



## CONSULADO GENERAL DE COLOMBIA

### VISA FOR A QUALIFIED RESIDENT (RC)

A visa as a qualified resident may be granted with the approval of the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to a foreigner who has been holder of a temporary visa during five (5) continuous years, without interruptions, and who has stayed in the country in a normal way, and who submits the application within thirty (30) calendar days prior to the expiration of the visa previously granted.

The bearers of a temporary visa, whether for the spouse or a parent of a Colombian citizen, may be granted a Qualified Resident Visa when they had been bearers of a temporary visa for a period no less than three (3) consecutive years without interruptions.

The bearers of the following visas will **not** be granted a Qualified Resident Visa: Preferential Visa, Courtesy Visa, Business Visa, Crewmember Visa, Temporary Visa in the following categories: Student, Special for Medical Treatment, To Intervene in Administrative or Judiciary Processes, Volunteer Helper of a Non-Profit Entity or Non-Governmental Organization (NGO/ONG), for transactions of adoption, and Visitor.

#### DOCUMENTS NEEDED

- Passport with available pages, and valid for at least three (3) months.
- Two (2) photocopies of the pages of the passport containing information, as well as all previously granted visas.
- Two (2) originals of the Visa Application Form completely filled out, and duly signed.
- Three (3) recent color passport-type photographs (1.5"x1.5").
- Certified letter from the spouse or from the Colombian parent applying for the visa.
- Original certified copy of the birth certificate, naturalization certificate or resolution, whatever the case be.
- Proof of renunciation to the Colombian nationality.
- A police certificate from the last country of residence, not older than six (6) months. This certificate is not required for an applicant under eighteen (18) years of age or older than sixty five (65) years of age. It must be translated into Spanish and the original as well as the copy must be **APOSTILLED**.
- Original certificate of migratory movement issued by the Administrative Department of Security (**Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad – DAS-**), prior to no less than thirty (30) days.
- Original of the documents that show the activity to be performed in Colombia as an entrepreneur, or as an employee of a public or private enterprise. In the last case the applicant should submit a copy of the employment contract or related document and a certificate of employment ratio (certificado de proporcionalidad) issued by the Colombian Ministry of Labor (Ministerio de la Protección Social) as well as documents that prove the applicant's suitability for the activity that he/she intends to perform.

**US\$ 285** in Cash, or Money Order only (Cost exempt for citizens of: South Korea, Spain and Japan).



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### IMPORTANT NOTES

- If the visa is issued for more than three (3) months, the visa holder should register it in the Immigration Office of the Administrative Department of Security (**Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad - DAS** -) within fifteen (15) working days from the arrival date.
- The Resident Visa will expire if the foreign citizen is absent from Colombia for more than two (2) consecutive years.
- All applicants are required to appear in person at the consulate's office either when submitting the documentation or when receiving the approved visa. **No exceptions.**
- All Documents issued in languages other than Spanish MUST be submitted duly **TRANSLATED INTO SPANISH**, and both versions should be **notarized** by a Notary Public. They must be also certified with an **APOSTILLE** by the Office of the Secretary of State at the State where they were issued.
- For U.S citizens the study of the visa application form and documents takes three (3) working days; for non-U.S. citizens it may take up to two (2) weeks, and it is subject to the approval of the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.