

## GEN 1.3 ENTRY, TRANSIT AND DEPARTURE OF PASSENGERS AND CREW

### 1. Customs requirements

- 1.1 Baggage or articles belonging to disembarking passengers and crew are immediately released except for those selected for inspection by the customs authorities. Such baggage will be cleared on the basis of an oral declaration except in the case of returning citizens.
- 1.2 No customs formalities are normally required on departure.

### 2. Immigration requirements

#### 2.1 Passport

- 2.1.1 A passport is required except for holders of:
- a) Travel Document and certificate of identity issued by the Government of Mauritius;
  - b) Laissez-Passer issued by the United Nations or any other internationally recognised organisation; and
  - c) A valid Seaman Book (traveling on duty) issued by any country, provided the contents therein are written in English or French.
- 2.1.2 Passports of non-citizens must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of stay.
- 2.1.3 The Government of Mauritius does not recognise passports issued by the following Governments:
- a) Taiwan;
  - b) The Homelands of Botsphutatswana, Ciskei, Transkei, Venda or any other homeland existing in the Republic of South Africa; and
  - c) Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.
- 2.1.4 The under-mentioned categories may apply for an entry permit and wait for the outcome of the application before undertaking any travel to Mauritius:
- a) Persons who are stateless;
  - b) Persons of undetermined nationality;
  - c) Refugees;
  - d) Holders of passports of countries not recognised by the Government of Mauritius and;

- e) Persons proceeding to Mauritius to carry out religious activities.

- 2.1.5 Applications are to be submitted to Passport and Immigration Office. Contact details are as follows:

Passport and Immigration Officer  
Passport and Immigration Office  
Sterling House  
9-11 Lislet Geoffroy Street  
Port-Louis

Telephone: (230) 2109312-19

Telefax: (230) 2109322

Email: piomain@govmu.org



#### 2.2 Visa

##### 2.2.1 Where to apply for a visa?

- 2.2.1.2 A non-citizen not exempted from visa provisions wishing to enter Mauritius should apply for a visa prior to undertaking any travel to Mauritius, either at:
- a) a Mauritius Embassy/Consulate, or
  - b) an Air Mauritius Office where there is no Diplomatic/Consulate representatives, or;
  - c) Passport and Immigration Office. Contact details are as follows:

Passport and Immigration Officer  
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##### 2.2.2 Issuance of visa

- 2.2.2.1 A visa is issued by:
- a) Passport and Immigration Office, and;
  - b) Mauritius Embassies/Consulates.

### **2.2.3 Criteria for grant of a visa (Immigration requirements)**

2.2.3.1 When applying for a visa, the applicants should meet the following:

- a) Hold a valid passport or other recognised travel document, where expiry date is at least 6 months beyond the date of stay;
- b) Hold a valid return or onward ticket to their country of origin or residence;
- c) Have sufficient funds to meet the costs of stay in Mauritius (normally 100 US Dollars per day or equivalent to cover expenses other than board);
- d) Have confirmed hotel booking for accommodation (if sponsored by a Mauritian citizen, to produce evidence of sponsorship, stating name, address, profession, Telephone Number, National Identity Card and Utility Bill);
- e) Are eligible to re-enter country of origin/residence, and;
- f) Should not engage in any gainful activities during their stay in Mauritius.

### **2.2.4 Documents to be submitted**

2.2.4.1 The following documents are to be submitted when applying for a visa:

- a) Application for Visa Form to be filled and signed by the applicant (Form also available on website: [passport.gov.mu](http://passport.gov.mu));
- b) Two recent passport size photographs of the applicant;
- c) Photocopy of data pages of passport;
- d) A copy of Residence Permit of the applicant where he/she is a resident and valid for at least three months after date of departure (in case applicant is not staying in country of origin), and;
- e) In case of a business visa, applicant should also submit a letter from the local sponsor/company.

### **2.2.5 Types of Visa and period of validity**

#### **2.2.5.1 Tourist visa**

2.2.5.1.1 A Tourist Visa is valid for a maximum period of 6 months and may be granted in a calendar year on a case to case basis, subject to Immigration Requirements.

#### **2.2.5.2 Business Visa**

2.2.5.2.1 A Business Visa is valid for a maximum period of 3 months and may be granted in a calendar year provided the non-citizen is not remunerated in Mauritius. For a period of more than 3 months, both, a Residence Permit and a Work Permit are required.

#### **2.2.5.3 Multiple Entry Visa**

2.2.5.3.1 A Multiple Entry Visa may be granted only to businessmen having business interest in Mauritius.

#### **2.2.5.4 Transit Visa**

2.2.5.4.1 A Transit Visa may be granted to a passenger travelling to a third country within a period of 24 hours. If the transit exceeds 24 hours, a visa should be obtained before travelling to Mauritius.

2.2.5.4.2 Requirements for Transit Passengers:

- a) Valid onward ticket;
- b) Departure confirmed;
- c) Adequate funds to meet the costs of transit, and;
- d) Eligible to enter onward destination.

2.2.5.4.3 Nationals of Afghanistan, Algeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Iran, Liberia, Libya, Nigeria, Sudan and Yemen should obtain a visa before travelling to Mauritius even on transit.

2.2.5.4.4 Merchant Seamen travelling on duty must be in possession of a valid passport or a valid Seaman's Book written in English or French and hold letter of Guarantee of Shipping Company.

- a) If arriving by air in order to board a ship, visa is not required, provided the seaman is met at the airport by the Shipping Agent;
- b) If arriving by ship in order to board an aircraft, visa is not required, provided the seaman is met at the Sea Port by the Shipping Agent. The Shipping Agent should inform Immigration Authorities prior to their arrival, and;
- c) If continuing journey to a third country, seaman should comply with Transit Visa requirements.

Shipping agent should inform immigration prior to their arrival.