



## **REQUIREMENTS FOR CRITICAL SKILLS VISA**

*(This is a permit issued to applicants in possession of exceptional skills or qualifications that are scarce in South Africa.)*

**Critical skills work visa shall be issued for a period not exceeding five years. Where there is no offer of employment, a critical skills visa shall be issued for a period not exceeding one year.**

### **REQUIREMENTS:** (all forms to be completed in black ink)

- MACHINE READABLE VALID PASSPORT WITH MINIMUM TWO UNUSED VISA LABEL PAGES. PASSPORT MUST BE VALID FOR MINIMUM 30 DAYS AFTER THE INTENDED DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM SOUTH AFRICA.
- **NON-REFUNDABLE** APPLICATION FEE (IF APPLICABLE) IN THE FORM OF MONEY ORDER / CASHIERS CHECK: **\$127.00**
- **COMPLETED DHA-1738** SIGNED BY APPLICANT.
- TWO PASSPORT PHOTOS.
- CERTIFIED/NOTARIZED COPY BIO PAGE OF PASSPORT.
- CERTIFIED COPY OF VALID PROOF OF RESIDENCE IN US (Green Card/H1 B/ J1/ L1 etc) (Proof of residence must be valid for duration of stay in South Africa) **(B1/B2 US VISA HOLDERS NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY – MUST APPLY IN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN).**
- PROOF OF TENTATIVE TRAVEL ITINERARY OF ROUND-TRIP AIR TICKETS. **DO NOT PURCHASE AIR TICKETS PRIOR TO OBTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN VISA.**
- PROOF OF FINANCIAL MEANS IN THE FORM OF THREE (3) MONTHS OF THE MOST RECENT BANK STATEMENTS, **STAMPED** BY THE BANKING INSTITUTION (NO NOTARY STAMPS) OR WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM BANKING INSTITUTION-ONLINE BANKS.
- PROOF OF TENTATIVE ACCOMMODATION.

- IF HOSTED BY SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZEN OR PERMENANT RESIDENT: LETTER OF INVITATION, COPY OF CERTIFIED RSA ID DOCUMENT, PROOF OF RESIDENCE OF HOST (UTILITY BILL).
- IF HOSTED BY NON-SOUTH AFRICAN: LETTER OF INVITATION, COPY OF CERTIFIED VALID BIO PAGE OF PASSPORT AND VISA, PROOF OF RESIDENCE OF HOST (UTILITY BILL).
- YELLOW FEVER CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED FOR APPLICANTS TRAVELING THROUGH YELLOW FEVER BELT AREAS EN ROUTE TO SOUTH AFRICA.
- **MEDICAL REPORT** ON PRESCRIBED FORM – **DHA-811** (PHYSICAL). THE CERTIFICATE MUST NOT BE OLDER THAN SIX (6) MONTHS AT THE TIME THE APPLICANT SUBMITS AN APPLICATION.
- **ORIGINAL FBI CERTIFICATE** (FULL CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK REPORT) AND **ORIGINAL** POLICE CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FROM EACH COUNTRY WHERE THE RELEVANT APPLICANT RESIDED FOR 12 MONTHS OR LONGER AFTER ATTAINING THE AGE OF 18 YEARS (FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS) IN RESPECT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS OR THE CHARACTER OF THAT APPLICANT, WHICH CERTIFICATE SHALL NOT BE OLDER THAN SIX MONTHS AT THE TIME OF ITS SUBMISSION.
- MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE OR IN THE CASE OF A FOREIGN SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP, PROOF OF OFFICIAL RECOGNITION THEREOF ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITIES OF THE FOREIGN COUNTRY OF THE APPLICANT (WHERE APPLICABLE).
- THE AFFIDAVIT WHERE A SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP TO A SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT IS APPLICABLE, AS WELL AS DOCUMENTATION PROVING COHABITATION AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RELATED FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ARE SHARED BY THE PARTIES AND SETTING OUT THE PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN IN THE SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP.
- PROOF OF A UNION RECOGNIZED IN TERMS OF THE RECOGNITION OF CUSTOMARY MARRIAGES ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 120 OF 1998), WHERE APPLICABLE.
- A STAMPED WRITTEN UNDERTAKING BY THE EMPLOYER ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COSTS RELATED TO THE DEPORTATION OF THE APPLICANT AND HIS OR HER DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS, SHOULD IT BECOME NECESSARY. WHERE THERE IS NO EMPLOYER, PROOF OF SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL MEANS TO THE VALUE OF A MINIMUM OF R3,000 IN THE FORM OF THREE MONTHS BANK STATEMENTS, STAMPED BY THE BANK.
- A STAMPED WRITTEN UNDERTAKING BY THE EMPLOYER TO ENSURE THAT THE PASSPORT OF HIS OR HER EMPLOYEE IS VALID AT ALL TIMES FOR THE DURATION OF HIS OR HER EMPLOYMENT. WHERE THERE IS NO EMPLOYER, A WRITTEN UNDERTAKING BY THE APPLICANT TO ENSURE THAT THE PASSPORT OF THE APPLICANT

SHALL BE VALID AT ALL TIMES FOR THE DURATION OF HIS OR HER TEMPORARY VISA.

- PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT FALLS WITHIN THE CRITICAL SKILLS CATEGORY BY SPECIFICALLY INDICATING THE OCCUPATION/CRITICAL SKILL FOR WHICH THE APPLICATION IS BEING MADE. THE OCCUPATION /CRITICAL SKILL MUST BE ON THE CRITICAL SKILLS LIST (**RSA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE**).
- PROOF OF EVALUATION OF FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS BY THE [SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY \(SAQA\)](#) AND TRANSLATED BY A SWORN TRANSLATOR INTO ONE OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA.
- IF REQUIRED BY LAW, PROOF OF APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL BODY , COUNCIL OR BOARD RECOGNIZED BY THE [SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY \(SAQA\)](#) IN TERMS OF SECTION 13(1)(I) OF THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT; A CONFIRMATION, IN WRITING, FROM THE PROFESSIONAL BODY, COUNCIL OR BOARD RECOGNIZED BY SAQA IN TERMS OF SECTION 13(1)(I) OF THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK ACT, OR ANY RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT CONFIRMING THE SKILLS OR QUALIFICATIONS OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPROPRIATE POST QUALIFICATION EXPERIENCE.
- DIVORCE DECREE, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- LEGAL SEPARATION ORDER, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- DEATH CERTIFICATE, IN RESPECT OF LATE SPOUSE, WHERE APPLICABLE.
- PROCESSING TIME FOR LONG VISAS EXCEEDING 90 DAYS MAY TAKE UP TO 3 TO 4 WEEKS.

- **WHERE TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION**

***For residents of Alabama, Arkansas, District of Colombia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and Wisconsin:***

- **The South African Embassy in Washington, DC**  
3051 Massachusetts Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
Tel: (240) 937 5760  
Emergency: (202) 413-1953  
Email: [consular.wa@dirco.gov.za](mailto:consular.wa@dirco.gov.za)  
Website: <https://www.saembassy.org>

