

Q&A

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PERMANENT RESIDENCE PERMIT IN UKRAINE: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. What is a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

Permanent residence permit is a foreigner's or a stateless person's identity verification document confirming the right to permanent residence in Ukraine.

2. What are the advantages of a permanent residence permit?

Foreign citizens who have received a permanent residence permit have the right to reside in Ukraine with no time restrictions and limits on the number of entries to Ukraine. In addition, such foreigners have the right to be employed without a [work permit in Ukraine](#).

3. Who is an eligible person for a permanent residence permit?

Ukrainian legislation allows immigration of foreigners and stateless persons to Ukraine for permanent residence. To ensure this right, they can be granted a permanent residence permit.

4. What is the ground for obtaining a permanent residence permit?

To obtain a permanent residence permit, first an immigration permit to Ukraine should be granted. The most common ground for obtaining an immigration permit is family relationships with Ukrainian citizens or other immigrants. If a foreigner does not have

family relationship in Ukraine, the most common ground for obtaining an immigration permit is investing into the economy of Ukraine not less than USD 100,000.

5. How long does the review of an application for an immigration permit to Ukraine take?

The process time for an immigration permit application in Ukraine is 1 year. In practice, it usually takes the State Migration Service of Ukraine 3-6 months to process the application.

6. Does an immigration permit to Ukraine give an opportunity to obtain Ukrainian citizenship?

Yes, an immigration permit is one of the conditions for [Ukrainian naturalization](#).

7. Can immigrant family members obtain an immigration permit?

Yes, under the legislation of Ukraine, an immigrant's parents, spouse and minor children have the right to obtain an immigration permit.

8. Are there any restrictions on the duration of an immigrant's marriage for applying for an immigration permit in Ukraine?

No, there are no such restrictions.

9. Are there any restrictions on the number of an immigrant's minor children eligible for an immigration permit to Ukraine?

No, there are no such restrictions.

10. Are an immigrant's adopted children eligible for an immigration permit to Ukraine?

Yes, they are considered eligible if a document certifying the family relationship with the immigrant is available.

11. What monetary form should be used for a foreign investment in the economy of Ukraine to obtain an immigration permit?

An investment must be made in a monetary form in a foreign convertible currency (USD, EUR, GBP, CAD, etc.) in equivalent of not less than USD 100,000 at the official exchange rate of the NBU on the investment date.

12. How to make a foreign investment in the economy of Ukraine?

A foreign investment in the economy of Ukraine is a funding of business activity for receiving profit in Ukraine.

The best option is to open a company (for example, [a limited liability company](#)) and contribute to its authorized capital not less than USD 100,000 in foreign currency. This can be done from a personal investment account in Ukraine owned by a foreigner to the current account of a company founded in Ukraine.

Another option is a shareholding in the authorized capital of an existing Ukrainian company.

Only a foreign convertible currency can be an investment form. Corporate rights, shares, bonds are not considered an investment in this case.

13. What documents are required for an immigration permit to Ukraine based on a foreign investment?

In this case, a foreign citizen or stateless person must file the following documents:

- an application for an immigration permit. An application is filed to the embassy or consulate of Ukraine (if a foreigner is abroad) or to the local department of the State Migration Service (at the place of residence in Ukraine). An application is filed in person by a foreigner, although the filing by proxy (only due to illness or natural disaster) is also allowed;
- three photographs;
- a copy of an identity verification document;
- a document on an applicant's place of residence (document on place of residence in Ukraine, if a foreign citizen resides in Ukraine and documents are filed in Ukraine; document on place of residence outside Ukraine, if a foreign citizen permanently resides outside Ukraine and documents are filed to the embassy or consulate of Ukraine);
- family information, a copy of the marriage certificate (if an applicant is married);
- a document confirming that the person is free from chronic alcoholism, substance abuse, drug addiction or infectious diseases. The list of such diseases has been approved by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine;
- a copy of the charter of the Ukrainian company and a certificate issued by the relevant Ukrainian bank confirming the funds of not less than USD 100,000 received to the investment account of the foreigner and transferred to the account of the Ukrainian company as a foreigner's contribution to the authorized capital.

14. Must a foreigner applying for an immigration permit to Ukraine receive all the necessary medical certificates exclusively in Ukraine?

The law does not oblige a foreigner to obtain necessary medical certificates (for example, certificates confirming that the person is free from chronic alcoholism,

substance abuse, drug addiction or infectious diseases) exclusively in Ukraine. However, to avoid misunderstandings, it is better to be done in Ukraine.

15. Is it possible to use funds that were transferred as a foreign investment in the economy of Ukraine?

Yes, such funds can be used immediately after their contribution to the authorized capital of a Ukrainian company. A Ukrainian company may use such funds following the company's charter and the legislation of Ukraine (including accounting).

16. Is the purchase of real estate considered an investment in the economy of Ukraine?

No, the [purchase of real estate](#) (apartment, house, land plot) in Ukraine is not considered an investment in the economy of Ukraine – even if the value of this property is not less than USD 100,000.

