

PORTUGAL

THE HQA GLOBAL TALENT PROGRAM FOR RESIDENCY



Portugal Residence Permit

HQA GLOBAL TALENT PROGRAM

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Key information

The HQA (Highly Qualified Activity) program is a pathway to residency and citizenship.

Residence granted for 2 years, renewable for 3 years upon expiry. After 5 years in residency status, applicants are eligible for citizenship.

Through this program, eligible individuals - **entrepreneurs, investors and senior executives** - enter a contract with a Portuguese university to contribute **to research and development startups** to get residency.

This program offers a genuine link to build a path to EU citizenship.



If you are a **top-level executive, entrepreneur, business owner, or crypto expert**, the Program may be perfect for you

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Benefits for applicant

- Residence permit for the whole family in less than 6 months
- No additional costs for family members – all costs included in the package
- No requirements to physical presence in the country

Program participants

- Main applicant
- Spouse
- Children of the main applicant
- Parents of both the main applicant and their spouse

How to obtain

Eligible individuals enter a contract with a **Portuguese university** to contribute to **research and development startups**



170.000 EUR

Total **all-inclusive** cost of the program

4 TO 6 MONTHS

Processing time

Residence permit: for 2 years, with 3-year extension possible upon expiry
Citizenship: eligibility after 5 years

Benefits of HQA program



Residence permit for 5 years

Only 1 renewal in 5 years is required. Upon expiry after 5 years, you can apply for citizenship immediately



Flexible physical presence

Continue your career in your home country while maintaining residence in Portugal



Swift processing of just up to 6 months

Ensure timely results, avoid unnecessary delays with applying and receiving your residency and ID card



Cost-effective

Significantly lower costs as compared to other options for receiving residency permit in Portugal



HQA Program

Costs breakdown

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The total expenses born by a participant is **170,000 EUR**, as comprised by three installments.

- **Payment 1:** 10,000 EUR, **non-refundable** – goes against starting the process and requesting an appointment with AIMA (Agência para a Integração Migrações e Asilo – Immigration authority of Portugal)
- **Payment 2:** €75,000, **upon successful appointment** with AIMA. Refundable until payment 3 is due on the approval of residence
- **Payment 3:** €85,000, **upon receiving** the approval notification of your HQA residence. **Refundable** until residence is renewed after 2 years



Benefits of Portugal residence permit

Pathway to citizenship



EU residence permit is issued for 2 years with the possibility of multiple extensions. You can apply for Portugal citizenship after 5 years

Freedom of movement in the EU



Visa-free travel within the EU countries

Tax and banking incentives



Including tax regime for non-residents

Reliable healthcare system and low crime rates



Portugal is a top place to live with comfortable climate and vibrant, diverse global community



HQA Program

Timeline for applying



- Compliance and assessment of CV eligibility - **1 week**
- Finalizing escrow and service agreements - **1 week**
- Collecting and preparing documents - **3 to 4 weeks**
- Waiting for approval - up to **4 months**
- Receiving residency documents - **1 day** after approval



UP TO 6 MONTHS

Total time from initially applying to receiving residence permit

HQA Program

Timeline for applying

After 2 years in residency status, applicants are eligible for a 3-year extension. Upon expiry of 5 years in total, one is eligible for naturalization in Portugal.

An extra requirement for citizenship is to pass **Portuguese language test** for at least A2.



5 - 7 YEARS

Total time from initially applying to Portuguese citizenship

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www.intermark.global

intermark.global

@

invest@intermark.global



+9714 4396368