



BUSINESS IMMIGRATION

NIGERIA | OVERVIEW OF IMMIGRATION PROCESS

There are three main categories of work authorization in Nigeria; as stated below,

- Long Term Work Authorization "CERPAC" (one year)
- Short Term Work Authorization "TWP" (Sixty Days)
- ECOWAS Card (Two Years)

SHORT TERM WORKERS

A Temporary Work Permit (TWP) is applicable where a company in Nigeria intends to employ an expatriate employee to undertake short-term work. Companies that need to engage the services of foreigners for short assignments shall procure the TWP.

LONG TERM WORKERS

Step One

Companies that intend to hire expatriates are to apply for the grant of an expatriate quota and a business permit. These permits are issued by the Ministry of Interior, they allow a company registered in Nigeria to employ expatriates.

Step Two: Subject To Regularization Process

The "Subject to Regularization" (STR) visa is required for expatriates who intend to take up long-term employment in Nigeria. An application is filed at the Nigerian embassy or consular office in the country where such intending employee/applicant resides, requesting a grant of the STR visa.

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Step Three: Combined Expatriate Residence Permit And Aliens Card

The CERPAC allows the expatriate employee to live and work in Nigeria for a maximum period of twelve months, it is renewable.

ECOWAS CITIZENS

A citizen of an ECOWAS member state is entitled to free movement within other member states and is granted the right of entry, residence, and establishment in any member state. The National must notify the immigration service of his to reside in Nigeria through an application for an ECOWAS card by the company wishing to employ the foreigner.

BUSINESS VISA / BUSINESS VISA ON ARRIVAL

Business Visitors from countries where Nigeria does not have an embassy can now obtain visas at the port of entry. The policy is aimed at boosting tourism and attracting foreign direct investments, opening up the economy for employment opportunities and safeguarding Nigeria's borders. Business Visitors can access this immigration facility.

