

PERMIT TO RESIDE



Non-Bahamian nationals who are desirous of living for any purpose other than working in the Bahamas, must seek authorization from the Department of Immigration. This comes in the form of a Permit to Reside, also commonly known as an Annual Permit.

Permit to Reside Application Requirements:

- **Letter of request** addressed to the Director of Immigration
- **\$200.00 non-refundable processing fee** (payable by cash, credit/debit card, postal money order or bank certified cheque)
- Duly **completed First Schedule Form 1 application** with \$10.00 Bahamian postage stamp affixed thereon (legible and notarized)
- Applicant's original **medical certificate** (dated no earlier than 30 days of the application being submitted. This required for each applicant)
- Applicant's original **police certificate** issued not earlier than six (6) months and must cover five years of residence; required for applicants age of 14 and older
- **Two (2) current passport photographs** of applicant on white background with name printed on back of photo (captured within six (6) months of application photo size must be 2 X 2 inches)
- VALID copy of **biographical page of passport** for applicant (must be signed and readable with minimum (2) months validity)
- Copy of **biographical page of passport for sponsor** (must be signed and readable with minimum two (2) months validity)
- Certified copy of **marriage certificate** of applicant (if applicable)
- Certified copy of **birth certificate** of applicant showing parents' names (if applicable)

- **Two (2) character references** from reputable persons or persons of good standing in applicant's community (please provide telephone contacts and email addresses)
- **Reference from applicant's financial institution(s)** stating a figure range and/or statement prepared by a Certified Public Accountant (adults/independent applicants)
- **Copy of conveyance for residential property(ies) owned by applicant in The Bahamas** (adults only and if applicable)
- **Accompanying Dependents **must** apply for a Permit to Reside**
- **Additional Documents Required for Children:**
- **Letter confirming applicant's enrollment in a school in The Bahamas**
- **Legal Court document granting custody or guardianship of applicant to sponsor** (for children not accompanied by their parents)
- **Certified copy of parents' birth certificates** (for children not accompanied by their parents)
- If children are not accompanied by both parents, **evidence of legal custody of applicant is required from the accompanying parent/guardian**
- **Children who are being home schooled **MUST** be registered with the Ministry of Education and proof of such must be provided.**

All further correspondence should be addressed to:

Director
P.O.
Nassau, Bahamas

of
Box

Immigration
N-831

Please note that:

1. Certified translations in English are required for each foreign document submitted and should have a **Bahamian \$10.00 postage** stamp affixed thereto.
2. **Translations must be prepared by someone proficient in the relevant foreign language.**
3. **Persons applying for status in first instance **should not** be in the country during the processing of the application.**

Eligibility:

Any non-Bahamian who is:

- Attending school, college or university; or
- Dependent of someone who is legally authorized to reside in The Bahamas, Bahamian or non-Bahamian. (Dependents may be spouses, or children under the age of 18)

Turn-around time:

Once the actual application has been accurately and completely submitted, applicant should contact the **Consultation Unit at 604-0241/2** within an 8-to-12-week period for an update of the process of the application.