

EU Entrance
A General Overview
Jey Poston, August 16th, 2025

1. Generally Applicable Visa Requirements/ Steps
2. General Asylum Criteria/ Steps

1. Visas

Schengen Visa:

a. Single Entry

- i. Apply at the Consulate of the country you intend to visit
- ii. Apply no less than 15 days before your visit and no more than 6 months before your visit.
- iii. Cost for Adult: 90 EUR; Cost for Child (6-12 years old): 45 EUR
- iv. Completion of process can be expected between 15 and 45 days from submission of application

b. Multi-Entry

- i. Apply at the Consulate of the *first* country you intend to visit
- ii. Apply no less than 15 days before your visit and no more than 6 months before your visit
- iii. Cost for Adult: 90 EUR; Cost for Child (6-12 years old): 45 EUR
- iv. Completion of process can be expected between 15 and 45 days from submission of application

c. Airport Transit (See above instructions and link to apply under SOURCES AND LINKS)

ETIAS (European Travel Information and Authorization System)

****Activates later in 2026**

- a. 7 Euros for the application fee
- b. Will be active for 3 years or until the expiration of your passport

Short Stay (90 days or less) Requirements:

- a. Passport (valid for at least 6 months past the end of the stay)
- b. Schengen Visa or ETIAS
- c. Proof of funds, showing that you can support yourself for the duration of your stay
- d. Proof of accommodation (hotel reservation or invitation from resident, etc.)
- e. Travel Itinerary
- f. Other Documents possibly needed:
 - i. Letter of Intent explaining your travels
 - ii. Medical Insurance/ Proof of coverage
 - iii. Visa Application form/ Photo ID

Longer Visa Requirements:

A National Visa (this is a visa given by a specific nation for a specific purpose such as work, study, etc.) will be required for stays longer than 90 days. There are some general requirements across most long stay visas, regardless of type:

- a. Passport (valid at least 6 months past the end of your stay)
- b. Job Offer or University Acceptance Letter
 - i. Proof of experience/ qualifications
- c. Health Insurance
- d. Proof of Financial Stability
- e. Police Clearance Certificate

f. Proof of Accommodation

**** Easiest Countries to get a Work Visa through:**

Estonia, Norway, Germany, The Netherlands, Ireland, The Czech Republic

Most long stay visas are for 12 months and can be extended.

On average, most long stay visas take between 6-12 weeks to process.

You can bring your family with you for most work visas.

The average cost to apply for a long stay visa type is 120 EUR.

2. Asylum

The EU has a governing series of laws over the Asylum process called The Pact on Migration and Asylum.

(https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/migration-and-asylum/pact-migration-and-asylum_en)

If you are seeking asylum, you must do so in the country you are applying in. You cannot apply from outside of that country. If you are seeking asylum in a specific country, you must be sure that your travel to that country does NOT include international connections or layovers; if you are leaving the US, make sure that any connecting flights are DOMESTIC because of the Dublin Regulation or Dublin Procedure. The Dublin Procedure basically says that you must apply for asylum in the *first* external country you enter so if you continue on to a destination and apply, you will likely be sent back to the first country you landed in to apply for asylum there. There are some fundamentals that are applicable to seeking asylum in any EU country; rights, criteria, and obligations of the applicant.

Rights:

- a. A Personal Interview
- b. Information on rights and obligations during the procedure
- c. Free legal counseling during the administrative phase
- d. Free legal counseling and representation during an appeals process
- e. Assessment of applicants needs for special procedural guarantees

Criteria:

Anyone is eligible to apply for asylum under the circumstances that they have *a well-founded fear of persecution* based on:

Race

Religion

Nationality

Political Opinion

Membership of Particular (Protected) Social Group (LGBT, etc.)

Obligations:

Everyone applying for asylum is obliged to fully cooperate with the authorities, provide all identifying documents, and abide by the rules of any housing centers.

SOURCES AND LINKS

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02009R0810-20240628>

https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/schengen/visa-policy/applying-schengen-visa_en

https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/schengen/visa-policy_en#:~:text=the%20Schengen%20area?-,What%20is%20EU%20visa%20policy?,part%20of%20an%20EU%20airport.

<https://visaguide.world/europe/work-visa/>

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ%3AL_202401348

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202401347

<https://euaa.europa.eu/asylum-knowledge/dublin-procedure#:~:text=The%20Dublin%20III%20regulation%20ensures,streamline%20cooperation%20between%20Member%20States.>

Apply for Schengen Visa:

https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/d7105f84-984d-4566-ac27-31cad1081b74_en?filename=schengen_visa_application_form_en.pdf

The Netherlands Residence Permit Application:

<https://ind.nl/en/residence-permits/long-term-eu-residency/apply-for-a-residence-permit-for-long-term-eu-residents>

Germany Long Stay Application:

<https://www.germany.info/us-en/service/visa/residence-visa-922288>

Ireland Long Stay Application:

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

Estonia Long Stay Application:

<https://vm.ee/en/consular-visa-and-travel-information/visa-information/application-long-stay-d-visa>