

Work Permit in Iraq

Why is Work Permit Needed?

A work permit is a crucial document for foreigners who wish to work abroad. This permit validates an individual's right to reside in a foreign country for the duration of employment. Iraq's Labour Law makes it a strict requirement for foreigners to obtain an Iraq work permit to be employed in the country.

About The Iraq Job Market

Iraq has been facing volatile social and economic conditions recently, which makes it challenging to get a job there.

In addition, the Iraq economy is highly dependent on the oil sector that forms almost 85% of government revenue. It also contributes to 80% of foreign exchange earnings. Therefore, most job opportunities are in the same sector.

Number of expats in Iraq: < 200,000 (Figures are subject to change)

Expatriate Job Websites: [Bayt](#), [Iran.tanqeeb](#), [Gulf Talent](#)

Popular Industries for Expats: Oil and Gas companies, Infrastructure, Foreign investment, and banking

Types of Iraq Work Visa

Iraq's Labour Law has a clear distinction for issuing work permits to Arab and Non-Arab employees. Therefore, Arab employees are not required to obtain work permits. But, all non-Arab or non-Iraqi foreign employees need to obtain work permits to work from Iraq legally. Therefore, it is essential to understand the types of Iraq work visas that are available.

There are two kinds of work permits issued, as under:

Iraq Business Visa: This visa is for foreigners entering the country for business-related activities or investments purposes. It is valid for 30 days.

Iraq Employment Visa: This is the more common visa issued to foreigners coming into the country to get paid employment.

Iraq Work Visa Requirements

When applying for a work visa in a foreign country, a certain list of documents is necessary, which varies according to nationality. For example, the Iraq work visa requirements for Indian citizens will be different from the Iraq work visa for Pakistani.

Here's a list of general documents required for an Iraq work visa:

- Completed Iraq visa application form
- Passport with validity of at least six months from date of entry in Iraq
- Two passport size photos
- Official employment contract
- Payment of Iraq work visa fees

Iraq Work Visa Application Process

The application process may seem a bit complicated. It is first the employer's role to begin issuing work permits for foreign employees in Iraq. Then, foreigners should receive an official employment letter from Iraqi authorities or respective Ministries. The process of applying for the Iraq work visa is as under:

- The employer must send out an employment offer to the employee.
- The employer must also write to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs requesting the hiring of a foreign employee. This should also include all information about employees like their nationality, address, type, and duration of work.
- This letter should also include all the necessary documents for Iraq's work visa requirements.
- The Labour and Vocational Training department will check the legal conditions and then issue the entry visa in the country.
- Within seven days of arrival in Iraq, the foreign employee must visit the Department of Labour and Vocational Training to finalize the procedures for obtaining the work permit. Employees can apply for both residence and work permits hereon.

It is crucial to have the necessary paperwork in order to obtain a work permit for both the employer and employee. As an employer, if you have an established identity in Iraq, obtaining work permits for your employees will be difficult. So having correct and up-to-date documents is extremely important. And before you go ahead with applying for your employee's work visa, recheck their paperwork. Then, you can apply for your employee's entry visa at the Iraqi Embassy in the applicant's country of residence.

Once the employee enters the country, the immigration department and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq check the visa and relevant documents.

Timeframe for Iraq Work Visa

The processing of an Iraq work visa takes place in two phases. The first is getting approval from the Ministry of Labour. It can take about 15 to 20 days. The next part is submitting the application to the Embassy. The overall Iraq work visa processing time is between 4 to 8 weeks.

Iraq Work Permit Cost

The cost of an Iraq work permit is \$50 for single entry visas. This also includes tourists and religious visas. The cost of a multiple-entry visa is \$100.

How Does Multiplier Help With Work Visa

[Multiplier](#) is a global [EOR solution](#) with local entities in over 150+ countries. We help you manage a team of employees from around the world with our network of trained experts. Our experienced HR suite guarantees end-to-end solutions to all users.

On requesting an Iraq work permit, Multiplier's SaaS-based solutions will ease out the process of obtaining one for your foreign employees. Our qualified in-house team will handle all the documentation processes and costs from the beginning to the end. You will be updated at every development.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the validity of my Iraq work permit?

A single-entry visa to Iraq is valid for three months, and a multiple-entry visa has a validity of up to a year. Most work visas are issued for one year. They can be renewed a month before their expiration date.

What is the Iraq exit visa?

Foreigners who remain in Iraq for more than ten days need to get an exit stamp while leaving the country. The foreign national's employer must file the exit visa request letter with the respective Directorate of Residence. It can take three to four days to issue this exit visa.

Does Iraq have a visa on arrival policy?

The Iraqi government does have a visa on arrival policy for some nationalities like the United States, United Kingdom, European Union states, Russia, China, Japan, South Korea, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Switzerland.

What is the Kurdistan Iraq visa policy?

Kurdistan Region is the northern region of Iraq dominated by the Kurdish community. They have a separate visa policy, allowing more countries with a free 30-day visa on arrival for tourism or visiting the region.