



MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

52-60 Abercromby Street, Port of Spain.
Ph. – 224-4667 extension 18300 and 624-7513
Website – www.nationalsecurity.gov.tt

Guidelines for submitting Applications for individuals and group applicants

1 group refers to 10 or more applicants

Work Permits for Non-nationals

Updated at January 01, 2026

Work Permits applications must be submitted, **at least six (6) weeks, prior** to the date on which the proposed employee is required to assume duties.

1. Section 10(1) of the Immigration Regulations Act, Chap 18 states that:
no person other than—
 - (a) a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago;
 - (b) a resident of Trinidad and Tobago; or
 - (c) a person entering Trinidad and Tobago to engage in gainful occupation for one period not exceeding thirty days in every twelve consecutive months,**shall engage in any profession, trade or occupation whether for gain or not in Trinidad and Tobago or be employed in Trinidad and Tobago unless there is in force in relation to him a valid work permit.**

(d) in accordance with Legal Unit No. 493 dated December 29, 2025, for the duration of Work Permit \$900.00 per month subject to a minimum of \$2,700.00

2. Regulation Section 13(1) of the Immigration Act, Chap 18: states in the case of a self-employed person or a person, whose employer is not carrying on business in Trinidad and Tobago, the application for a work permit may be made on his behalf by an Attorney-at-law practicing in Trinidad and Tobago. **Please note for international companies with contractual agreements, the local company must be clearly identified on all correspondence.**
3. All work permit applications **(both individual and group applications)** are **processed online**. The following links guide further on the online process:

[Work Permit](#)
[Group Work Permits](#)
[Extension of Work Permit](#)
[Extension of Group Work Permits](#)
[Extension of Work Permit – without original](#)
[Extension of Group Work Permits – without original](#)

4. The following **must** be submitted when applying for a work permit-
- (a) a covering letter from the prospective Employer **or an Attorney at Law**, requesting the work permit and including a justification on **why a national cannot be hired** to perform in the specified job.
The covering letter can include a description of the scope of work to be undertaken, and where applicable excerpts of contract between companies or letter of such support and **period requested**.
 - (b) application forms completed and signed by both the proposed employee and the prospective employer.
 - (c) Form WPA 1A- outlining details of Non-Nationals employed in Professional, Managerial and Senior Technical positions (*to be used in cases where the 'Application for a Work Permit or Extension of a Work Permit' form cannot accommodate the number of entries to be submitted*).
 - (d) Form WPA 1B -outlining details of Trinidad and Tobago Nationals employed in Professional, Managerial and Senior Technical positions (*to be used in cases where the 'Application for a Work Permit or Extension of a Work Permit' form cannot accommodate the number of entries to be submitted*).
 - (e) Two (2) character references (previous employer and personal reference dated **no older than six (6) months**. Referees should know the applicant for at least one (1) year.
 - (f) Copy of employee's passport bio data page **and last immigration entry/extension stamp or departure details**.
 - (g) A Police Certificate of Character, **dated no older than six (6) months** from the person's **country of origin or place of domicile during the period of five years** previous to the date of application. If sourced online, the Certificate must be from the **Authorized Body and contain a QR code** dated no older that six (6) months or validity period listed on the document. A Fingerprint Search must also be submitted.
 - (h) As necessary, documents need to be notarized, and translated into English by a certified translator.

- (i) Curriculum Vitae and proof of qualifications.
- (j) One (1) passport size photograph of the prospective employee.
- (k) Proof of Advertisement for the job for which the work permit application is being made.

This advertisement must not be smaller than 3” x 5” (Section 32 and item (ii) at the bottom of page 3 refer).

The advertisement should include a proper description of the job, required level of education and number of years’ experience required.

The advertisement must **run for at least seven (7) days** in the daily newspapers and include the following statement:

**“Applicants are also required to submit a copy of their application to Chief Manpower Officer, Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development, Duke Place, 50-54 Duke Street, Port of Spain.
Or email to cmo.resumes@gov.tt”**

A copy of the newspaper’s payment receipt, showing the number of days the advertisement was published, must also be submitted.

