



home affairs

Department:
Home Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS:

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VISA FACILITATION CENTRES
FOREIGN OFFICES
PORTS OF ENTRY
OPERATIONAL CENTRE**

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL: RELATIONS & COOPERATION

CONSULAR SERVICES

IMMIGRATION DIRECTIVE NO 2 OF 2020

PORT OF ENTRY VISAS AND VISITOR'S VISAS: FILM INDUSTRY

This Immigration Directive serves to consolidate Errata Immigration Directive No 30 of 2014, Foreign Office Circular 2 of 2015 and Immigration Directive No 4 of 2018. The purpose of this Directive is to streamline the issuance of visas to Oversight Travellers and Specialist Travellers involved in the film and modelling industries.

Film Industry Visa Assistance (FIVA), a non-profit company, was established for the sole purpose of administering the process of issuing letters of authorization in accordance with agreements that the Department reached in 2014 with The Commercial Film Producers Association (CPA), the South African Association of Stills Producers (SAASP) and National Association of Model Agencies (NAMA). Accordingly, the FIVA logo will henceforth be endorsed on the letters presented by applicants as per the attached sample. During the discussions that took place in 2014, the Industry representatives explained that some persons do not travel to South Africa for purposes of work, but rather to conduct an oversight role/function. For this purpose, applicants have been categorised as follows:

1. **Oversight travelers:** to conduct oversight functions
2. **Specialist travelers:** to conduct work related to the film industry e.g. actors, models, hairstylists, make up specialists, cameraman, etc.

The documents required and visa type for each of the above mentioned category of travelers are listed as follows:

| Oversight Traveler | Specialist Traveler |
|---|---|
| Visa Type: Section 11(1)(a) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002)-not exceeding 90 days. Applicants holding passports from countries that require port of entry visas | Visa Type: Section 11(1)(b)(iv) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002) – longer than 90 days but not exceeding 3 years |
| Duly completed and signed DHA 84 form | Duly completed and signed DHA 1738 form |
| Valid Passport | Valid Passport |
| Payment of applicable fee | Payment of applicable fee |
| Flight itinerary or confirmed reservations | Flight itinerary. No onward or return ticket is required. |
| Yellow fever vaccination certificate, where applicable | Yellow fever vaccination certificate, where applicable |
| Letter from FIVA | Medical report, Radiological report and Police clearance certificate |

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| Two passport photographs | Two passport photographs |
| | Contract between the South African host company and the international company. |
| | Letter from FIVA |
| Oversight Traveler | Specialist Traveler |
| Visa Type: Section 11(1)(a) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002)-not exceeding 90 days. Applicants holding passports from countries that do not require port of entry visas. The following documents must be presented on arrival at a port of entry | Visa Type: Section 11(1)(a) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002) not exceeding 90 days with authorization in terms of section 11(2) to conduct work |
| Valid Passport | Duly completed and signed DHA 84 form |
| FIVA letter | Valid Passport |
| Proof of onward or return ticket | Payment of applicable fee |
| Yellow fever vaccination certificate, where applicable | Flight itinerary. must hold onward ticket |
| | Yellow fever vaccination certificate, where applicable |
| | Two passport photographs |
| | Letter from FIVA |

Due to the nature of their functions the following designations were added in Directive 4 of 2018 to the oversight category namely: Directors, Directors of Photography and Photographers, if such designations are to enter the country for a foreign origin production.

With regard to the requirement to provide proof of accommodation and sufficient financial means, the Department will accept letters issued by FIVA and waive the requirement to produce bank statements, certified copy of the identity document of the host, stipend, additional invitation letters and proof of accommodation. A specimen of the letter is attached. Please take note that in cases where no FIVA letters are included in the visa application, all requirements as per the DHA 84 and DHA 1738 Application forms must be submitted. Please refrain from rejecting a visa application due to the absence of a FIVA letter.

Missions are requested to maintain the five working days turnaround time for the issuance of visas, but not exceed ten (10) working days, and endorse long term visas in respect of specialist travellers for multiple entries in order to avoid renewal applications, should the need arise. Missions are also requested to accept walk-in applicants and not insist that applicants make appointments prior to applying. The nature of this industry is that applicants cannot wait both for an appointment date and then the processing time. For this specific industry proxy applications will be entertained where accompanied by a FIVA letter. An original proxy letter, providing power of attorney to another person to submit the application on behalf of the passport holder, as well as a certified copy of the power of attorney must be included in the application. In such instances, biometric details will be captured on arrival at a Port of Entry.

Insofar as visas as contemplated in section 11(1)(a) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002), with authorization in terms of section 11(2) to conduct work are concerned, please do not endorse the company name on the visa. Visas should be endorsed "To be admitted for a period of ninety (90) days to conduct work in the Film/Modelling Industry".

Should an applicant have previously obtained S11.2 visa with work authorization and applies again for this visa type with a valid FIVA letter, Missions must issue the new visa with multiple entry for a period of up to three (3) years, thus the visa will state "To conduct work within the Film/Modelling Industry. Each visit not to exceed 90 days" and the "enter on or before" date on the visa should cover a period of three (3) years after date of issuance. Such visas should be endorsed as multiple entry visas.


Such applicants may enter the Republic multiple times within the three (3) year period on condition that they may not stay longer than ninety (90) days per visit.

The film and modelling industry have a high rate of mobility as talent/crew continually move from agency to agency and from job to job in a short space of time. Missions are therefore requested to apply the *Good Cause Principle* as provided in Regulation 10(2) of the Immigration Regulations and accept applications submitted at Missions in countries other than the applicant's country of origin or of long-term residence, even if the applicant only holds a visitor's visa for the said country. Applicant must also be allowed to choose how they wish to receive their passports back, such as collecting in person, collection by proxy holder or being couriered.

Foreign nationals who are brought to South Africa to appear as contestants in reality shows, such as "The Amazing Race", "Survivor", etcetera, are not considered to be working and as such do not require visas with authorisation to conduct work as contemplated in section 11(2) of the Immigration Act, provided that such contestants have been vetted by and have been issued with a valid FIVA letter

Verification of authenticity of FIVA letters may be requested by contacting the FIVA office on +27 28 423 3595 or +27 79 353 4816 / +27 81 525 0690 or by going online to www.fiva.tv Click on verify and enter the reference number on the letter. Smartphones can also be used to scan the QR Code on the letter. For any further clarity, Mission colleagues may contact their Regional Coordinators as per the contact details provided in FOC Circular No 1 of 2015.

The contents of this Immigration Directive are for internal use and must be brought to the attention of all Immigration and Consular Officials.

M MATTHEWS 
A/ DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: IMMIGRATION SERVICES
DATE: 12.2.2020.

This Immigration Directive follows Immigration Directive No 1 of 2020 which deals with the Simplification of Visa requirements for certain categories of travellers who are holders of ordinary passports from the Republic of India.