



Chandrawat
& Partners

Immigration to Seychelles

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Overview



Seychelles is an island country located in the Indian Ocean. With its stunning beaches, crystal-clear waters, and diverse wildlife, it is a popular tourist destination. Seychelles also attracts many foreign nationals who wish to live and work in the country. However, immigrating to Seychelles can be a complex process, and it is essential to understand the immigration system, the different purposes for which a person can immigrate to the country, the types of visas that are given, and the licenses and documentations required.

Immigration to Seychelles requires specific licenses and documentations depending on the type of immigration route being pursued.

These requirements may include a valid passport, visa, work permit, residence permit, health certificate, police clearance certificate, financial documentation, and business registration documents.



The system of immigration

The immigration system in Seychelles is regulated by the Department of Immigration and Civil Status ("ICS"), which is responsible for processing and issuing visas and permits. The ICS operates under the Immigration Act, which governs the entry, residence, and departure of foreign nationals in Seychelles. There are several purposes for which a person can immigrate to Seychelles, including employment, business, study, retirement, and family reunification. Foreign nationals must apply for a visa or permit before entering the country. There are several types of visas that are issued by the ICS, including visitor visas, employment visas, business visas, student visas, and residency visas.

Foreign nationals must provide several documents when applying for a visa or permit, including a passport with a minimum validity of six months, a completed visa application form, two passport-sized photographs, proof of travel arrangements and accommodation, proof of financial means, a medical certificate if required, and a police clearance certificate if required.



Purposes of immigration

Employment:

Foreign nationals can apply for work permits to work in Seychelles. The work permit is issued for a specific job and employer and is valid for up to two years. These may include professionals in fields such as healthcare, engineering, information technology, finance, education, and other industries.



Business:

The business permit is valid for up to two years. Seychelles attracts international consultants and experts who can contribute to the country's development. These individuals may provide specialized services in areas such as environmental conservation, sustainable development, tourism management, and infrastructure planning.

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Study:

Foreign nationals can apply for student permits to study at a recognized educational institution in Seychelles. The student permit is valid for the duration of the course. Seychelles also offers excellent educational institutions that provide quality education across various disciplines.

**Retirement:**

Foreign nationals can apply for residency permits to retire in Seychelles. The residency permit is valid for up to five years. Seychelles also offers a high standard of living and a range of amenities that cater to retirees' needs. The country boasts modern infrastructure, quality healthcare facilities.

**Family reunification:**

Foreign nationals can apply for dependent permits to join their family members who are already living and working in Seychelles. It's important to note that Seychelles does not have provisions.



Non-Direct routes of immigration

- **Investment-based immigration:**

The Seychelles offers an investment-based immigration program called the Seychelles Investment Act. Under this program, foreign individuals who make a significant investment in the country can qualify for residency.

- **Retiree residence permit:**

Foreign retirees who wish to live in the Seychelles may apply for a retiree residence permit. The exact requirements and conditions for this type of permit may vary.

- **Self-employment or business start-up:**

Individuals who plan to establish a business or become self-employed in the Seychelles may explore immigration options through starting a business or investing in local enterprises.

- **International agreements and exchanges:**

In some cases, individuals may have opportunities to immigrate to the Seychelles through international agreements, exchanges, or programs facilitated by their home countries or other international organizations.

Documents required

The required documents for this visa include:

- A completed visa application form
- A valid passport
- Passport-sized photographs
- Proof of financial resources adequate to cover the cost of their stay in Seychelles.
- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate
- A letter from an employer or an invitation letter from a resident in Seychelles in support of the application.
- A confirmed round-trip ticket
- A travel insurance
- Confirmation of hotel reservation



