

RESIDENCE OF FAMILY MEMBERS OF EU CITIZENS

WHO IS A FAMILY MEMBER?

A family member of a Union citizen is a third-country national, who is the Union's citizen:

- Spouse,
- Child under the age of 21, dependent child and such children of the spouse,
- Dependent direct relative in descending or ascending line and such person of the spouse,
- Any other family member not covered by abovementioned points, who is a dependent person in their country of origin,
- Any other family member not covered by abovementioned points, who is a member of their household,
- Any other family member not covered by abovementioned points, who is dependent on their care for serious health reasons,
- Partner, with whom the EU citizen has a lasting, duly attested relationship,
- A third-country national with the right of residence in the same Member State as the Union citizen and the Union citizen is a Slovak citizen with whom the third-country national returns or whom he/she joins for residence back in Slovakia and meets one of the conditions mentioned above in relation to the Slovak citizen

RIGHT OF RESIDENCE

A family member of a Union citizen has the right of residence in Slovakia for a period longer than three months, if the Union citizen he/she is accompanying or joining satisfies one of the following conditions:

- Is employed in Slovakia,
- Is a self-employed person in Slovakia,
- Is studying in primary school, secondary school, or at university in Slovakia,
- Has sufficient financial means for himself/herself and his/her family members to avoid burdening the social security system and →

FAMILY MEMBER OF A SLOVAK CITIZEN

A family member of a Slovak citizen is not considered a family member of a Union citizen (as Slovak citizens are not considered Union citizens under the Act on the Residence of Foreigners) and therefore, these provisions do not apply. Family members of Slovak citizens may apply for a permanent residence for five years.

An exception is when a Slovak citizen returns to Slovakia together with a family member with whom they have the right of residence in the same EU country. This must be documented.

NOTICE OF THE STAY

Family members of Union citizens arriving in Slovakia are obliged to notify the Foreign Police of the start and place of their residence **within 10 working days** of entering Slovakia.

This obligation applies if they are renting, own a property, live with relatives, friends etc. If they are staying in a hotel, hostel, or similar accommodation facility, it is instead the responsibility of the accommodation provider.

The obligation is fulfilled by sending the completed [Notice of the Stay](#) form by mail to the Foreign Police Department competent for their place of residence in Slovakia. The completed form may also be submitted in person.

- has health insurance in Slovakia,
- Will potentially find work,
- Has the right of permanent residence.

RESIDENCE REGISTRATION

Family members of Union citizens intending to stay in Slovakia for more than three months must register their residence at the Foreign Police within 30 days from the lapse of three months from entering Slovakia.

To register their residence, family members must personally visit the Foreign Police Department competent for their place of residence in Slovakia. Registration cannot be applied for electronically, by mail or by proxy. The following documents must be submitted with the application:

1. Valid travel document
2. Two colour photographs (3 x 3.5 cm)
3. Document certifying the existence of a family relationship with the Union citizen
4. Registration Certificate of the Union citizen
5. Relevant documents proving the facts set out in the definition of a Union citizen's family member
6. Proof of accommodation (optional):
 - Applicant's notarized affidavit on the ownership of a property; or
 - Notarized tenancy agreement (in which the applicant is indicated as the tenant/one of the tenants; both landlord's and tenant's signatures must be notarised); or
 - Notarized affidavit of the property owner on the provision of accommodation (signatures of all property owners must be notarized); or
 - Confirmation from an accommodation facility (hotel, dormitory) on the provision of accommodation
7. Fee of 6 EUR *

Signatures on affidavits and tenancy agreements must be notarized. The residence card is issued within 30 days from application, or within two working days in case of the expedited procedure. The residence card is issued for up to five years.

FOREIGN POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Contact details of Foreign Police Departments can be found [here](#).

*OPTIONAL FEES

- Expedited issuance of the residence card within two working days: 35 EUR (instead of the 6 EUR fee)
- Sending the residence card to an address in Slovakia (to avoid going to the Foreign Police again to collect it): 4 EUR (in addition to the 6 EUR fee)

RIGHT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE

A family member of a Union citizen has the right of permanent residence if he/she has lived in Slovakia with the Union citizen for a continuous five-year period. In specific cases, family members of Union citizens have the right of permanent residence even earlier than after five years of continuous residence.

EMPLOYER'S OBLIGATIONS

If the family member of a Union citizen finds employment in Slovakia, the employer is obliged to:

- Inform the locally competent Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family about the vacancy and
- Submit to the competent Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family the so-called information card on the establishment of the employment relationship within seven working days of the worker's commencement of employment.