

# TEMPORARY RESIDENCE – EU BLUE CARD

The Blue Card is a type of temporary residence issued for the purpose of highly qualified employment.

The basic requirements for obtaining it are higher professional qualifications in the form of a university degree or advanced professional skills (only applicable to ICT managers and specialists), a salary of at least 1.2 times the average wage in the Slovak economy (or the average salary if the applicant obtained a university degree in the last three years) and an employment contract for at least six months.

The Blue Card is issued for five years or, if the confirmation of the possibility to fill a vacancy is valid for less than five years, for the validity of the confirmation extended by 90 days.

Before applying for the Blue Card, it is necessary to have a confirmation of the possibility to fill a vacancy issued by the Labour Office. The employer must report a vacancy to the Labour Office no later than on the day of applying for the confirmation. Reporting of the vacancy is not required if the applicant is:

- a holder of a national visa in the interest of the Slovak Republic, who will be employed in the same job position, or
- a holder of the temporary residence for employment, who will be employed in the same job position.

The Blue Card cannot be obtained by certain groups of applicants, in particular asylum seekers, temporary protection applicants and holders, persons applying for the temporary residence for the purpose of research and development, persons with a tolerated residence or persons who are only allowed to stay in Slovakia.

## APPLICATION

The application must be submitted within 90 days of issuance of the confirmation of the possibility to fill a vacancy. It must be submitted in person on the official form and in the Slovak language.

The application will not be accepted if the applicant does not submit a valid travel document (other documents may be submitted later, but their submission cannot be avoided). The application must be submitted together with

1. Valid passport; →

### THE APPLICATION MAY BE SUBMITTED AT:

- The diplomatic mission of the SR accredited to the country of the applicant's citizenship,
- The diplomatic mission of the SR accredited to the country of the applicant's residence,
- The Foreign Police Department if he/she resides in Slovakia legally.
- Holder of an EU Blue Card issued by another EU Member State shall submit his/her application at the Foreign Police Department within 30 days of entering Slovakia.
- When submitting the application at the diplomatic mission, the applicant will be interviewed for the purpose of a preliminary assessment of the application.

2. Criminal record statement from the country of the applicant's citizenship and the countries where he/she resided for more than 90 days during six consecutive months in the last three years (not applicable when changing the type/purpose of residence);
3. Proof of accommodation in Slovakia:
  - 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.
4. A valid Blue Card issued by another Member State (if applicable)
5. Administrative fee EUR 250;
6. Administrative fee for issuing the residence card and its delivery within Slovakia: 10 EUR (within 30 days) or 39 EUR (within 2 working days).

## RENEWAL OF THE EU BLUE CARD

The Blue Card may be renewed, even repeatedly, for up to five years or, if the employment is agreed for less than five years, for the foreseen employment duration extended by 90 days.

Application for a Blue Card renewal must be submitted in person at the competent Foreign Police Department or electronically no later than on the last day of the Blue Card validity. It is required that the purpose for which the Blue Card was granted still exists.

If less than 12 months have passed since the Blue Card was issued, it is necessary to have a confirmation of the possibility to fill a vacancy issued by the Labour Office. The employer must report a vacancy to the Labour Office no later than on the day of applying for the confirmation. The renewal application must be submitted within 90 days of confirmation issuance. Reporting of a vacancy is not required if there is no change in the job position.

The Blue Card is considered valid (only) in Slovakia until the decision on its renewal. The application must be submitted together with:

1. Valid passport;
2. Employment contract (if applying for the renewal of the Blue Card more than 12 months after its issuance);
3. Proof of accommodation in Slovakia;
4. Administrative fee of EUR 140 (EUR 90 for electronic submission);
5. Administrative fee for issuing the residence card and its delivery within Slovakia: EUR 10 (within 30 days) or EUR 39 (within 2 working days), or EUR 5/19.50 for electronic submission.

### IMPORTANT:

- The criminal record statement and the proof of accommodation must not be older than 90 days at the time of submitting the application.
- Public documents issued abroad must be officially authenticated (apostille/consular legalization).
- Documents issued in a language other than Slovak must be translated to Slovak by a certified translator registered in the List of Experts, Interpreters and Translators at the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic [http://bit.ly/SK\\_translators](http://bit.ly/SK_translators), or translated to Czech. Translations prepared abroad must be accompanied by a confirmation from the diplomatic mission of the SR that they were performed by an authorised person (does not apply to translations prepared in the Czech Republic).
- Signatures on affidavits, powers of attorney and tenancy agreements must be notarized (except for powers of attorney and affidavits signed at the Foreign Police)
- Photocopies of documents must be notarized.
- We recommend that you do not submit the originals of important documents (e.g. diploma, rental contract) but rather have certified photocopies made which can be handed over to the Foreign Police/diplomatic mission and the originals retained.
- At the Foreign Police, the administrative fees are paid by means of electronic fee stamps (eKolok), which may be bought directly at the Foreign Police Department through a vending machine, or at a post office. →

# OBLIGATIONS AFTER TEMPORARY RESIDENCE IS GRANTED:

- Arrive in Slovakia within 180 days of being granted residence.
- Report the beginning of your stay to the Foreign Police within three working days of entering Slovakia.
- Sign up for health insurance within three working days of receiving the residence card.
- Submit a medical report not older than 30 days confirming that you do not suffer from a disease endangering public health to the Foreign Police within 30 days from receiving the residence card (if the application was submitted at the diplomatic mission abroad) or from submitting the application (if the application was submitted at the Foreign Police).
- Stay in Slovakia for more than half of the time of the granted temporary residence in a calendar year.
- Notify the Foreign Police in writing if planning to stay outside the territory of Slovakia for more than 180 consecutive days.

- At diplomatic missions, the administrative fees are paid in cash, by card or by bank transfers (it is recommended to check the method of payment with a specific diplomatic mission of the SR).
- The authorities will issue a decision within 30 days of receipt of a complete application.
- Submitting a complete application at the Foreign Police entitles the applicant to stay in Slovakia legally until it is decided upon and start working.