired passport, you will not qualify for the temporary exemption detailed above.

Visa Categories & Qualifications

You must show proof of evidence in the form of original documents that verify the intent to leave the UK after 6 months and that you have enough funds to support yourself during the visit.

Please see www.ukvisas.gov.uk for further details such as visa types and permissible activities.

Direct Airside Transit Visa (DATV) & Qualifications

This visa is for those who wish to travel through the UK or leave the airport. If this is the case, you must provide evidence of a UK boarding pass within 24 hours of arriving, prove that you don't plan to change airports, show all travel-related documents, and verify you will not be passing through the UK Immigration Control.

Regular Travel to the UK

If you wish to visit the UK regularly, it is necessary to apply for a long-term visa which is subject to visitor conditions (e.g. maximum 6-month stay). This visa is valid for multiple entries (one, two, five, and 10 years).

Visa Application & Processing

When applying, you must appear in person at a Visa Application Center (VAC). The visa is valid for up to 6 months and you can enter as many times as you like during this time. Process times can take as little as five days and as long as 15, so please take this into consideration when planning a trip. For more information, you may contact your global immigration consultant at Pro-Link GLOBAL.

SERBIA: New Immigration Legislation

Effective April 1, 2009, the Serbian Government will be introducing new immigration procedures.

Once a resident permit expires, renewals will no longer be accepted and applicants will have to leave the country. Remaining in-country with an expired residence permit will be considered a criminal offense.

The changes to be implemented by the Serbian Government under the new law include changing the validity date of the visa - *the day the extended permit becomes valid will begin the day **after** the existing permit expires*; whereas, previously it was from the date the application was submitted. Additionally, applications will be accepted **one month prior** to the expiration of the existing permit and upon applying for the permit, but please note if there are documents missing to complete the renewal process, you will need to submit them prior to the expiration of the permit, or it will be rejected.

Under the new Serbian government procedures, four types of visas will be recognized, albeit these classifications have not yet been approved:

- 1) Airport Transit Visa;
- 2) Transit Visa;
- 3) Temporary Stay Visa; and,
- 4) Temporary Residence Visa.

Thank you PLG/KGNM Hungary for this important global update.

SWITZERLAND: Spouses and Children Now Able to Work

Swiss citizens, their dependants (spouses and children) and those with a permanent residence permit or long term permit (B-permits) are eligible to work as an employee or can be self-employed.

Though the above-noted are eligible to work in Switzerland, the employment contract between the individuals and the new employer needs to be sent to the authorities. This enables the authorities to control the immigration status of the individual based on the previous-issued residence permit.

Thank you PLG/KGNM Switzerland for this important global update.

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