- (l) An evaluation report on all applications received and interviews conducted. Copies of resumes of the candidates are to be attached.
- (m) Tax Clearance Certificate ‘Form C’ from Inland Revenue if previously employed with another company in Trinidad and Tobago.
- (n) Investor and Self-Employed persons must submit proof of ownership of the business or Directorship of the respective company, as follows:
 - (i) In the case of a sole trade or partnership a copy of the Certificate of Registration of the business and evidence of having registered with the Board of Inland Revenue. (BIR File Number)
 - (ii) In the case of the company, all incorporation documents must be submitted, these include:
 - Certificate of Incorporation of the Company
 - Articles of Incorporation
 - Notice of Directors

- Notice of Address
- Notice of Secretary
- Declaration of Compliance and any special resolution registered with the Company Registry.
- Declaration of Investment/Assets being injected into the economy of Trinidad and Tobago

The Annual Return must be submitted for renewal of the Work Permit together with all documents listed in the paragraph below.

- (o) Official receipt evidencing payment of the processing fee of **TT\$1,200.00 (Non-refundable/Non-Transferable)**. While online payment is the preferred method, in-person payments (*via cash or certified cheque*) will be accommodated at Temple Court II, 52-60 Abercromby Street, Port of Spain.
- (p) It should be noted that it is the responsibility of the client to ensure that Work Permit Applications are completed in their entirety before submission. **Incomplete applications will not be processed.**

5. **For Group applications the following must be submitted:**

- Completed Group Application form;
- Completed Work Permit Group Application form 3B (WPGA Form 3B) outlining details of the prospective employees;
- Where necessary, completed Work Permit Group Application form 3C (WPGA Form 3C) outlining details of person(s) accompanying the prospective employees;
- Covering letter to include:
 - o Name of Company
 - o Address of Company
 - o Telephone number of Company
- Brief description of the Company's activities and **period requested.**

Supporting Documents to be submitted are: -

- (i) Copy of Registration of Company
- (ii) Copy of Contract
- (iii) Copy of Police Certificate of Character which must be **not be more than six (6) months old.**
- (iv) Copy of passport bio-data page and last entry stamp entering Trinidad and Tobago
- (v) Two (2) Character references (Previous employer and personal reference dated **no older than six (6) months**).

6. **Extension of Work Permits**

All applications for extensions must be submitted, **no later than two (2) months, prior** to the expiration date of the existing Work Permit.

The following documents must be submitted:

- Covering letter stating why the extension is required and stating **period requested.**
- Receipt of the application fee of **\$1,200.00 (Non-refundable/Non-Transferable) (Offline payment receipt/s must be uploaded on the TTBizlink System)**
- Tax Clearance Certificate “Form C”
- A copy of the last work permit
- Bio Data page of Passport
- A copy of advertisement which cannot be smaller than **3” x 5”**. The advertisement should include a proper description of the job, required level of education and number of years’ experience required **“Applicants are also required to submit a copy of their application to: Chief Manpower Officer, Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development, Duke Place, 50-54 Duke Street, Port of Spain or email to cmo.resumes@gov.tt”**
- A copy of the newspaper’s payment receipt, showing the number of days the advertisement was published, must also be submitted.
- Local Police Certificate of Character no older than **six (6) months**
- Two (2) Updated Character References, dated and signed, no older than **six (6) months.**
- Company’s Certificate of Incorporation

7. When a Work Permit is approved, the duration fee is **TT\$900.00** per month. The **total sum** for the approved period **must be paid before** the Work Permit is processed. While online payment is the preferred method, in-person payments (via cash or certified cheque) addressed to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Homeland Security which takes effect from **October 01, 2025.** This will be accommodated at Temple Court II, 52-60 Abercromby Street, Port of Spain. The receipt of payment must be produced in order to collect the Work Permit. A Work Permit **must be paid** for and collected **within 6 months of the approval date.** **Offline payment receipt/s must be uploaded on the TTBizlink System.**

8. It should be noted **that upon the receipt of the Work Permit, it is the responsibility of the client to visit the Immigration Division to have said Work Permit endorsed in their passport.**

9. When a Work Permit is refused, a letter to this effect is immediately dispatched to the Employer/Attorney. The decision is also uploaded on the TTBizLink System to the client's account. An email is also dispatched to the client utilizing the contact information provided on TTBizLink.

