

VISA GUIDELINE

FOR CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR ATTENDANCE

1. Regulatory documents:

- Law No. 47/2014/QH13 on 16 June 2014 on entry, exit, transit, and residence status of foreigners in Viet Nam

2. General provisions

- Foreigners who enter and exit Vietnam must have their passport or passport substitutes (hereinafter referred to as passports) and visas issued by competent authorities of Viet Nam, except in case of visa exemption. The passport substitutes must be introduced to and accepted by Vietnamese competent authorities through diplomatic channel.
- Vietnamese nationals who reside overseas holding travel documents issued by foreign competent authorities as valid documents to enter into, exit from the host country, the sample of which has been introduced officially to and accepted by Vietnamese competent authorities through diplomatic channels, are allowed to enter Viet Nam with these documents.

3. Types of visa, its categories and traits:

a. Types of visas:

- Visa sticker: is a visa labeled directly into a passport;
- Loose-leaf visa: is a visa issued separately from a passport.

b. The validity:

- Single entry visa: is a visa having validity to enter into and exit from Vietnam for one time.
- Multiple entry visa: is a visa having validity to enter into and exit from Vietnam for more than one time.

c. Visa categories:

- HN - issued to conference/seminar attendants.

d. Visa validity duration:

- HN, DL visa is valid for up to 3 months
- Expired visas can be subject to visa renewal
- Visa validity shall be at least 30 days shorter than passport or international travel document validity.

4. A visa application submitted to the Vietnamese Mission abroad shall include the following documents:

- 01 Application form (in provided format) with an attached photo;
- Passport or passport substitute;
- Visa approval document issued by the Immigration Department (Ministry of Public Security) or the Consular Department, the Department of External Relations of the Ho Chi Minh city (Ministry of Foreign Affairs). NG3, NG4 visa applicants can submit a Diplomatic note of Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the diplomatic mission/consular agency in the host country instead of the above mentioned visa approval document.

Note:

+ Foreigners should: (i) contact and request the agency, organization, individual who is the inviter or sponsor in Vietnam to handle procedures for visa approval document issued by the Immigration Department (Ministry of Public Security) or the Consular Department, the Department of External Relations of the Ho Chi Minh city (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) or (ii) contact Vietnamese missions abroad for more detail instructions.

+ Passport validity must be at least 01 month longer than the applied visa validity. However, many airlines require passport validity of at least 06 months for eligibility.

5. Processing duration:

- NG1 and NG2 visas are issued within 01 working day from the day the Viet Nam's mission abroad receives valid and complete visa applications and visa approval granted by the Consular Department or the Department of External Affairs of Ho Chi Minh city.
- Other types of visas are issued within 03 working days from the day the Viet Nam's mission abroad receives valid and complete visa applications, and visa approval granted by the Immigration Department, Consular Department or the Department of External Affairs of Ho Chi Minh city.

6. Applicants eligible for loose-leaf visa:

- Holder of a valid passport running out of blank page for a visa sticker.
- Holder of a passport issued by a country that has not yet to establish diplomatic/consular relations with Viet Nam.
- Holder of a valid international travel document.
- For diplomatic, national defense, and security purposes.

7. Visa on arrival:

a. The following foreigners are eligible for visa on arrival:

- Departing from a country where there is no competent Vietnamese visa-granting authority:

- Travelling through many countries before entering Viet Nam;
- Visiting Viet Nam on tours organized by an international travel agency operated in Viet Nam;
- Foreign crewmembers on board vessels anchored in Vietnam's seaport wishing to exit through other border checkpoint;
- Visiting Viet Nam to attending a relative's funeral or visit a seriously ill family member;
- Entering Viet Nam to engage in emergency response, search/rescue activities, disaster or epidemic control or for other special purposes at the request of the competent authority in Viet Nam.

b. Before entering Viet Nam, applicants for visa on arrival must apply for a visa approval for picking up visa at the border checkpoint issued by the Immigration Department, the Consular Department or the Department of External Affairs of Ho Chi Minh city.

c. Foreigners eligible for visa on arrival shall submit their passports or international travel documents and fill in the visa application form with an attached photo at the Viet Nam's border control authority. Over-14-year-old children sharing passport with others must fill in a separate visa application form.

d. The visa on arrival shall be granted after the Viet Nam's border control authority completes checking applicant's information and the visa approval.