



STARTUPS

STARTUP VISA

WHAT IT IS?

The Startup Visa is a programme of the Portuguese Government that consists on the hosting of citizens of outside the EU who intend to be entrepreneurs and innovate in Portugal, allowing for the grant of residency visas or residence authorization, for them incubate and start-up a business in Portugal.

The program involves Portuguese incubators as entities that host and support entrepreneurial immigrants in the creation and installation of technology-based companies.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The program is applicable to entrepreneurs who wish to incubate and develop their idea and innovative projects in Portugal, with the aim of starting a company in Portugal or by way of transferring the already existing startups in other non-EU countries.

WHEN?

The application can be submitted during the entire calendar year, through an online form, available in the following link:

<https://webapps.iapmei.pt/StartupVisa/VisaEmp/Account/Login.aspx>

The program has the validity of the incubation contract.

WHAT ARE THE REQUISITES?

The Startup Visa Program applies to the foreign entrepreneurs that:

- Do not have permanent residence in the Schengen area;
- Do not have tax or social security debts;
- Do not have a criminal record;
- Have subsistence financial resources for its stay in Portugal.

Thus, entrepreneurs also need to:

- Develop projects and/or companies that are focused on technology, with perspectives of development of innovative goods and services;
- There is an interest declaration from a certified incubator to incubate physically the entrepreneurial project;
- Have the potential to create qualified employment (apart from the entrepreneurs themselves);
- Have the potential to achieve an annual turnover or assets value of more than €325,000 within 5 years after the start of the incubation 's contract.

Whenever the team already have a company in their country of origin and wishes to bring it to Portugal applicants need to demonstrate that:

- The startup was created less than 4 years ago in its origin country;
- The company will develop activity in Portugal;
- Has the potential to create at least 5 new jobs, excluding the entrepreneurs, within 24 months;
- The visa applications have executive functions in the company or voting rights corresponding to at least 10% of the share capital;
- The annual accounts of the company of the last fiscal year before the application show a positive net situation.

HOW IS THE APPLICATION MADE?

The applicant entrepreneurs must first contact the certified incubators whose characteristics and competences better correspond to the needs of their project's development.

Subsequently, IAMPMEI I.P. evaluates the application and the fulfillment of the requisites, issuing a decision on the application within a maximum period of 30 working days after the submission.

If the decision is favorable, the entrepreneur has 40 working days to execute an incubation contract with one of the incubators that has stated its interest, such contract to have written form.

The application must be submitted in Portuguese or in English.

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS NEEDED?

- Letter of motivation, demonstrating the interest in developing an entrepreneurial or innovative project in Portugal;
- Documents demonstrating the compliance with the necessary requirements;
- Presentation of the entrepreneurial project;
- Statement from one or more certified incubators interested in the incubation of the project.

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