



Delivery Policy – [Long-Term and Employment Visa]

For

Solomon Islands Immigration Division

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Executive Summary

This policy developed in responding to the GREAT Coalition policy directives to strengthen migration, border security and territorial sovereignty. The Government emphasized Immigration reform and border modernization to advance electronic visa system. Border modernization aiming to stream line visa process for the purpose of ease of travel and aligned to international standards and best practises. Immigration has introduced an electronic Border Management System (BMS) to lawfully facilitate e-visa for non-citizens who wish to enter and reside in the Solomon Islands. Solomon Islands has established e-Visa Application Portal for vis applications. Immigration mandated under section 92 (1) of the Immigration Act 2012, declaring Minister to authorise Immigration to process, facilitate and made decisions for visa electronically. This includes collection of identity, contacts, travel history, and digital data to process visa applications. Visa applications usually lodged and facilitated online, processed and approved electronically. However, applications for Visas are processed and approved online and paid electronically.

The new visa regime consisted of short-term and long-term visa categories for non-citizens under the new Immigration Regulation 2025. The Minister for Immigration has repealed the concessional arrangement under the Act to issue visas to non-citizens on arrival. Therefore, the concessional arrangement replaced with thirty-four (34) visa categories. The existing new visa categories are valuable online. This is strategically to strengthen and providing enabling environment for border protection, legitimate migration, trade, investment for Solomon Islands.

Introduction

Solomon Islands Immigration is committed to safeguarding borders and territorial sovereignty by introducing electronic border management system (BMS). This is in response to emerging border security threats and migration complexity. Solomon Islands BMS successfully launched in October 2025 in operation successfully. As the department transitions to digital visa processing, maintaining public trust through transparent and accountable process. This policy provides a comprehensive framework detailing how visa applications is facilitated online and issued. The e-visa system is guided by this policy as key driver to make visa decisions online to ensure that visa processes and practises meets international standards and best practices.

However, since repealing the concessional arrangement under the Immigration Act Immigration introduced the Border Management System. The Border Management System provided capability environment to process visas online, remit payment online, process cross-border crossing, provide reports, record information and movements.

Purposes of the Long-Term Visa policy

The purposes of the Employment and Long-Term resident visa policy is to:

- a) Guide long-term and employment visa policy a as a framework outlining the detail process for subclasses related to employment and long-term resident in Solomon Islands.
- b) Provide guide for subclasses of visas under employment and long-term residents conditions, fees and visa holder eligibility.
- c) Support with visa information for applicants as self-explanatory framework relating to new Visa Regulation 2025 and the Immigration Act, 2012.
- d) Explain the process of online electronic visa payments.
- e) Clarify the application for Family Relationship visa 14 working days.
- f) Provide guide for the online visa process ensuring transparent and accountable system put in place supporting the electronic visa system.

Scope of Employment and Long-Term Resident Visa policy.

This policy applies universally to all users, applicants, sponsors, employers, and administrators interacting with the Online Visa Application Portal System. The scope encompasses all information relation to Employment and Long-Term Residents which includes:

1. **Applicant Submissions:** Explicitly filled text fields detailing the identity, contact information, and travel history.
2. **Foreign National Dependant Visa:** Visa holder is a foreign dependent national whose sponsor is non-citizens of Solomon Islands and valid holder of employment visa residing in Solomon Islands.
3. **Employment visa:** This visa is suitable for working non-citizens who issued with work permit by the Commission of Labour under Section 78 (1) of the Employment Act to reside and work in Solomon Islands.
4. **Short-Term Employment Visa:** Subclasses of visa issued to non-citizens to reside and work in Solomon Islands. This subclass required for non-citizens to obtain work permit from the Commissioner of Labour (under section 78 (1) of Employment Act) working for three to six months short-term programs or engagement. Subclass of visas applied for technical expertise (mining engineers, civil engineers, project technical advisors, Pilots, project managers, engineer or specialised skills).
5. **Change of employee status to Employer:** This subclass of employment visa protects the right to change from employee status to employer or investor. Non-citizens who intentionally changed status from employee to employer without verification from Director of Foreign Investment or Registrar of Company Haus, shall not give visa and removed from the country.
6. **Reserved business:** Reserved business and protected activities under the Foreign Investment Act, employment deemed to become reserved or protected employment for citizens only.
7. **Long-term employment Eligibility:** Employment visa is two years renewal, based on the advice from Commissioner of Labour.
8. **Permeant Resident Permit:** Subclasses of visas for investors, Directors or Chief Executive Officers of State-Owned Enterprises, Foreign owned Companies, and General Managers working in Solomon Islands. The status Permanent Resident visas is five (5) years and renewable.
9. **Declaration of Health and security status:** Pursuant to section 23 (1) and 24 (1) of the Act, it is mandatory for noncitizens to declare health and security status. Applicants with criminal records with serious and infectious health issues his or her applications shall not be considered for visas to work and reside in Solomon Islands.
10. **Exemption from Police report:** This subclass exempted requirement of child under the age of 18 years and below from Police criminal record. Legal guardian or parent shall be responsible for medical and Police records as Sponsors.

