

## **Visa Services**

All foreign nationals including minors travelling to India must possess a valid foreign passport with a valid visa obtained from an Indian Mission/Post abroad. Only categories exempted under bilateral arrangements may not need a visa. On the basis of a bilateral agreement, South African and Lesotho nationals holding diplomatic and official passport are exempted from requirement of visa to visit India for a period of 90 days from the date of their entry into India.

### **E-visa:**

Applicants from South Africa and Lesotho can apply Tourist Visa, Medical/Medical Attendant Visa, Business visa (including Conference/Seminar/Workshop) for **E-Visa** directly at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html> and pay the requisite fee online. The applicants will receive their e-Visa granted by the Bureau of Immigration on their respective e-mail id. The applicants may also check their e-visa status at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/StatusEnquiry>. For queries related to e-visa, please write at [india-evisa@gov.in](mailto:india-evisa@gov.in)

### **Regular Paper Indian Visa:**

The applicants should visit at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/index.html> to apply for Regular Visa.

### **General Requirement for all kinds of visas:**

- The passport should be valid for at least 6 months at the time of application.
- There should be at least two blank pages on the passport.
- Coloured photograph of 2" x 2" with white background.
- Applicant should have a sound financial standing to enable him to meet the expenditure related to visit in India.
- All visa fees once paid are non-refundable irrespective of the outcome of the visa application and duration granted.
- Please note that the validity of the visa is effective from the date of issue of visa.
- The applicants should visit <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/> to apply for Regular VISA/e-Visa and fill online form. No manual form is accepted for VISA application.
- South African nationals are issued gratis visas (upto 90 days) to visit India.

### **If the applicant is a minor:**

- i. If travelling with both parents - a copy of the citizen card/ID of both parents and of the child should also be submitted along with the application.
  - ii. If travelling with only one parent only - a copy of the citizen card/ ID of both parents and of the child. In addition, a letter authorising the child to travel with the other parent, from the parent who will not travel with the child (original copy authenticated by a notary) should be submitted.
  - iii. If travelling with other family members or friends - the same as in (i) but this time both parents must give permission and the person travelling with the child will need to provide his identification.
- Visa Applicants who reside in Gauteng, North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces may apply at Consulate General of India in Johannesburg. Residents of Northern Cape and Western

Cape should apply at Consulate General of India in Cape Town. Residents in KwaZulu Natal, Free State and Eastern Cape should apply at Consulate General of India in Durban.

- Duly filled in and complete applications along with necessary supporting documentation may be submitted by applicants. It may be noted that unsigned applications would not be processed and be treated as incomplete. It is also clarified that preferably the applications be submitted by the applicants in person. High Commission of India (HCI)/Consulates General of India (CGIs) takes no responsibility for delay or loss of visa applications received through travel agents, couriers or post. Applicants must make sure that they have completed their applications themselves and not by the travel agents. HCI/CGIs would not be responsible for any mistake or typo-graphical error that might have been arisen simply because it was filled in by a travel agent on behalf of the applicant. Any such errors may lead to rejection of the application denial of entry by immigration. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that the applicant has verified the visa application including photograph pasted on it before its submission. Incomplete applications received by courier or post will remain pending.
- Applicant is advised to remain in close contact with High Commission/Consulate either by phone or e-mail in this regard. Visa issuance is not a right. High Commission/Consulates reserves the right to reject/withhold/retain the application without assigning any reason whatsoever. In no case would any visa fee/application processing fee be refunded to the applicant.
- A complete set of documents such as air ticket, hotel accommodation, invitation etc must be attached with each application even if the same set of documents applies to more than one application. Applicants are thus advised to be meticulous in preparing their applications and ensure that the application has been properly and correctly filled and signed, and all requisite documents including original and valid passport, the original proof of payment of correct visa fee must be attached.
- Submission of all relevant documents mentioned on the website for different types of visas is important for acceptance of the visa application.
- Parent/guardian's signature is required on the visa applications of minor children. Signature on the visa application must match signature on applicant's passport. Parents need to sign for children below 12 years.
- Mission/Consulate reserves the right to summon the applicant for an interview by the consular officer. The High Commission/Consulate General of India also reserves the right on granting & deciding type or validity of visa irrespective of the fees tendered. Granting of visas does not confer the right of entry and is subject to the discretion of the Immigration Authorities.
- It may be noted that there is no requirement for undergoing tests for HIV/AIDS status for visiting India or disclosure of such status.
- Carrying satellite phones by foreigners while coming to India is prohibited.

### **Foreigners (Other than South African/Lesotho nationals)**

- To apply for visa to India, foreigners must be in a possession of a valid visa for South Africa/Lesotho. Foreigners with permanent residence in South Africa/Lesotho can apply for visa to India in South Africa. Besides, foreigners who have had minimum two years of continuous stay in South Africa/Lesotho on work permit/temporary residence and their spouses and children can also apply visa to India in South Africa except nationals of few countries. All foreigners who are on visitor visa in South Africa are advised to apply for visa to India in the country of their origin or normal residence. All foreigners with dual nationalities must apply on the passport of their country of birth. All foreigners need to attach proof of their permanent residence/work permit with their visa applications.