

registration [on their website](#) in Armenia, or to the embassies and consular offices of RA in foreign countries. In all the mentioned cases, the applicant fills an application. The application is filled in Armenian, without corrections. All the documents in foreign languages must be translated into Armenian and must have notary authentication. For more information, use [this video](#) as reference.

#### ► WHAT IS AN APOSTILLE AND WHICH DOCUMENTS REQUIRE IT?

An apostille stamp legally confirms the position, signature, seal and stamp on official documents. Introduced in the Hague Convention of 1961, it is required for:

- Documents issued by notary offices, including certificate of inheritance
- Documents issued by the RA registrar (birth, death, marital status certificates)
- Documents issued by courts and their service departments (enforcement orders, judgements, court decisions and sentences)
- Documents certified and issued by other state bodies

Documents from consular and diplomatic agents are not apostilled, nor are documents for commercial practices. The apostille stamp is placed directly on documents such as certificates, diplomas, university degrees or court orders, but on a separate sheet attached in the case of documents about civil status. It will contain a headline and content in the language of the country it will be used in.

Apostilles are issued by the Registry Offices of the Ministry of Justice in Armenia. You will need to send in an application, the original and a copy of the documents requiring the apostille, and a receipt of payment (**7,000 AMD** to state account number – 900005163523). Unless rejected, it is issued within 2–5 working days (there may be delays up to 15 days, but you will receive a notice with reasons as to why), though there is an accelerated version for applications received before 13:00. In this case, combined with the extra payment (an additional 8,000 AMD or total of **15,000 AMD**), you may receive your apostilled document back the following morning from 10 am. Anyone can apply for an apostille. More information is available [here](#).

In theory, consular legalization and apostilles are equal in strength. However, the former is more complex, requiring translations and notary signatures before further certification by state bodies. Foreign documents that are to be used in Armenia must thus be legalized in the country of their origins, then legalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Armenia, or such other authorities.

#### ► WHAT AM I ENTITLED TO AS A FOREIGN NATIONAL?

Foreign nationals without RA citizenship but who have worked in Armenia and paid taxes (with or without residency) have the right to receive state benefits the same as that of citizens. Stateless persons and those with refugee status are also entitled to all this. According [to this website](#) this includes:

- Pension
- Family benefits
- One-off financial assistance
- Lump sum for the birth of a child

- Benefits to the family of the deceased, or to persons awarded the Armenian National Hero military orders cross

Furthermore, a foreign national has the right to own and rent property, to work, and engage in business activities. However, it is the responsibility of the individual to pay taxes and state duties, as well as any other payments specified by the law, as well as respect the country's Constitution, laws and regulations. All protections are extended to foreigners as well.

What a foreign citizen has NO right to is: entering the country without a visa unless otherwise stated, running for governing positions, participating in referendums, working in public services, creating parties or becoming an official member, or owning land.

#### ► MILITARY SERVICE FOR DUAL CITIZENS

All males between the age of 18 and 27 in the RA who are deemed fit for military service must serve for a term of 2 years. There are two military call orders each year, from April to June and from October to December. When called for service, the males must report to the police station where they've been registered.

Compulsory military service applies to dual citizens as well as those who have renounced their citizenship after January, 1, 1995. A citizen may be exempt from compulsory military service if,

1. The citizen is deemed unfit for the military service due to health conditions;
2. Prior to naturalization in the RA the citizen has served not less than 12 months in the armed forces of another state or has served alternative military service not less than 18 months in another state;
3. The citizen, whose parent or sibling lost their life during the defense of the Republic of Armenia or during the performance of their military duties in the armed forces, and he is the only male child of the family. (See (in Armenian) "The law on military service and the status of a serviceman", Article 26.

Exemptions from military service are generally available for those who have serious health issues or for humanitarian reasons. Postponement of military services may be provided for educational reasons, see (in Armenian), the "[Law on Military Service and the Status of a Serviceman](#)" Article 22.

Those who fled service until May 2011 will not be facing criminal prosecution should they carry out mandatory penalty payments as specified by the law.

**NOTE:** On February 12, 2024, [amendments to the RA Law "On Military Service and the Status of a Serviceman"](#) came into force, according to which male citizens aged 27 to 37 years old who have received RA citizenship are subject to compulsory military service.

For additional information concerning military service, you can contact the RA Ministry of Defense:

Address: Bagrevand 5, Yerevan

Phone: +374-12-210000

Website: <http://www.mil.am>