However, real estate can first be purchased for a Ukrainian company (after payment of an authorized capital, i.e., after transferring funds from a personal investment account in Ukraine to the current account of an [established Ukrainian company](#)) and then re-registered directly to a foreigner. Another option is to lease real estate purchased and registered by one's own Ukrainian company based on a lease agreement concluded between a foreigner and a Ukrainian company.

17. Can a foreigner who has received an immigration permit to Ukraine withdraw funds transferred as a foreign investment from Ukraine?

No, he/she can't, because in this case there is no ground for obtaining an immigration permit to Ukraine, and consequently a foreigner's immigration permit may be cancelled by the authorized state bodies of Ukraine. A foreigner who has received an immigration permit to Ukraine based on a foreign investment of not less than USD 100,000, must use these funds only within the limits given by the regulation on foreign investment in the economy of Ukraine.

These funds can be used for any purpose of an enterprise ([purchase of real estate](#), purchase of securities, funding of an enterprise, etc.). However, purchased real estate, securities, etc. will belong to a Ukrainian company, not a foreigner.

18. Do an immigrant's family members also have to invest in Ukraine's economy?

No, they do not. They can obtain an immigration permit to Ukraine on the ground of close family relations with an immigrant who has already invested not less than USD 100,000 in the economy of Ukraine.

19. What is the next step for a foreigner who already has an immigration permit and wants to apply for a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

After obtaining an immigration permit and arriving in Ukraine, a foreigner must apply to the State Migration Service of Ukraine at the place of residence within 5 working days with an application for a permanent residence permit in Ukraine.

20. Does the permanent residence permit allow free entry and exit from the territory of Ukraine?

Yes, foreigners who permanently reside in Ukraine may cross its borders both ways using either their passport, or permanent residence permit.

However, stateless persons may cross the borders of Ukraine only using an ID document of a stateless person for traveling abroad – even if they have a permanent residence permit.

21. How to get a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

There are four simple steps to take for obtaining a permanent residence permit in Ukraine:

- 1) collect all necessary documents;
- 2) apply to the authorized centre for the provision of administrative services or territorial bodies/territorial units of the State Migration Service at the place of residence of a foreigner or a stateless person;
- 3) file all necessary documents;
- 4) obtain a permanent residence permit in Ukraine.

22. What documents are required for a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

The following documents are to be attached to the application for a permanent residence permit in Ukraine:

- a passport of a foreigner with a type D visa (long-term visa issued at the consulate of Ukraine in the country of a foreigner's citizenship to enter Ukraine for registration of documents for stay or residence in Ukraine);
- certified translation into Ukrainian of the page with personal data of a foreigner in his/her passport;
- a document confirming payment of administrative service fee (original);
- a copy of the decision on granting the immigration permit.

23. Must a foreigner personally apply for a permanent residence permit?

Yes, foreigners or stateless persons who are legally temporarily staying in the territory of Ukraine and who have reached the age of 16, apply personally. For foreigners or stateless persons who are legally temporarily staying in the territory of Ukraine and who have not reached the age of 16 or are recognized as having limited legal capacity or incapacity, applications are filed by one of the parents (adoptive parents), guardian, trustee.

24. Is it necessary to take fingerprints when obtaining a permanent residence permit?

Yes, the contactless electronic media contained in the permanent residence permit includes, in particular, biometric data and other parameters of the person (digitized image of the person's face, digitized person's signature, and digitized fingerprints).

25. What information is contained in a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

A permanent residence permit in Ukraine contains the following information:

- 1) name;
- 2) sex;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) date of birth;
- 5) unique entry number in the register;
- 6) document's number;
- 7) issue date of the document;
- 8) expiration date of the document;
- 9) authorized body that issued the document (code);
- 10) digitized signature;
- 11) ground for obtaining an immigration permit (code);
- 12) place of birth;
- 13) digitized image of the person's face.

26. How long does the issuance of a permanent residence permit take?

An issuance of a permanent residence permit takes 15 working days from the date of documents acceptance from a foreigner or a stateless person.

27. What is the cost of a permanent residence permit issuance?

An issuance of a permanent residence permit involves the following expenses:

- 1) a state fee UAH 85 (approximately USD 3);

- 2) an administrative service fee UAH 352 (approximately USD 13);
- 3) a cost of the permanent residence permit blank with contactless electronic media UAH 315 (approximately USD 11).

28. What additional costs may be due to an issuance of a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

Additional costs will be primarily due to the need for a foreigner to come to Ukraine and stay there for a certain period of time, as well as to run business activities of his/her [newly founded Ukrainian company](#) (payment of taxes, salaries, etc.).

Additional costs for a permanent residence permit in Ukraine: translation and notarization of documents, obtaining medical certificates, administrative fee, visa fee.

29. What is the validity term of a permanent residence permit?

Previously, a permanent residence permit was issued for an indefinite term. It is currently issued in the form of an ID card valid for 10 years. This means that it is necessary to exchange a permanent residence permit every 10 years.

30. Do foreigners of Ukrainian origin have an advantage in obtaining a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

Yes, they do, if they get the status of a Ukrainian abroad.

A Ukrainian abroad is a person who is a citizen of another state or a stateless person, as well as of Ukrainian ethnic origin or origin from Ukraine.