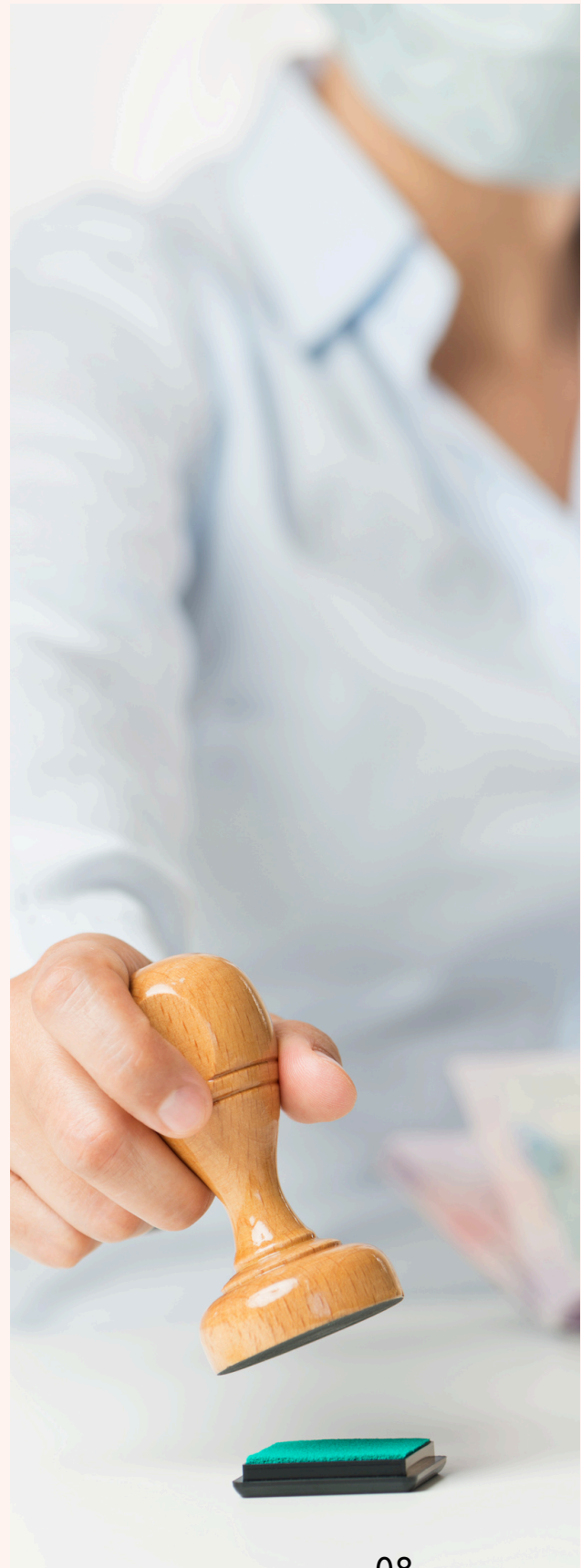
Types of Visas

Visitor visa

Issued to foreign nationals who wish to visit Seychelles for tourism or business purposes. The visitor visa is valid for up to three months. To apply for a visitor's visa, foreign nationals must provide the necessary documents and pay the required fee. It is important to note that visitors are not allowed to engage in any form of employment or business activities while on a visitor's visa.

Employment visa

Issued to foreign nationals who have been offered a job in Seychelles and have obtained a work permit. The employment visa is valid for up to two years. An employment visa is issued to foreign nationals who wish to work in Seychelles. The foreign national must also provide a valid passport, medical certificate, police clearance certificate, and proof of qualifications and experience.



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Business visa

The business visa is valid for up to two years. A business visa is issued to foreign nationals who wish to engage in business activities in Seychelles. Foreign nationals on a business visa are not allowed to engage in any form of employment or business activities outside of their approved purpose in Seychelles.

Student visa

Issued to foreign nationals who wish to study at a recognized educational institution in Seychelles. The student visa is valid for the duration of the course. A student visa is issued to foreign nationals who wish to study in Seychelles.



Residency visa

Issued to foreign nationals who wish to retire in Seychelles or live in the country for an extended period. The residency visa is valid for up to five years. A residency visa in Seychelles is issued to foreign nationals



Licenses and documentations required

The specific licenses and documentations required for immigration in Seychelles are:

Passport:

A valid passport is required for all types of immigration to Seychelles.

Visa:

Depending on the nationality of the applicant, a visa may be required to enter Seychelles. .

Work permit:

This can be obtained through the employer or through the Seychelles Immigration Department.

Residence permit:

This can be obtained through the Seychelles Immigration Department.

Health certificate:

Health certificate, certifying that the applicant is in good health and free from communicable diseases.

Police clearance certificate:

Some immigration routes may require a police clearance certificate, certifying that the applicant has no criminal record.

Financial documentation:

Depending on the immigration route, applicants may need to provide proof of financial stability or investment funds.

Business registration documents:

For individuals seeking to start or invest in a business in Seychelles, business registration documents may be required.

Recent changes

There have been recent changes to the immigration rules in Seychelles, including:

- **Introduction of online visa applications:** Foreign nationals can now apply for visas and permits online through the ICS website.
- **Increase in visa fees:** The visa fees for all types of visas have been increased.
- **Extension of residency permits:** Foreign nationals who hold residency permits can now apply for an extension of up to five years.



How we can help?

Chandrawat and Partners is a professional services firm that specializes in helping companies do business in Seychelles. We offer a range of services, including company registration, tax advisory. Our team of experts has extensive experience working with foreign companies in Seychelles and can provide tailored solutions to meet the business needs.

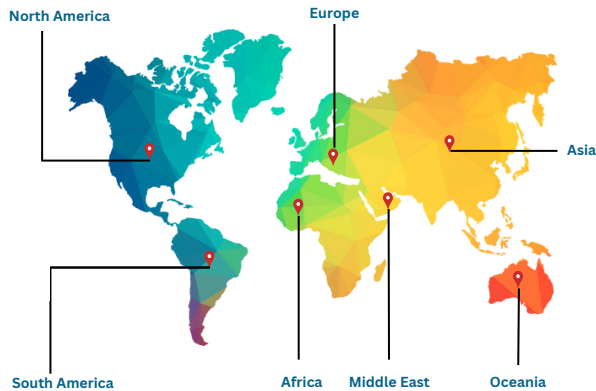
Visa and Work Permit: The firm can assist the applicant understand the various visa options available to them, as well as the requirements for obtaining a work permit if they are planning to work in the UAE. The firm can guide the applicant through the application process and ensure that all necessary documents are properly completed and submitted.

Translation and Notarization: The firm can assist with the translation and notarization of any required documents for the applicant's immigration application. This also includes documents such as the applicant's passport, birth certificate, and marriage certificate.

Appeals and Denials: If the applicant's immigration application is denied or they receive a negative decision, the firm can assist them in appealing the decision. The firm can provide legal advice on the grounds for appeal, assist with preparing the necessary documents, and represent the applicant in any hearings or proceedings.



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Chandrawat & Partners is a leading and rapidly growing full-service firm providing high quality professional and corporate services to foreign and local clients, representing companies and individuals in a wide range of sectors through separate entities established in various countries worldwide.

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