



OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

I, Commissioner David Manning, Controller, by virtue of the Pandemic (General Provisions) (COVID 19) Act 2020, hereby issue the following direction concerning the various visa conditions as stipulated by the Migration Act 1978 and enforced by the PNG Immigration and Citizenship Authority (ICA)

VISA TYPES/CLASSES, FEES AND PENALTIES

1. Holders of Short Term Visa

The Short Term Entry Permits that were issued under the following visa types and classes nearing expiration or have expired are required to pay the applicable Migration Services Fee (MSF) to extend the visa. This will also include the late lodgement and over stayer fee

✓	Tourist – Tour Package	Sixty (60) days
✓	Tourist – Own Itinerary	Sixty (60) days
✓	Visiting Relatives	Sixty (60) days
✓	Easy Visitor Permit (EVP)	Thirty (30) days
✓	Easy Visitor Permit (EVP)	Sixty (60) days
✓	Yachtsperson Owner	Sixty (60) days
✓	Yachtsperson Crew	Sixty (60) days
✓	Business Single	Thirty (30) days
✓	Restricted Employment Visa	Thirty (30) days
✓	Journalist and Reporter	Thirty (30) days

Take note that request for a visa extension for non-citizens whose countries have opened their borders for international travel will not be accepted and applicants will be directed to exit the country on or before their visa expires. Penalties will apply if there is a breach of this instruction

2. Overseas Students

Foreign students and occupational trainees studying and training in the country on short and long term basis are eligible to apply for an extension of their visa with a fee imposed.

3. Holders of Temporary Resident Visa

Non-citizens residing in the country under the Working Resident and Special Exemptions visa categories including the dependents are eligible to apply for an extension with a visa fee imposed. They are however not exempted from paying penalty fees if their visa expired, lodged late or have overstayed. Appropriate penalty fee will be applicable if and when a late lodgement or overstay occurs.

4. Foreign Missions and Posts

All diplomatic Missions and Posts in the country on diplomatic assignments and postings including their technical staffs are eligible to apply for an extension through DFAIT Protocol and are exempted from late lodgement and overstay penalties

5. Change of Status (COS) in Country

Non-citizens who are temporary residents in the country and have not met the change of status requirements will be exempted from exiting the country and are eligible to apply for a new visa onshore.

Non-Citizens who are on short term visas and are intending to apply for change of status in the country will be given special consideration depending on the situation and on a case by case assessment.

The change of status applications will be facilitated in the country for the following visa classes

- ✓ All classes of the Visitor Visa to a Dependent of Principle applicant who is working in the country
- ✓ All classes of the Visitor Visa who are 18 years and below to a Dependent of Citizen who is residing in the country
- ✓ Single Business Visa to Working Residence Employment
- ✓ Restricted Employment Visa to Working Residence Employment
- ✓ Consultant Specialist Visa to Working Residence Employment

6. Visa Authority to Overseas Missions and Posts

All new visa authority transmitted to a PNG and Australia overseas Missions and Posts are to be issued based on sighting of the general medical report specially the covid19 certificate and police reports from the host country.

Non-Citizens traveling to Papua New Guinea are required to provide evidence of their visa and passport bio-data to the Office of the Controller for Travel Approval to board a flight to Port Moresby, PNG. Passport validity must be 6 month or more.

7. Foreigners in Quarantine

Non-Citizens travelling to PNG on short term visa visas who are in quarantined for fourteen days (14) will be allowed to apply for a thirty days extension to compensate for the loss of days spent in the hotels. Extension fee will be applicable

Non-Citizens on short term visas whose borders are open for international travel are advised to exit and re evidence visa if they wish to return to the country.

Non-Citizens on short term visas whose borders are still closed for international travel will be extended indefinitely until further notice

8. Circulation of this Notice

The Immigration and Citizenship Authority (ICA) and Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) will be the responsible agencies to inform the resident Diplomatic Corps and the non-citizens in the country and as well as the PNG Diplomatic Missions and Posts overseas on these changes.

All enquiries based on this notice can be forwarded to the Immigration and Citizenship Authority on clientservice@immigration.gov.pg or dfait20@gmail.com for clarity and assistance

A breach of this direction is an offence under Section 47 of the National Pandemic Act 2020 and offenders will be penalized and prosecuted under this law.



David Manning, MBE, DPS, QPM
CONTROLLER
National Pandemic Response

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