

Nicaragua's tropical climate, vibrant culture, and low cost of living make the Central American nation a desirable destination for expatriates from all over the world. If your company is planning to expand operations to Nicaragua, you'll need to put together a talented team of employees who are willing to make the move. You'll also need to make sure they have the necessary visas and permits to live and work in Nicaragua.

The visa application process is relatively simple in Nicaragua, but it can still be challenging if you're unfamiliar with local immigration and employment laws. If you're unsure how to get a work visa in Nicaragua, Globalization Partners can help.

### **What Types of Working Visas Are Available in Nicaragua?**

While citizens of some countries will need a visa to travel to Nicaragua, there are several nations whose citizens are exempt from this requirement, including:

- The United States
- Scandinavia
- El Salvador
- Honduras
- Guatemala
- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Chile
- All member states of the European Union (EU)

Citizens of these countries may be referred to as Category A nationals. These individuals can purchase a tourist card, which is valid for 90 days, upon arrival in Nicaragua. Other foreign nationals fall into Categories B and C. They can enter the country by applying for a tourist visa, which functions the same way as the tourist card.

Many expatriates who plan to live and work in Nicaragua on a short-term basis choose to do so using this method. However, they'll need a work permit to do so. It's also necessary to exit the country to renew this visa every 90 days. Employees who plan to remain in Nicaragua

over the long term should apply for a residency visa.

There are two types of residency visas in Nicaragua: temporary residence visas, which are valid for one year, and permanent residence visas. Despite the name, a permanent residence visa is valid for five years.

Foreign nationals who plan to work in Nicaragua for up to one year should obtain a work permit. To work for a company in Nicaragua on a long-term basis, foreign employees should get a temporary residence visa.

### **What Are the Requirements to Obtain a Nicaraguan Work Visa?**

To work in Nicaragua, foreign employees have to apply for a temporary residency visa. Applicants must provide the following documents:

- Two passport photographs
- A passport with at least six months of validity
- A duly completed visa application form
- A formal letter from the employer in Nicaragua proving the applicant's income
- An original birth certificate as well as a photocopy
- A criminal background check from any country the applicant has lived in within the preceding five-year period
- A medical document proving that the applicant has no known communicable diseases
- A cash deposit to pay for the applicant's deportation in the event that it's necessary

### **What Steps Should Applicants Take to Get a Work Permit in Nicaragua?**

Before hiring a foreign employee, your company will need to present a letter explaining why there are no qualified workers in Nicaragua who could fill the position. Once this has been established, the application process can begin.

Applicants should submit the application and supporting documents to the Nicaraguan embassy or diplomatic mission in their country of residence. Upon approval, the applicant will

receive a temporary residence visa that will allow them to live and work in Nicaragua for one year.

### **Other Important Considerations**

While a temporary residence permit is issued for an initial period of one year, it can be renewed. After three years of living in Nicaragua as a temporary resident, foreign nationals will need to apply for permanent residence. This status must be renewed every five years as long as the individual is living in Nicaragua.

### **Stay Compliant in Nicaragua With Globalization Partners**

Expanding your company's operations in Nicaragua should be an exciting time, not a stressful one. Globalization Partners will ensure that your company is compliant from the start, taking on all of the risks and costs on your behalf. We'll recruit, hire, and onboard employees, provide visa and immigration support, and set up payroll and compensation in Nicaragua. Our team will manage all of the details while you continue to manage your business.

For more information about the benefits of our Global Expansion solution, [contact us today](#).