



Consulate General of Italy in San Francisco
visti.sanfrancisco@esteri.it

INDEPENDENT WORK VISA (National Visa)

You must submit all required documents. Visa applicants **must appear in person** to submit their visa request at this Consulate General or at the appropriate Honorary Consul (please see the [Consular Network](#) link on our website). Applicants must pay the **national visa fee** for this visa.

Applicants must submit the following documents in original for all types of independent work visas:

- **Passport** or travel document accepted by the Schengen countries valid for a period of 3 months beyond the applicant's last day of stay abroad. The passport must have a blank page on which the visa will be affixed. (**plus: photocopy of the official page with personal data and expiration date, plus page with signature if it does not appear on the same page**).
- **Proof of physical residence** in our jurisdiction, such as a photocopy of driver's license, state ID, or utility bill (please do not send us original IDs other than passports).
- **Proof of legal permanent residence** in the United States (only **non-U.S.** citizens): U.S. Alien Registration Card or valid long-term U.S. visa, valid for at least three months beyond the intended departure from the Schengen member states. **U.S. visas B1/B2 visas are not acceptable for this purpose.** If you have a B1 or B2 visa, you cannot apply for the Schengen tourist visa. (**plus: photocopy of the residence card or the passport page with the longterm U.S. visa**).
- **One** recent ICAO standard **photograph**: 45mm (1,77 inch) by 35mm (1,37 inch) in size, full face, front view, color. It must be glued to the Schengen visa application form, in the top right.
- **One** [Schengen visa application form](#) (for those staying 90 days or less) **OR** [Long stay visa application form](#) (for those staying longer than 90 days) completely and clearly filled out.
- **All requirements for your specific type of independent work visa (see subsequent pages).**
- **The national visa application fee** must be paid in exact amount by **cashier's check** or **money order** upon presentation of the visa application regardless of the outcome of the request. The fee adjusts every three months - Jan. 1st, April 1st, July 1st, Oct. 1st – based on the government's official euro-dollar exchange rate.
- **One** [Declaration for Mailing Passports](#) completely and clearly filled out and a **self-addressed** (from yourself and to yourself) **pre-paid US Postal Service envelope** so that your passport can be mailed back to you.

Consular officers may request additional documents at their discretion. **Please be aware that submitting the required documentation does not guarantee the issuance of a visa.**

We strongly urge you to take a photocopy of the application and supporting documents with you to Italy, because the domestic immigration authorities may ask you to show the documents submitted to obtain a visa. There are nine time zones of difference between us and them, so if the authorities must wait for us to send them those documents, it may be inconvenient for you.



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TYPES OF INDEPENDENT WORK VISAS

- **Professionals:**
 - **declaration** by the office authorized to issue needed certifications, licenses and authorizations, or to receive notices of registration of business activity, or by the Institution authorized to oversee professional associations;
 - **availability of suitable lodgings** to be proven according to one of the following means:
 - rental lease or ownership deed;
 - OR **Letter of Hospitality (in original)** by an Italian or foreign citizen legally residing in Italy stating that he/she has made available suitable lodgings that fulfill the minimum requirements foreseen by regional legislation for public housing;
 - **copy of the tax return** for the previous year showing an income in the country of residence higher than the minimum level foreseen by the law for exemption from participation in health services contributions (€8,400);
 - **“nulla osta”** (entry clearance) issued within the previous 90 days by the competent Italian Questura in the city where the applicant will reside (Main Police Station).
- **Business people, entrepreneurs, artisans:**
 - **statement** describing the parameters of the economic resources required to carry out the said business, commercial or artisan activity, issued by the Chamber of Commerce of the area in which the activity is to be carried out. These resources must not be less than the annual unemployment subsidy (€4,962.36);
 - **financial means** in Italy sufficient to satisfy the requirements in the above declaration;
 - availability of suitable lodgings to be proven according to one of the following means: - rental lease or ownership deed;
 - OR **Letter of Hospitality (in original)** by an Italian or foreign citizen legally residing in Italy stating that he/she has made available suitable lodgings that fulfill the minimum requirements foreseen by regional legislation for public housing;
 - **copy of tax return** for the previous year showing an income in the country of residence higher than the minimum level foreseen by the law for exemption from participation in health services contributions (€8,400);
 - **“nulla osta”** (entry clearance) issued within the previous 6 months by the competent Italian Questura in the city where the applicant will reside (Main Police Station).
- **Partners and consultants in Italian firms:**
 - **Certification of enrollment** in the Business Registry of the firm, which must have been operating for at least three years;



