



Delivery Policy – [Special Exemption 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 visa 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 The Minister for Immigration has repealed the concessional arrangement under the Act to issue visas to non-citizens on arrival.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 Special Exemption Visa Policy

The purposes of the Special Exemption policy to:

- a) Guide Special category's framework outlining the detail process for mutual reciprocal subclasses visas.
- b) Provide guide for subclasses under Special Exemption Visa to understand the lawful terms, conditions, fand 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 process.
- e) Clarify the application for the subclasses of visa is 14 working days

Scope of subclasses of Special Exemption 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 relating to subclasses of visas under Entertainer visa, which includes:

- **Applicant Submissions:** Explicitly filled text fields detailing the identity, contact information, and travel history.
- **Subclasses of visas Special Exemption Visa:** Issued at the discretion of the Solomon Islands Government under bilateral or multilateral relationship in reference to Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relation 1961 and section 11(a)&(a) of the Immigration, Act 2012.
- **Subclasses of this visas:** This visa subclasses of visa are prescribed under the bilateral or multilateral partners prescribed under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relation 1961 and Immigration Act 2012.
- **Subclasses of Special Exemption visas:** Subjected to the privileges and immunity from paying of Immigration fees, ease of travel, background checks and including exempted from requirements requests of visa process. **(Vienna Convention Diplomatic Relation 1961)**
- **Exempted process:** Exempted from visa fees and processes under Immigration Act 2012, related Health and Police report. Provide support letter from Ministerial and Tirth Party Notification from Ministry of Foreign Affairs & External Trade. Disclose contracts Ministerial agreement and Approved work permit to work in Solomon Islands.

Online Payment Process [Not for Special Exemption Visa]



Immigration Act 2012

Vienna Convention Diplomatic Relation 1961 provided immunity and privileges for class of persons prescribed under section 11 (a) and (b) of the Immigration Act 2012 in reference to the convention. The visa processes, fees and security checks has exempted under the Act and authorise Minister for

Commerce, Industry, Labour Immigration to authorise exempting classes of persons, including the following;

- **The Immigration Act 2012** (and accompanying regulations): Exempted from other Governing the legal process of subclasses of visa are eligibility, identity verification, and border security fraud prevention framework.
- **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:** Exempted from outlining the strict conditions and lawful authorizations required before applicant data can be shared with external domestic or international border and security agencies.

Subclasses of Special Exemption Visa.

Solomon Islands Immigration recognize Vienna Convention Diplomatic Relation 1961 provided immunity and privileges for class of persons prescribed under section 11 (1) (a) and (b) of the Immigration Act 2012 in reference to the convention. The visa processes, fees and security checks has exempted under the Act and authorise Minister for Commerce, Industry, Labour Immigration to authorise exempting classes of persons, including the following.

Solomon Islands Government has bilateral, sub-regional and multilateral Memorandum of Understanding, agreements signed for mutual reciprocal visa exemptions. The MOUs and bilateral or multilateral arrangement for people-to-people exchanges and relationships in areas of trade, investment, exchange, training, sports and cultural exchanges.

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.

Subclasses of Special Exemption Visa Policy.

	Subclasses	Visa Requirements	Visa Exemptions	Visa fees
	Foreign Diplomats, and	• Complete application form in the e-Visa portal.	Exempted from conditions and lawful term accredited to	• Exempted from

	Officials (Long-term visa) Foreign diplomats and international government officials appointed to embassies, consulates, or official government duties in the Solomon Islands. High Commissioners or Ambassadors, designed staff of the Overseas Missions under section 11 (1) (a) of the Immigration Act 2012.	• Provide a valid copy of your passport bio data page. • Provide a copy of your sponsor letter of indemnity. • Provide a copy of a Diplomatic Note from Mission/Embassy. • Provide a copy of your support Letter from Solomon Islands Ministry of Foreign Affairs & External Trade.	according to Vienna Convention and Diplomatic Relation 1961. Exempted under section 11 (a) of the Immigration Act 2012. Eligibility is two years and depend on designated services. Multiple visa entries.	paying visas
	Foreign Officials, diplomats	• This visa is for short-term diplomatic visits by foreign officials on official government business. • Government officials or diplomatic personnel on temporary assignments or official visits. • High Commissioners or Ambassadors, designed staff of the Overseas Missions under section 11 (1) (a) of the Immigration Act 2012. • Complete application form in the e-Visa portal. • Provide a valid copy of your passport bio data page. • Provide a copy of your sponsor letter of indemnity.	Exempted from conditions and lawful term accredited to according to Vienna Convention and Diplomatic Relation 1961. Exempted under section 11 (a) of the Immigration Act 2012. Eligibility is two years and depend on designated services. Multiple visa entries.	• Exempted from fees.

		• Provide a copy of a Diplomatic Note from Mission/Embassy. • Provide a copy of your support Letter from Solomon Islands Ministry of Foreign Affairs & External Trade.		
	Foreign Nationals Dependants or non-citizens (family members)	• This visa is for dependent (spouse or child) of foreign diplomat or Solomon Islands citizens who intend to live temporarily in Solomon Islands. It does not allow paid employment. • <i>Family members of accredited diplomats or returning citizens who wish to accompany or join the primary visa holder.</i> • <i>Family members of Public Servant citizens 11 (1) (b) of the Immigration Act 2012.</i> • Complete application form in the e-Visa portal. • Provide a valid copy of Foreign / Solomon Islands passport bio data page. • Provide a copy of Marriage (for spouse) or Birth (for children) Certificate.	. Exempted from conditions and lawful term accredited to according to Vienna Convention and Diplomatic Relation 1961. Exempted under section 11 (a) and (b) of the Immigration Act 2012. Eligibility is for two years, depend on the Principals' Visa exemptions. Multiple visa entries.	• Exempted from visa fees.

Contact

If you have questions about these Terms of Service:

Relevant Officer or Business Unit

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