11. **Offshore applications:** This subclass of visas applicants have to leave the country and wait offshore while Immigration is processing visas. This allows visa processing time and non – citizens can allow to enter and remain and work if visas approved by the Director of Immigration. Students or dependants are excluded to apply offshore, if subclass of student visa expired. Student may apply onshore to renew their student visas.
12. **Requirements to renew visa:** Subclasses of long-term and employment visas time, pre-visa applications period is two months before visa expired and applicants leaves the country offshore for granting of visas.
13. **Maximum time for visa processing:** Subclasses of visa under Long-Term and Employment whether applying for new visas or renew visa applications, the visa processing times from date of applications submitted shall be a minimum of 14 working days.

Online Payment Process



Immigration Act 2012

The collection, storage, and processing of personal data under this policy are dictated by the statutory obligations of Solomon Islands Immigration. While specific data processing occurs via secure government infrastructure and trusted cross-border payment networks, all operational functions strictly align with:

- **The Immigration Act 2012** (and accompanying regulations): Governing the legal evaluation of visa eligibility, identity verification, and border security fraud prevention.
- **National Record-Keeping Laws and Policies:** Mandating the strict retention periods for official government records and dictating the timelines for final, secure data disposal.
- **Law Enforcement Frameworks:** Outlining the strict conditions and lawful authorizations required before applicant data can be shared with external domestic or international border and security agencies.

Long-term and Employment Visa Policy.

Solomon Islands Immigration mandated under the Immigration Act 2012 to strategically streamline subclasses of visa to facilitate trade, investment, employment and supporting students international studying at Solomon Islands National University including other intuitions, throughout the country. This subclasses visas purposely for short-term and long-term residents in Solomon Islands. It has given non-citizens right to work or employment, limiting the employment visa the right to work only. The Right to become employer or investor provided under the Foreign Investment Act and Company Haus.

Although family relationship visa has broader definitions and application under the Immigration Act 2012 should give clear direction and application of the two-family visa categories, the Foreign National Dependant and Family Relationship visa. The application and definitions helped to identify difference between the visa categories.

Policy Vision

Solomon Islands Immigration aspire to secure Solomon Islands borders and to play our part in protecting our people and economy.

Policy Mission

The Immigration Division aims to upgrade the e-visa system to deliver online services, promote digitization, and improve online payment efficiency through designated bank. Additionally, the updated system will be utilized to manage risks, support legislative reforms that meet applicant demands, and enable seamless integration compatible with future application changes.

Policy Principles or Values

- **Integrity** – commitment to honesty.
- **Good Governance** – commitment to enhancing and maintaining the rule of law in an environment of transparency and accountable decision-making.
- **Professionalism** – to demonstrate competence and skills suited to our roles and responsibilities
- **Leadership** – influence others into action by doing what is right the first time and all times through all of the above values.
- **Trust & Respect** – confidence in officers' sense of unity and dignity.

Long-Term and Employment Resident visa policy.

