



Work and Residence Permits

A. Employed gainful occupation

1. Employed gainful occupation EC-17/EFTA Countries

EC-17/EFTA citizens (the previous 15 EU countries with Malta and Cyprus and the 3 EFTA countries Norway, Iceland and the Principality of Liechtenstein) have the right to entry, habitation and geographic mobility according to the norms of the Agreement on the Free Movement of Persons and the Federal Council Ordinance on the Institution of the Free Movement of Persons.

In the case of gainful occupation not exceeding three months, EC-17/EFTA citizens are subject to compulsory registration. The employer must announce the presence of the new employee using the online procedure of the Federal Office for Migration.

Habitation of more than three months for purposes of gainful occupation is subject to compulsory authorization.

The submission of a habitation approval application is to be accompanied by:

- valid passport or identification card
- employment confirmation in which the length of occupation is apparent

2. Employed gainful occupation EC-8/EFTA Countries

For EC-8 citizens the admission to gainful occupation in the Swiss employment market is subject to compulsory authorization.

The submission of a habitation approval application is to be accompanied by:

- valid passport or identification card
- Economic needs test (a permit is only granted if no equivalent person is already available on the Swiss labour market)
- Control of wage and working conditions (a permit is only granted if local wage levels and working conditions are respected)
- Numerical ceiling (a permit is only granted if the respective quota for the L or B permit has not yet been used up)

Further documents will be required depending on the type of authorization.

Once admitted to the labour market, EU 8 nationals can also benefit from full professional and geographical mobility. Apart from the specific restrictions above, EU 8 nationals have the same rights and obligations as all other EU/EFTA nationals.

States EC-25/EFTA:

EFTA-States: Principality of Liechtenstein; Iceland; Norway; Switzerland

EC-17-States: Belgium; Germany; Denmark; Finland; France; Greece; Great Britain; Ireland; Italy; Luxembourg; Malta; Netherlands; Austria; Portugal; Sweden; Spain; Cyprus

EC-8-States: Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia



B. Independent and existence-securing gainful employment

Proof of independent and existence-securing gainful employment

Practicing gainful self-employment usually requires an institution or manufacturing plant with active business activity in Switzerland. In order to assure that a request for a work and residency permit is handled properly, it must be accompanied by the following complete information and forms:

- Written petition with reasoning to why the business activity is being moved to Switzerland and the desired place of residence is Switzerland
- Previous business activity abroad must be proven
- An extract from the Commercial Register, entry is mandatory!
- Signature samples of the person authorized to sign for the company
- Business plan and proof of financing
- Proof of both accident and health insurance
- Lease of business space, or possibly the bill of sale or statement from the Land Register regarding a piece of property
- In case of a takeover of an existing business, a copy of the sales contract
- Date of when the so-called facility time (time interval needed for the establishment of the enterprise) is to begin
- Proof of the notice of departure from the Residents' Registration Office at previous foreign residence
- Extract from official police record and Collection's Register from previous foreign residence
- Curriculum vitae, occupation diplomas, documents of certification, references from native country
- Copy of valid passport

Further information

Links to the necessary forms can be found at:

www.ag.ch/migrationsamt / www.ag.ch/aargauservices/de/pub/startup/bewilligungen.htm

Information can be obtained from:

Migrationsamt Kanton Aargau, Bahnhofstrasse 86/88, 5001 Aarau

Phone: +41 62 835 16 81, Fax: +41 62 835 18 38

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