

Information for business travelers to Norway Regulations and updates

Please consider this information as a further step in the Embassy's ambition to continue strengthen and simplify our cooperation, with the aim to benefit all concerned parties. The Embassy would with this like to thank you for your attention and looks forward to continue to work closely together in the future.

Visa versus residence permit to work

According to the Norwegian Immigration Act everyone who intends to work in Norway, paid or unpaid, needs a residence permit for work, even though the work is for one day only. Only when the purpose of stay is covered by the rules of exemptions, work can be carried out on a visa. Among others, this is applicable to business travelers, technical experts and researchers - if certain requirements are fulfilled. Application for residence permit for work functions is the absolute main rule, and not application for business visa. Detailed information on the different grounds are given at the website of the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI): www.udi.no

Information about a work permit

- There exists no limitation of the duration of the stay.
- If needed, a permit can be renewed as long as all requirements still are fulfilled.
- A permit can be applied for from Norway by the employer or client, as long as the applicant has given a [power of attorney](#).
- It is possible to use the "Early employment start- scheme", which allows the employee to start work before a permit has been granted. You can read more about the [early employment start](#) on Udi's home page.
- The case processing time during the last years has been 4 weeks after the UDI has received the application, which means normally a total of 5 weeks for case processing from submitting the application to the Embassy or the police in Norway. You will find information on [case processing time](#) on UDIs web page.
- Applications, submitted at the Service Centre for Foreign Workers in Oslo, Stavanger, Bergen or Kirkenes, will as a main rule, have a shorter case processing time. Here you will find contact information for the [SUA centers](#).

Changes in the questionnaire for business visa

Questionnaire is now to be filled in by the inviting company in Norway

An important change concerning the questionnaire for business visa is that it from now must be filled in by the inviting company in Norway. The Embassy hopes this change will make it

easier to submit exact information about the applicant's purpose of stay in Norway. Please be aware of the importance to ask the inviting company to fill in this questionnaire with as much detailed information as possible and to answer all the questions for the relevant purpose. You doing so is highly appreciated, since it simplifies the process of acquiring the needed information, which of course affects the processing time in a positive way and ensures that a decision can be made immediately.

A meeting schedule is no more required

The Embassy has made several changes within the questionnaire. As a main rule, schedules for business meetings will no longer be a requirement. However, the Embassy wants to stress that the understanding of business meetings is a traditional one – discussions of contract related matters mostly of people in leading positions or with special competence. As a main rule, workshops or similar sessions, intended to make it clear for the participants, for example consultants, what their work will consist of within a project, are not seen as business meetings.

The inviting company is asked for detailed information when the applicant is not attending meetings and when meetings consist of practical work. In those cases it may still happen that the Embassy, after a concrete assessment, will have to ask for a schedule.

In-house training

The Embassy also wants to understate that the understanding of in-house training is a traditional one, where an employee of the company's part abroad comes to the Norwegian part of the company to take part in a defined training programme. Be aware that training because of outsourced tasks to the company in India, as a main rule, is not seen as in-house training in this context.

Where to find information

Information on different types of work permits, application procedures and case processing time is also given on UDIs webpage: www.udi.no.

For detailed information on the Norwegian Immigration regulations, please see <http://www.udiregelverk.no/en/>.

See UDIs webpage for information on [regulations and how to apply for a work permit](#).

Also see UDIs webpage for useful [information for employers](#).

Employers can contact the [UDI's employer service](#) using the online form or by phone for information about regulations for foreign employees and their family members.

See UDI's Facebook page on [work immigration](#) here.

Please do contact the Immigration authorities in Norway

The Embassy would like to inform that the work unit at the residence department of the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration offers to be contacted when Indian companies, in contract with companies in Norway, will find out whether their employees need a permit or if the rules of exemptions apply.

Please use the contact form on www.udi.no: <http://www.udi.no/en/contact-us/>. Also the inviting company may contact the UDI for information to make sure that the right application process is used.