Ukrainian ethnic origin is the affiliation of a person or his/her ancestors to the Ukrainian nation and his/her recognition of Ukraine as the native land of his/her ethnic origin. This is the ground for obtaining an immigration permit and afterwards a permanent residence permit.

31. Do foreign highly-qualified specialists (primarily IT specialists) have an advantage in obtaining a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

Foreign highly-qualified specialists (including IT specialists) get an immigration permit and [a permanent residence permit in Ukraine within an immigration quota](#) set by the Government of Ukraine at the beginning of each year.

In 2021, the Government of Ukraine allowed an employment of 5,704 highly-qualified foreign specialists (primarily IT specialists) within the immigration quota, including in Kyiv – 2611 people, in Kharkiv region – 1293, in Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa and Lviv – 600 people each.

32. How long does it take to obtain a permanent residence permit for foreign highly-qualified specialists (primarily IT specialists)?

A permanent residence permit in Ukraine for foreign highly-qualified specialists (primarily IT specialists), is issued within the same time limits as for other categories of immigrants. The issuance of an immigration permit takes the most time (up to one year, but usually no more than 3-6 months).

After a foreign highly-qualified specialist (primarily an IT specialist) gets a positive verification result of his/her documents, he/she receives a 1-year validity immigration permit. Based on this permit, a foreign specialist may file an application for a permanent residence permit to the State Migration Service of Ukraine within 1 year. The State Migration Service of Ukraine reviews the application and makes a decision within 15 working days.

33. What are the grounds for denying a permanent residence permit in Ukraine to a foreigner?

The State Migration Service of Ukraine may deny a foreigner's or a stateless person's application for a permanent residence permit, including on the following grounds:

- 1) a foreigner or a stateless person stays in the territory of Ukraine in violation of the established period of stay or is subject to an unenforced decision of an authorized state body on forced return, forced expulsion or entry ban;
- 2) information obtained from the Register data bases and archives do not confirm the information provided by a foreigner or a stateless person;
- 3) appeal of a legal representative without appropriate documents confirming powers on receiving of permit;
- 4) a foreigner's or a stateless person's failure to file documents and information required for the registration and issuance of a permit in full or in violation of the established deadlines;
- 5) National Police, SSU, other public authority have informed that the actions of a foreigner and a stateless person threaten national security, public order, health, rights and legitimate interests of Ukrainian citizens and other individuals residing in Ukraine, or a foreigner or a stateless person has committed a crime against peace, a war crime or a crime against humanity as defined in international law, or is wanted due to commission of an act recognized as a serious crime under the laws of Ukraine;
- 6) passport of a foreigner or an identity verification document of a stateless person is forged, damaged or does not correspond to the standard form or belongs to another person or expired;
- 7) a foreigner or a stateless person presents designedly false information, forged documents or his/her immigration permit was cancelled;
- 8) revealed facts of failure to perform a court or state bodies decision authorized to impose administrative penalties by a foreigner or a stateless person, or they have other property liability to the state, individuals or legal entities, including those related to previous deportation from Ukraine, also after expiration of the ban for further entry to Ukraine.

34. How to extend a permanent residence permit after the expiration of its 10-year validity period?

An old permit can be exchanged for a new one with a 10-year validity period. All you need to do is to pay a state fee of UAH 85, an administrative service fee of UAH 352 and a cost of the permanent residence permit blank with contactless electronic media UAH 315 (UAH 752 in total or approximately USD 27).

35. What are the time limits for filing documents for exchange of a permanent residence permit in Ukraine in case of expiration?

In case of expiration of a permanent residence permit in Ukraine, documents for its exchange shall be filed no later than 15 working days before the expiration date.

36. What are the grounds for exchanging a permanent residence permit in Ukraine for a new one?

A permanent residence permit in Ukraine is exchanged in the following case:

- 1) change of information given in permit;
- 2) detection of an error in the information given in permit;
- 3) expiry of permit;
- 4) permit unsuitability for further use;
- 5) reaching the age of 25 or 45 years by a foreigner or a stateless person (in case a foreigner or a stateless person is documented with a permit without contactless electronic media).

37. What happens in case of loss or theft of a permanent residence permit in Ukraine?

In case of loss or theft of a permanent residence permit in Ukraine, you can get a new permit following the established procedure.

In case of loss or theft of a previous permanent residence permit in Ukraine or its exchange, a foreigner or a stateless person must file the following documents:

- 1) a passport of a foreigner or ID document of a stateless person with its copy attached (upon presentation the originals are returned);
- 2) Ukrainian translation of pages of a foreigner's passport or ID document of a stateless person containing personal data, attested according to the legally established procedure;
- 3) documents confirming the circumstances or legal facts for permit exchange (documents issued by the competent authorities of foreign states must be duly legalized, unless otherwise provided by international treaties of Ukraine);
- 4) an identity verification document of a legal representative and a document confirming a person's authority as a legal representative with copies attached, in case

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of documents filing by a legal representative (upon presentation the originals are returned);

5) a document confirming payment of administrative service fee (original) or document confirming certain exemptions with a copy attached (upon presentation the originals are returned).

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