Subclasses of Visa	Visa Requirements	Lawful terms and conditions	Visa fees
Long-Term Employment Visa	• The Long-Term Employment Visa allows foreign nationals to reside and work in the Solomon Islands for an extended period under a valid work permit. • Fill in Long-Term Employment Visa form in e-Visa portal. • Submit valid passport bio data page and details. • Submit valid work permit from the Solomon Islands Commissioner of Labour.	• Work and reside under sponsor/employer. • Eligible for two years visa. • Not eligible to change employment or status of employee to employers/investor. • Eligible to renew employment visa. • Multiple entries.	• Pays application fee of USD\$50. • Pays visa fee of USD\$450.

	• Police report (latest report from country of origin). • Medical report (latest report from country of origin). • Marriage Certificate (if applicable) • Sponsor letter of Indemnity. • Pay online fee. • Pay visa application fee.		
Short-Term Employment visa	• The Short-Term Employment Visa is issued to foreign nationals engaged in temporary work assignments in the Solomon Islands. • Fill in Employment Visa form in e-Visa portal. • Submit valid passport bio data page and details. • Submit valid work permit from the Solomon Islands Commissioner of Labour. • Police report (from country of origin). • Medical report (from country of origin). • Sponsor letter of Indemnity. • Pay online fee. • Pay visa application fee.	• Work and reside under sponsor/employer. • Eligible to work less than six months. • Not eligible to change employment or status of employee to employers/investor. • Eligible to renew employment visa. • Multiple entries. • This visa is for individuals contracted for short-term work, consultancy, technical projects, or seasonal employment within the Solomon Islands.	• Pays application fee of USD\$50. • Pays visa fee of USD\$700.
Permanent Resident	• This visa is for individuals who have lawfully resided in the Solomon Islands for at least five consecutive years on other valid visa types and are now seeking permanent residency. • Fill in Permanent Resident Visa form in e-Visa portal. • Submit valid passport bio data page and details.	• Applicants may be CEOs General Managers, an investor or shareholders/Directors of Foreign companies operating Solomon Islands. • State Owned Enterprises or Project of major investment in the country. • Eligible for five years visa to reside and work on the country.	• Pays application fee of USD\$50. • Pays visa fee of USD\$1,500.

	• Submit valid work permit from the Solomon Islands Commissioner of Labour. • Police report. • Medical report. • Sponsor letter of Indemnity. • Directors, Chief Executive officers or an Investor of companies operating in Solomon Islands. • Pay online fee. • Pay visa fee.	• Multiple entry visa.	
Dependant (Long-term resident) Spouses or children of permanent residents who were previously listed as dependents under the applicant's past visa(s).	• This visa is for family members (spouse or children) of individuals applying for or holding Permanent Residency, and is assessed based on continued dependency status. • Complete application form in the e-visa portal. • Provide a valid copy of Foreign / Solomon Islands passport bio page. • Provide a copy of Marriage (for spouse) or Birth (for children) Certificate. • Provide a support letter from the sponsor (likely from the Ministry of Public Service/SIG Institutions confirming employment of the foreigner or citizen).	• Maximum of visa stay depend on the principal's resident permit visa. • Multiple entry visa. • Renew after visa expired.	• Fees covered under Permanent Resident's principal's fees.
Student or dependant visas (This visa is for foreign nationals who intend to study full-time at an accredited institution in the Solomon Islands. It also applies to	• International students accepted by a recognized education institution in the Solomon Islands, as well as their immediate dependents. • Applicants must provide a Letter of Acceptance from the education	• Work or employment only accepted if part of the training or related to the study. • Eligible for two years visas depending on study. • Multiple entry visa. • Concessional entry of 30 days visa granted	• Pays application fee of USD\$50. • Pays visa fee of USD\$150.

dependents (such as spouses or children) accompanying a student during the course of their studies.)	institution confirming enrolment and the duration of the academic program. Dependents must also include proof of relationship to the main student applicant.	for Visa on Arrival or apply offshore.	
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Contact

If you have questions about these Terms of Service:

Relevant Officer or Business Unit

Email: immigration.visas@commerce.gov.sb

Phone: (+677) 22856, (+677) 25081, (+677) 25082, (+677) 25083

Online Form: <https://immigration.gov.sb/contact-us/>