

COVID RESTRICTIONS ON SUBMITTING VISA APPLICATIONS

Until further notice, the lodging of a visa application is temporarily suspended.

Suspension of receipt of the visa application **does not apply** to the following categories of persons:

1. family members of Croatian nationals;

2. family members of citizens of the EEA and the Swiss Confederation;

NOTE: Family members referred to in points (1) and (2) are considered to be:

- spouse,*
- common-law partner if the union lasts for three years or less if the stability and permanence of the union can be determined from other circumstances,*
- life or informal life partner,*
- the direct descendants who are under the age of 21 or are dependants, and those of the spouse or extramarital partner or life or informal life partner,*
- adopted child up to the age of 21 or is dependant, as well as that of a spouse or common-law partner or life or informal life partner,*
- dependent direct relatives in the ascending line and those of the spouse or common-law partner or life or informal life partner.*

A family member may also be considered another family member who is in the country from which he/she comes the dependent member, a member of the household or is dependent on his/her personal care for serious health reasons.

3. persons who have been **granted temporary residence or have been issued a **residence and work permit** in the Republic Croatia;**

4. members of the immediate family of the persons referred to in point (3), if those persons are already in the Republic of Croatia and have been issued a residence card;

NOTE: The following are considered immediate family members of the persons referred to in point (3):

- spouses,*

- common-law partner if the union lasts for three years or less if the stability and permanence of the union can be determined from other circumstances,

- minor joint children of spouses and common-law partners, their minor adopted children and minor children of each of them, who have not started their own family,

- parents or adoptive parents of minor children.

5. healthcare workers, health researchers and caregivers for the elderly,

6. workers in the transport sector;

7. diplomats, staff of international organizations and persons invited by international organizations whose physical presence is necessary for the good functioning of those organizations, military personnel and police officers, as well as humanitarian and civil protection personnel in the performance of their duties;

8. passengers in transit, provided that they prove the possibility to enter the country of destination;

9. seafarers;

10. persons traveling for education;

11. persons traveling for urgent personal/family reasons, such as:

- death of a family member - attendance to funeral,

- serious and urgent health reasons provided that medical documentation and a hospital invitation is presented,

- ownership of a real estate provided that the title deed is presented,

- ownership or lease of a vessel berthed at Croatia provided that the proof of ownership or lease is presented.

12. persons traveling for tourist reasons provided that a certificate of paid accommodation in a hotel, camp, private renter or rented vessel and other form of tourist accommodation is presented

13. persons traveling for urgent business reasons, or who have **other economic interest**

Exceptionally, and in accordance with Article 2 Para 2 of the Decision on temporary ban and restriction of crossing the border crossings of the Republic of Croatia (Official Gazette No. 32/21), **persons coming from third countries listed in Annex I to Council Recommendation (EU)**

2020/912 may enter Croatia without restrictions. Therefore, the suspension of receipt of the visa application **does not apply to the following categories of persons** either:

14. nationals of Rwanda and Thailand residing in the country of their nationality and traveling to Croatia directly from Rwanda or Thailand;

15. third-country nationals (if they require a visa) who have a valid residence permit in Australia, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore or Thailand and who travel to Croatia directly from those countries.

NOTE: *in the event of a serious deterioration of the epidemiological situation in a particular third country, a temporary complete suspension of visa applications is possible. In this case, visa applications are accepted only from:*

- family members of Croatian nationals;
- family members of citizens of the EEA and the Swiss Confederation;