10. Queries and concerns can be directed to eworkpermithelpdesk@mhs.gov.tt or via telephone at **224-4667 extension 18300 and 624-7513**

ENERGY SECTOR APPLICATIONS INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

NAME OF APPLICANTS:

POSITION:

COMPANY:

The following information must be urgently submitted:

1. Detailed resume (including academic certificates) for applicant.
2. Detailed description of applicant.
3. Copies of advertisements for position in the local newspaper/s.
4. Detailed letter/document outlining reasons why understudy requirement must be waived.
5. Name/s of understudy/understudies.
6. Detailed resume (including academic certificates) for understudy/understudies.
7. Detailed job description of understudy/understudies.
8. Description of method used to select understudy/understudies.
9. Detailed description of training programme for understudy/understudies.
(Classroom and on-the-job-training)
10. Competency to be acquired by the understudy/understudies.
11. Time expected for acquiring such competency.
12. Detailed description of the method of assessment/evaluation of the progress of the understudy/understudies with respect to the proposed training proposed.
13. Organizational Chart showing position of applicant and understudy/understudies.
14. Supporting letter/document from the company hiring the applicant outlining in detail reasons for the need for applicant and expected outcomes from the assignment.
15. Copy of valid STCW "95 Certification
16. Copies of valid Marine Licenses.
17. Proof of registration with the Land Survey Board of Trinidad & Tobago. in accordance with the Land Surveyors Act, 1996)
18. Detailed letter/document outlining reasons for extension of Work Permit.
19. Letter/Document outlining reasons why understudy/understudies is/are not yet considered prepared to occupy position.
20. Copies of Assessment/Evaluation of understudy/understudies to be signed by both mentor and understudy.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

1. What should the cover letter entail?

- ❖ Brief history of company on the letter head of the company.
- ❖ Name of the employee and reason for the request of a work permit.
- ❖ Why a national cannot be hired.
- ❖ Duration of work permit.

2. What police certificates of character are accepted?

A Police Certificate of character no older than 6 months or valid up to the expiration date listed in the report must be submitted from the person's country of origin or place(s) of domicile for over six (6) months during the period of five years prior to the date of the application.

Finger print reports cannot be sourced from the internet.

All places of residence captured on the applicants Curriculum Vitae/ Resumé should have a corresponding Police Certificate of Character

*NB- In some countries, for example Colombia and Brazil, applications for police certificates are made via the internet, **however**, the report is issued by the Ministry of National Security agency.*

Finger print searches should be submitted for:

- The United Kingdom and its dependents (*ACRO checks are to be produced.*).
- United States of America (*FBI Report*)
- Canada (*RCMP report states that finger prints were compared*)
- Philippines (*report issued by the Department of Justice, National Bureau of Investigation*)
- Mexico (*Ministry of Interior*)
- Malaysia and Indonesia (*the fingerprint report has the applicant's thumbprint*) and any other country that conducts such searches.

To know:

- European Union (EU) countries do not issue finger print search reports therefore a police certificate from the Ministry of relevant national security agency is accepted.
- Venezuela does not issue fingerprint search reports because all citizens are finger printed when applying for identification cards. The police reports are issued from the Ministry of Popular Power of Interior, Justice and Peace.

- India does not issue fingerprint search reports because all citizens are finger printed when applying for passports. The police reports are issued from the Ministry of External Affairs.

Any countries that are not listed here to provide what the country/countries provide.

3. Who can notarize applicant's documents?

Niherst, COSTAATT, UWI.

4. Does a Director or Owner of a company need to advertise?

No

5. How long does an applicant need to be in the country to provide a Tax Clearance?

Over one hundred and eighty (180) days.

6. How can payments for work permit processing and collection of Work Permits be made?

- ❖ Online via the TTBizlink System.
- ❖ Cash at the **Ministry of Homeland Security**, 52-60 Abercromby Street, Port of Spain.
- ❖ A Certified Cheque made payable to the Permanent Secretary, **Ministry of Homeland Security**.

REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK PERMIT APPLICATIONS

	New	YES	NO
	Cover Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Letter of Authorization from Company	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Application Form	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No older than 6 mths	2 Character References	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Police Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Curriculum Vitae/Resume	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1 Passport Picture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Proof of Qualifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Bio-Data page of Passport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Advertisement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Applicant Immigration Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Certificate of Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Extensions	YES	NO
Cover Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Copy of Work Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tax Clearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bio-Data page of Passport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertisement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police Certificate (T&T)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Updated Character References	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Certificate of Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

File Checked:

Yes ☐ No ☐

Date

Initial

Remarks:

Accepted by