

Is your company planning to outsource or expand operations in North Macedonia? Recent economic growth has created a favorable environment for expatriates and foreign companies to do business in this thriving country. However, if you are planning to relocate existing team members or hire new employees abroad, you'll need to ensure that they have the necessary documentation to live and work in Macedonia.

At Globalization Partners, we understand the complexities of hiring employees and running a business abroad. As a Global PEO with an existing subsidiary in Macedonia, we can take on the burden of obtaining the appropriate visas and permits for your employees so you can focus on what you do best: running your growing business.

What Kinds of Working Visas Are Issued in Macedonia?

The Macedonian government issues three different types of visas to foreign nationals:

- Type B visas for transit, which allow a maximum stay of five days
- Type C visas for short visits up to three months
- Type D visas for long stays for work, medical treatment, scientific research, study, humanitarian work, or family reunification

To live and work in Macedonia, foreign employees will need to obtain a Type D visa. However, the long-stay visa on its own does not allow the employee to reside in Macedonia. They will need to complete the process of obtaining a temporary residence permit from the Ministry of Interior upon arrival in the country.

The employee will also need a work permit, which must be obtained on their behalf by the employer in Macedonia.

Macedonian Work Visa Requirements

To live and work in Macedonia, foreign employees will need to obtain a residency permit as well as a work permit.

Before traveling to Macedonia, the employee will need to submit the following documents to obtain a Type D visa:

- A temporary residence application form
- A valid passport
- One passport-sized photograph
- Proof of the applicant's health insurance
- A copy of the applicant's work permit application, which should be provided by the employer

To get a temporary residency permit, employees will need to provide additional documentation upon arrival in Macedonia:

- Approval of temporary residence from the Ministry of Interior
- Evidence of accommodation in Macedonia
- The original, certified copy of the employee's work permit application
- A valid passport and one passport photo
- A criminal background check
- Proof of travel insurance

How to Get a Work Visa in Macedonia: The Application Process

Work permits in Macedonia are issued by the Employment Service Agency. The employer should file the work permit application before the employee begins the process of obtaining a temporary residence permit.

The main steps of the application process are as follows:

- The employer initiates the work permit application on behalf of the foreign employee
- The employer sends the employee an original copy of the work permit application
- The employee submits the work application along with the other documents listed in the previous section to the nearest Macedonian consulate
- Upon approval, the employee obtains a Type D long-stay visa
- The employee travels to Macedonia
- Within five days of their arrival, the employee completes the process of the issuance of

their residence permit by submitting the documents listed previously to the Ministry of Interior

- Within 25 days of the application date, the Ministry issues a National Temporary Residence Identity Card to the employee

It typically takes around 45 days for a work permit to be issued to a foreign national. Upon the approval of this permit, the employee may begin working for your company in Macedonia.

Unique Considerations for Obtaining a Work Visa in Macedonia

Macedonia is a current candidate to join the European Union (EU), but negotiations are not in progress at the moment. As of now, citizens of EU member states must follow the same procedure as other foreign nationals to enter Macedonia for employment purposes. Should Macedonia join the EU in the future, these procedures will change.

Ensure Compliance During Your Expansion With Globalization Partners

If your company is in the midst of an international expansion process, Globalization Partners can help. We're an experienced Global PEO with all of the resources and information your company needs to stay compliant from the start as you begin operations in Macedonia.

To learn more about how to get a work visa in Macedonia or how your company can join the Globalization Partners Team, [reach out to us](#) today.