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- **statement from the legal representative of the firm** ensuring compensation **above** the minimum level established by law for exemption from healthcare expenses (€8,400);
- **copy of the budget** deposited at the Business Registry for Ltd Companies, or copy of the latest tax return for firms constituted by individual persons, from which it can be ascertained that earnings or income are sufficient to guarantee compensation of the applicant;
- **copy of the declaration of responsibility** already sent by the Italian contract provider (or by the legal representative thereof) to the competent “*Direzione Provinciale del Lavoro – Servizio Ispezione del Lavoro*” indicating that, in virtue of the contract stipulated, the applicant will not be employed as a subordinate worker;
- **availability of suitable lodgings** to be proven according to one of the following means:
 - rental agreement, lease, or ownership deed;
 - OR **Letter of Hospitality (in original)** by an Italian or foreign citizen legally residing in Italy stating that he/she has made available suitable lodgings that fulfill the minimum requirements foreseen by regional legislation for public housing;
- “**nulla osta**” (entry clearance) issued within the previous 90 days by the competent Italian Questura (police department) in the city where the applicant will reside.
- **Entertainment industry personnel:**
 - **Contract with live signature of the holder of the license to operate**, or impresario or legal representative thereof, ensuring the self-employed person compensation **above** the minimum level foreseen by the law for exemption from participation in health services contributions (€8,400);
 - **appropriate professional documentation**, issued by competent Authorities and validated by the Italian Consulate, certifying the legal right of said Authority to issue said documentation;
 - **certification of the firm's enrollment** in the Business Registry;
 - **copy of the budget** deposited at the Business Registry for Ltd Companies, or copy of the latest tax return for firms constituted by individual persons, from which it can be ascertained that earnings or income are sufficient to guarantee compensation of the applicant;
 - **copy of the declaration of responsibility** already sent by the Italian contract provider (or by the legal representative thereof) to the competent “*Direzione Provinciale del Lavoro – Servizio Ispezione del Lavoro*” indicating that, in virtue of the contract stipulated, the applicant will not be employed as a subordinate worker;
 - **availability of suitable lodgings** to be proven according to one of the following means:
 - rental agreement, lease, or ownership deed;
 - OR **Letter of Hospitality (in original)** by an Italian or foreign citizen legally residing in Italy stating that he/she has made available suitable lodgings that



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- fulfill the minimum requirements foreseen by regional legislation for public housing;
- “**nulla osta**” (entry clearance) issued within the previous 90 days by the competent Italian Questura in the city where the applicant will reside (Main Police Station).
- **Managers or highly qualified employees of companies based in Italy** or with branches in Italy, or of branch offices of foreign companies headquartered in a member country of the World Trade Organization, or managers of main offices in Italy of Italian firms or firms of another EU member:
 - Certification issued by the competent “*Direzione Provinciale del Lavoro – Servizio Politiche del Lavoro*” that the contract does not constitute subordinate employment **availability of suitable lodgings** to be proven according to one of the following means: rental agreement, lease, or ownership deed;
 - OR **Letter of Hospitality (in original)** by an Italian or foreign citizen legally residing in Italy stating that he/she has made available suitable lodgings that fulfill the minimum requirements foreseen by regional legislation for public housing;
 - “**nulla osta**” (entry clearance) issued within the previous 90 days by the competent Italian Questura in the city where the applicant will reside (Main Police Station).
- **University language lecturers, university professors, translators, interpreters, and researchers** intending to teach or carry out paid research activities in Italian universities or educational or research Institutes:
 - Certification issued by the competent “*Direzione Provinciale del Lavoro – Servizio Politiche del Lavoro*” that the contract does not constitute subordinate employment **availability of suitable lodgings** to be proven according to one of the following means: rental agreement, lease, or ownership deed;
 - OR **Letter of Hospitality (in original)** by an Italian or foreign citizen legally residing in Italy stating that he/she has made available suitable lodgings that fulfill the minimum requirements foreseen by regional legislation for public housing;
 - “**nulla osta**” (entry clearance) issued within the previous 90 days by the competent Italian Questura in the city where the applicant will reside (Main Police Station).

This consular administration has full authority to evaluate and request additional documentation, if deemed, in addition to what is submitted. Furthermore, the applicant is hereby informed that submitting all required documentation does not guarantee the issuance of any particular visa.