

Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and **Development Cooperation**

Checklist for FAMILY REUNION

(Art. 10 – Unlimited residence permit)

Foreigners of third countries who want to reunite with foreigners of third countries (non-EU and non-Belgian) who have the right to stay in Belgium for an unlimited period.

It is essential that your file contains the following:

Two sets of your entire visa application (application form and supporting documents), plus any original documents that are to be returned to you, such as your original police and medical certificate.

Application form

Two (2) application forms duly filled in, signed and dated by the applicant.

This form is available free of charge online or at VFS and the Embassy. You complete it in English, French, Dutch, or German.

Minor children must submit an application form signed by a person with parental authority or by a legal guardian;

Please follow the link to the application form online.

Photo

Two (2) recent (no more than 6-months old) passport size photographs (dimensions: 35 by 45 mm) should be affixed to the application form (but not glued).

Copy of Visa

For non-Australian/New Zealand passport holders only: one copy of your residence permit or of your visa for Australia/New Zealand. Submit your up-to-date VEVO details for Australia or VisaView details for New Zealand.

Passport

A valid passport:

- should have been issued within the previous 10years;
- should be valid for more than 12 months;
- should contain at least 2 empty facing pages when applying for the visa.

Administrative fee

The applicant has to provide the proof of payment of the **administrative fee** at the submission of his/her application. If this is not the case, the visa application is not admissible. The administrative fee needs to be paid directly to the Home Affairs Office in Brussels.

Copy of ID Card/residence permit AND passport of the person to be joined in Belgium

Proof of relationship

Spouse:

- Your marriage certificate: i.e. an original marriage certificate with an Apostille. If the marriage is in the national register, a copy of the marriage certificate.
- In case of previous divorce or widowhood: an original divorce decree or Death Certificate with an Apostille

Registered partner:

- Proof of registered partnership from Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden or the UK
- Proof of durable and stable relationship
- Proof of celibacy/divorce/widowhood: original Single Search Certificate/divorce decree or Death Certificate with an Apostille

Children under 18:

- An original birth certificate mentioning the name of both parents with Apostille
- In case the parents are divorced: an original divorce decree mentioning to whom of the parents full custody was entrusted, with Apostille
- In case of shared custody, an original authorization letter from the parent who will not live in Belgian with the child, stating that the child can permanently leave
- In case the child was adopted, an original adoption certificate with Apostille
- In case a parent has deceased: an original death certificate with Apostille
- Proof of celibacy must be added if the child has reached the legal age to marry: original Single Search Certificate with an Apostille

Medical Certificate

An original **medical certificate** attesting that you are not carrying any of the diseases which might endanger public health. This certificate must be no older than 6 months from the date of issuance. The specific form must be signed and stamped by an **approved doctor**.

Non-Criminal Record Certificate

For applicants aged 18 and over, an original National Police Certificate: In Australia: "National Police Clearance Certificate-Name Check", issued by the AFP. Use this link:

https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/services/criminal-records/national-police-checks You need to opt for a hard copy police check (name check only-no fingerprints). In New Zealand: "Criminal Conviction Information" issued by the Ministry of Justice. Use this link: <u>https://www.justice.govt.nz/criminal-records/get-your-own/</u> This certificate must be no older than 6 months from date of issuance.

This document has to be legalized by means of an **Apostille**.

The police check is not to be notarized by a Notary Public.

In Australia you can obtain the Apostille from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Please note that in Australia the apostille can only be placed on a hard copy police check. In New Zealand you obtain the Apostille from the Department of Internal Affairs in Wellington.

Sufficient Accommodation

Proof that the party being joined has sufficient accommodation: a registered rental contract or proof of property in Belgium.

Solvency of the person to be joined

Proof that the person being joined has stable, regular and sufficient income to (a) provide in his own and his family's needs and (b) to prevent that they become a burden to the Belgian government. This means a minimum monthly net income of EUR 2048.53.

Mutual Insurance Company / Travel Insurance

Proof that the person to be joined is affiliated to a Mutual Insurance Company (Mutualiteit / Mutualité) covering the risks for himself and the members of his/her family. Or

Proof applicant has a valid travel insurance for at least 90 days from date of entry into Schengen.

The documents drawn up abroad in a language other than Dutch, French, German or English are to be translated in accordance with the original by an official translator. The translation must be legalized as a separate document in line with the procedure laid down in the country of origin, and then by the competent Belgian consulate or Embassy.

Applicants, who cannot enclose all documents from the list, should consider adding alternatives or making an explanation about the reason for not handing them in. The applicant is hereby informed that submitting the above-mentioned documents does not guarantee automatic issuance of a visa.

If you have any questions regarding this checklist please email the Embassy at canberra@diplobel.fed.be.

Disclaimer

This checklist comprises all documents that are part of my visa application. I understand that the Embassy will decide on my visa application based on these documents only. I also understand that in exceptional cases additional documents may be requested by the Embassy, even documents that do not feature on this list at all.