

Non-Immigrant Visa

The Non-Immigrant visa is available for entry into Thailand for certain specified purposes other than tourism. Some may be extended up to one year by Thai Immigration based on your meeting the prescribed requirements and providing the necessary documentation as more fully explained on the **Remaining in the Kingdom of Thailand** page.



Upon entry into Thailand, a temporary stay of 90 days will be granted. Extension of this period will depend on the purpose for which it was granted.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Thai Embassies have a list of the purposes for which a Non-Immigrant Visa may be issued and the general documentation required. A Non-Immigrant Visas will have one or more alphabetical letters denoting the purpose of the stay. The more common purposes are:

- Non-Immigrant “B” - Business purpose - usually requires letter from business in support of application along with other documents specified by the Thai Embassy/Consulate.
- Non-Immigrant “ED” - Education or study purpose - usually requires a letter of acceptance from the educational institution in Thailand that is to be attended.
- Non-Immigrant “O” - Other permitted purpose. This designation can cover a wide range, such as being married to a Thai, to visit your Thai family, to retire (if the Embassy/Consulate does not offer the “O-A” visa. Copies of Marriage Certificates, Birth Certificates, etc. are usually required to support relationship to a Thai. This designation is also often used to support family members that may be accompanying a person who qualifies for one of the eligible purposes.

Consult with the Embassy where you plan to apply for specific requirements and the documentation required supporting the application. Further, be aware that upon application, Thai Officials may require additional information and documentation in support of the application. The documents required by the Thai Embassy in the USA can be obtained at <http://www.thaiembdc.org/consular/VISA> , by the Thai Consulate in Los Angeles, California (USA) at www.thai-la.net/visa/visa-non-im.htm, and the Thai Embassy in the UK at www.thaiembassyuk.org.uk/newversion/visa.

TIP:- *If the purpose of the visit requires more than 90 days, but the visa holder does not meet the requirements for extension, you can request a multiple entry Non-Immigrant Visa. Accepting your stated reason for wanting a multiple entry visa will be up to the Thai Officials at the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate where you apply. However, if you are applying in your home country and there are Honorary Thai Consulate(s) available, reports are that they may grant a multiple entry without much if any hassle.*

CAUTION: *Multiple entry Non-Immigrant visas usually have an expiration date one year from issuance. This does not mean the visa holder can stay for one year. The visa period and the permitted length of stay are not the same. The permitted stay for a Non-Immigrant visa is 90 days. To stay longer, the visa holder must leave Thailand and return before the expiration date on the visa. This is often achieved by visiting a neighboring country. There are many travel companies in Pattaya that provide “border runs” to Cambodia – a bus or van to the border, obtaining a Cambodian visa at the border, a stroll across the border with immediate reentry into Thailand, thus receiving another 90 days.*