

## **USEFUL LINKS**

PNG Immigration & Citizenship Service Authority website:

<http://www.immigration.gov.pg/>

PR Application Form:

<http://www.immigration.gov.pg/permanent-residence.html> or

<http://www.immigration.gov.pg/>

## **PERMANENT RESIDENCE FAQs**

### 1. What is Permanent Residence (PR)?

- PR is a type of visa given to a successful applicant or person to allow him/her to reside indefinitely within the country of which he or she is not a citizen.
- Note that PR is a privilege and can be revoked at any time by the Minister when holder (s) abuse the conditions.

### 2. What are the PR visa conditions?

- The PR visa may be cancelled according to law in cases such as the holder being convicted of an offence and sentenced by a court in the country to imprisonment for a period greater than 3 months ,
- Where the holder (s) remain outside of the country for more than 12 months continuously without reasonable cause,
- Holder(s) of PR visa are exempted from the provisions of the Employment of Non-Citizens Act and may undertake employment,
- All applications for PR are to be made in country and not off-shore.

### 3. Who is eligible to apply for PR?

- A foreigner over the age of 18 years, who is a holder of a valid passport and a visa;
- Who has continuously resided in PNG for more than 5 years;
- Who has not been convicted of a criminal offence in PNG and abroad; and
- Applicant who has met the mandatory requirements of the particular PR classes that he/she has applied for.

### 4. How many categories of PR?

- There are eight (8) PR categories or classes;
  - 1) Majority Business Owner
  - 2) Skilled Professional
  - 3) CEO
  - 4) Spouse of PNG Citizen
  - 5) Religious Worker
  - 6) Retired Person
  - 7) Adult Child of Citizen
  - 8) Accompany PR Holder as Dependant

5. **What are the benefits of having PR visa?**
  - If successful, PR Visa is issued to the life of the Passport validity;
  - Alleviates the need to apply for a Work Permit; and
  - It allows the holder to work and/or establish business operations in PNG.
  - The PR visa is for multiple entries and the holder can enter & exit the country subject to having a valid passport and PR visa.
  
6. **Are PR Dependents eligible to work?**
  - Allows the dependent spouse to work; and
  - Dependent children over the age of 18 and below 24 who are still attending higher education and financially supported by principle PR are eligible to work in family business/at voluntary capacity/community social activities
  
7. **Are children over the age of 18 years eligible for PR Dependent Visa?**
  - Yes. Applies to only children over the age of 18 years and below 24 who are attending higher education either in PNG or overseas and are still be financially supported by principal PR visa holder.
  
8. **What are the requirements for a new PR application?**

**Permit Requirements:**

  - Copy of a valid passport,
  - Copy of a valid long term visa,
  - Copy of a valid work permit and
  - Original Migration Service Fee (MSF) receipt of K5000.00

**Certified Documents:**

  - PNG Police clearance certificate,
  - Character references from notable persons in PNG,

**Other certified documents depend on the type of PR Class that the applicant is interested in.**

  - Please refer to our official website: <http://www.immigration.gov.pg/> homepage> PR Forms and Checklists on the specific PR checklist for each of the classes mentioned above for the other certified requirements.
  
9. **What are the requirements to renew or extend a PR permit?**
  - A duly completed application to extend entry permit;
  - Migration Service Fee (MSF) of K200.00;
  - Old & new passports;
  - A cover letter and
  - A copy of the PR letter (if necessary).
  
10. **What happens if I lose my passport with a valid PR permit?**
  - Immediately report the loss to this Office by way of a formal letter;
  - Obtain a police report; and
  - Upon producing of a replacement Passport, this Authority will facilitate re-issuance of your PR visa.
  
11. **Can my PR be used for Employment purposes?**
  - Yes. There are no restrictions on employment for a holder of a PR Visa
  
12. **Where can I pay for the Migration Service Fee (MSF)?**

- MSF can be paid at Finance Cash Office, Department of Finance, Vulupindi Haus, Waigani NCD and
- Provincial Finance Cash Office or Internal Revenue Commission (IRC) Office in respective Provinces.

13. What is the mode of payment of MSF?

- EFTPOS machine (i.e at Vulupindi Haus) and
- Cash payment to be made at any BSP Bank and a receipt is given to you to take to the Finance Cash Office. Below is the account name and number;
  - ✓ Account Name: Department of Finance Head Quarter
  - ✓ Bank: BSP POM
  - ✓ Account Number: 1013544547

14. How long does it take to process a new PR application?

- Due to its business process, it normally takes 3-4 months or longer;
- If an application is not lodged through the counter and screened then it would take longer than usual due to incomplete requirements. Therefore applicant(s)/client(s) is/are encouraged to lodge over the counter; and
- If applicant is located in other parts of the country, you can enquire with our Provincial Offices in Lae, Kokopo, Alotau, Mt Hagen or email us on [pr@immigration.gov.pg](mailto:pr@immigration.gov.pg) for assistance.

15. How long does it take to renew my PR permit?

- Normally takes 1-2 days if lodged at the PR counter; and
- Couriered applications would depend on the delivery service

16. Are my dependants eligible to apply for their own PR permit?

- Yes. Under the PR Class # 8 on the form "Accompany PR Holder as Dependant".

17. Who can I include in my initial PR application?

- Yes. Your legal dependants (if any), including spouse, biological and adopted children.

18. Do I have to lodge my passport with my initial PR application?

- No. We require a copy of your valid passport bio-data page and must be valid for 6 months or more, including your legal dependents.

19. If my application is successful, what steps do I take?

- A formal letter of decision outcome will be issued to you via email/post/collected at counter;
- Complete an Application to Extend Entry Permit form ([http://immigration.gov.pg/images/documents/newforms/Visa\\_Extension\\_Form\\_new\\_sava\\_ble.pdf](http://immigration.gov.pg/images/documents/newforms/Visa_Extension_Form_new_sava_ble.pdf)); and
- Valid Passport booklet \*\*must be valid for 6 months or more.

20. If I am abroad and my application is approved, what do I do?

- Advise this office and as soon as you arrive in the country, lodge your Passport and the Visa Extension form for issuance of the permit.

21. For further questions or comments, please fill in the form below or email [pr@immigration.gov.pg](mailto:pr@immigration.gov.pg)