

VISAS/PERMITS TO WORK IN IRELAND

Stamp 1:

Stamp 1 indicates permission to work or operate a business in Ireland, subject to conditions. The candidate must not start a job or enter employment unless the employer has obtained an employment permit for them. (see Types of Employment Permits)

If they do not have an employment permit they must not engage in any business, trade or profession unless specified in a letter of permission from INIS.

If they wish to stay in Ireland past the expiry date of their immigration permission, they must apply to renew their permission and registration before they expire.

Stamp 1 are usually valid for 12 months.

Stamp 1A

The candidate may be given **Stamp 1A** if you have permission to study accountancy as a trainee & be employed as a trainee accountant

Stamp 1G

Stamp 1G indicates that the candidate has finished their studies in Ireland and has permission to look for employment here under the Third Level Graduate Programme, subject to conditions.

They can work full time in accordance with employment law provisions but are not permitted to operate a business or be self-employed.

If they wish to continue working after Stamp 1G expires, they must find a job that requires an employment permit and then follow the usual application process.

A person who qualifies will be granted an extension to their current student permission, for a period of up to 24 months depending on their level of study. Level 8 (e.g. Honours Degree) - Maximum 12 months and Level 9/10 (e.g. Masters'/PhD) - Maximum 24 months. Those eligible to remain for up to 24 months (graduates of level 9 and 10 programmes) will be given permission to remain initially for 12 months, and will then need to renew their visa for a further 12 months.

They are entitled to work full time under this scheme -a maximum of 40 hours per week.

Stamp 2

Students attending a recognised full-time course of at least one year. They **are permitted to work** for 20 hours a week during term time and full time (40 hours per week) during holidays

Stamp 2A Students who are attending a course not recognised by the Department of Education and Science. **They are not permitted to work.**

Stamp 3

Individuals who are not permitted to work. This includes visitors; retired people of independent means; ministers of religion and members of religious orders; and spouses and dependents of employment permit holders.

You may be given Stamp 3 if you have permission to: Volunteer, eg with a charity or non-profit

Stamp 4

Individuals are **permitted to work without an employment permit or business permission**. Applies to spouses of Irish nationals; family members of EEA citizens; refugees and parents of an Irish citizen child who have been granted leave to remain.

If you are granted a Stamp 4 permission, it will be issued for 2 years and can be renewed provided you continue to satisfy the criteria. When you have been legally resident for 5 years, you can apply for **long-term** residency.

Stamp 5

Stamp 5 indicates permission to stay in Ireland without limits on the time you can remain here, subject to other conditions. Stamp 5 is reckonable as residence when applying for citizenship by naturalisation.

The stamp will be valid up to the expiry date on your passport.

Stamp 6

Stamp 6 indicates you are an Irish citizen with dual-citizenship.

Types of Employment Permits

General Employment Permit

A General Employment Permit is an employment permit which permits the holder to be employed in Ireland in a broad range of occupations. All occupations are eligible unless excluded under the [Ineligible List of Occupations for Employment Permits](#).

Critical Skills Employment Permit

The Critical Skills Employment Permit is targeted at highly skilled people with the aim of encouraging them to take up permanent residence in Ireland. Occupations which are included on the [Critical Skills Occupations List](#), such as ICT professionals, professional engineers and technologists are catered for under this type of employment permit.

From January 2020, any occupation on the critical skills permit list that the applicant is applying for must have an annual salary over €30,000. Occupations that are not on the list must have an annual salary over €60,000.

The Intra-Company Transfer Employment Permit

The Intra-Company Transfer Employment Permit is designed to facilitate the transfer of senior management, key personnel or trainees who are foreign nationals from an overseas branch of a multinational corporation to its Irish branch. The Intra-Company Transfer Employment Permit can be invaluable in the initial establishment of a foreign direct investment company. This employment permit facilitates the temporary placement of corporate or HQ personnel in the Irish affiliate while providing for such employees to stay on the foreign payroll.

Contract for Services Employment Permit

It is designed for situations where a company outside of the EU has won a contract to provide services to an Irish company on a contract for services basis and to facilitate the transfer of their non-EEA employees to work on the Irish contract in Ireland.

Internship Employment Permit

It is designed to facilitate the employment in Ireland of non-EEA nationals who are full-time students, studying in a discipline relevant to the occupations included on the Critical Skills Occupations List **and enrolled at a third level institution outside the State**, for the purposes of gaining work experience.

Dependant/Partner/Spouse Employment Permit

The Dependant/Partner/Spouse Employment Permit allows the dependants, recognised partners (where recognised as such by the Department of Justice and Equality), civil partners and spouses of [Critical Skills Employment Permit](#) holders to apply for an employment permit to work in the State. Generally, it is illegal for spouses and dependants of employment permit holders to be employed in Ireland without a valid employment permit.

Reactivation Employment Permit

This permit is designed to permit a non-EEA national who entered the State on a valid Employment Permit but who fell out of the system through no fault of their own or who has been badly treated or exploited in the workplace, to work legally again.

Sport & Cultural Employment Permit

This permit is designed to facilitate the employment in the State of non-EEA nationals with the relevant qualifications, skills, experience or knowledge for the development, operation and capacity of sporting and cultural activities.