



Guidelines for entry visa  
requests and extension of  
entry visa for foreign  
students

# Guidelines for entry visa requests and extension of entry visa for foreign students

## What is a Sri Lankan Visa?

A Sri Lankan visa is an endorsement on a passport or a similar document to facilitate the legal entry of non Sri Lankans into the country and to regulate the period of their stay and the conditions governing such stay.

Types of VISA are,

1. Visit Visa
2. Residence Visa
3. Transit Visa
4. Gratis Visa

## Residence Visa

A Residence Visa is a permit for a non-Sri Lankan to obtain residence facilities for special purposes.

To obtain a residence visa, the applicant must enter Sri Lanka **on an entry visa** issued by a Sri Lanka diplomatic mission abroad. Entry visa will be issued by the Embassy only upon approval by the Controller General of Immigration and Emigration.

## Student category

- University Students
- Students in Educational Institutions approved by the State
- Religious students

**Residence visa application form can be obtained by 2 ways**

- Head office of the Department of Immigration & Emigration, Colombo.
- Downloading printable versions of the Application Forms in the website of Department of Immigration and Emigration, Sri Lanka. ([http://www.immigration.gov.lk/web/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=127&Itemid=105&lang=en](http://www.immigration.gov.lk/web/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=127&Itemid=105&lang=en))

## Required documents to submit the Residence visa application

For University Students

1. Application for the issue/extension of a residence visa for Sri Lanka (Form A)
2. Application for recommendation of issuing/extension of residence visa (Recommendation from Ministry of Higher Education)
3. Letter from the university
4. Certified & Scanned copy of first and last page of the Passport (The validity of the passport should be at least 6 months beyond the stay period in Sri Lanka and the passport must have minimum 3 blank pages)
5. One recent passport-size colour photograph depicting full face

Visa application should be submitted to the Department of Immigration & Emigration, Colombo.

Residence visa is valid for **one year** or for a **period recommended by the Institution/ High commission/Embassy**.

## Documents required for the Extension of Residence Visa

1. Application for the issue/extension of a residence visa for Sri Lanka (Form A)
2. Application for recommendation of issuing/extension of residence visa (Recommendation from Ministry of Higher Education)
3. Letter from the University
4. Certified copy of Passport cover page
5. Certified copy of residence visa endorsement page
6. Certified copy of issuance of entry visa
7. One recent passport-size colour photograph depicting full face
8. Annex 1 - Current year performance report of the student