



Checklist for **BUSINESS/CONFERENCE/FAIR**

Australian and New Zealand citizens do not need a visa when they travel to Belgium for business or for personal travel. The stay in the Schengen area should not exceed 90 days in a 6 month period. Please note that Australian and New Zealand visitors will need to present a valid Australian or New Zealand passport (validity at least 3 months on the day they leave Belgium), proof of sufficient funds and a return airline ticket.

It is essential that your file contains the following:

Application form

One application form duly filled in, signed and dated by the applicant.

Please follow the link to the application form online (ENG-NL-FR-DE)

Photo

One passport photo not older than 6 months (dimensions: 35 by 45 mm).

Copy of visa status

Proof of your visa for Australia/New Zealand. Submit your up-to-date VEVO details for Australia or VisaView details for New Zealand. For another country, submit a copy of your residence permit.

Passport + copy

A valid passport:

- should have been issued within the previous 10 years;
- should be valid at least 3 months after the intended date of departure from the
 Schengen territory or, in case of several visits, after the last intended date of departure;
- should contain at least 2 empty facing pages when applying for the visa.

Please provide one copy of the passport (the empty pages don't need to be copied).

Proof of a valid travel insurance policy

The insurance must be valid throughout all of the Schengen countries and must cover the whole duration of the stay or transit. The minimum cover is EUR 30,000.

The insurance must cover the cost of repatriation on medical grounds, urgent medical treatment and/or urgent hospital treatment or costs incurred in the event of death while in the Schengen area.

Below are 5 companies that provide acceptable travel insurance:

Covermore: https://www.covermore.com.au/

Columbus direct travel insurance: https://www.columbusdirect.com.au/

GoInsurance: http://www.goinsurance.com.au/ Insure4less: https://www.insure4less.com.au/

Travel Insuranz: https://quote.travelinsuranz.com.au/cover/

Travel arrangements

Reservation of return or round ticket, including a detailed itinerary. In case of an organized trip, include confirmation of the booking.

In the case of transit: visa or other entry permit for the third country of destination; tickets for onward journey.

Original invitation letter from inviting entity

Written on official letterhead paper with signature, mentioning clearly:

- the full address and contacts of the company;
- the name and position of the countersigning officer;
- the purpose and the duration of the visit;
- the detailed program;
- person or entity who will bear the travel and living costs (if applicable).

A scanned copy of the invitation letter from the inviting entity sent by email to the applicant will be considered as an original.

Documents proving the applicant's employment status in the company (for example a supporting letter from your employer, employment contract).

Proof of solvency of the applicant

- Bank statements from the last 3 months, **no deposits**.
- Bank statements should not be "credit card statements" but bank statements of a current account where we can see you regular income (salary, pension, etc.).

<u>If the company covers the costs of travel and stay</u>: Supporting letter from the company which mentions this.

<u>If the applicant is personally covering the costs of travel and stay</u>: Proof of your personal solvency.

Work Permit (where applicable)

A work permit may be needed in some cases.

The applicant should ask the inviting entity in Belgium to contact the competent authority in Belgium to check whether a work permit is needed or if the applicant is exempted.

NOTE

Attention! Guarantees for return (assessment of migration risk): the applicant is requested to provide as much information as possible to document his/her family background, professional and socio-economic status, ownership of land or real estate (for instance: proof of family bonds with his/her country of origin, proof of regular income and stable source of revenues from the applicant and/or his/her partner, proof of property, etc.)

This information is essential to correctly judge the intention of the applicant to leave the Schengen area before the expiry of his/her visa.

Applicants who cannot enclose all documents from the list should consider adding alternative

documents or explain 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.

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.