



Short term visa in Malaysia (as of August 2019)

1. Introduction

German nationals will obtain a visa on arrival for tourism or business purposes (such as attending meetings, conferences, seminars etc.) for a period of up to 90 days. Nationalities who require a visa prior entering Malaysia, have to apply for a **Short-Term Social Visit Pass** at the respective Malaysian embassy or high commission. Such a pass is issued for the purpose of tourism, business meetings, seminar attendance or sport competitions. Any form of employment in Malaysia is strictly prohibited under a visa on arrival or Short-Term Social Visit Pass.

2. Working in Malaysia

Any form of employment including voluntary work, internships (even non-paid), work in a hotel/resort, repairing/maintaining of machinery, installation, giving training, consultation in Malaysia, giving seminars and lectures in a Malaysian university, and performing as an artist, requires a valid work permit even if the applicant is getting paid by a company in another country. Therefore, the same applies to any service technician and engineer who enters Malaysia in order to repair or maintain engines and stays in the country for a limited period only.

3. Short Term Work Visa: The Professional Visit Pass

For periods up to maximum of 12 months, the inviting party (sponsor/company/university) in Malaysia has to apply for a **Professional Visit Pass (PVP)** with ESD (Expatriate Service Division, Immigration Department) or in case of ICT companies through MDEC (Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation). A Professional Visit Pass is a temporary work permit that enables a foreign knowledge worker (with acceptable professional qualifications or expert knowledge) to enter Malaysia for business and professional visits and provide services or undergo practical training with a Malaysian company on behalf of an overseas company on a temporary basis. The foreign worker is only allowed to work with the company stated in the pass. Minimum duration of a PVP is one month.

After a successful application, the Immigration Department will issue an approval and visa with reference letter. Upon receiving the approval from the Immigration Department, the respective embassy or consulate will issue an appropriate **Single-Entry Visa** which enables the applicant to enter Malaysia for said purpose. Obtaining a Single-Entry Visa is mandatory as it is forbidden to enter the country with a tourist visa under an approved work permit.



4. Requirements to obtain a PVP

- Contract with a company that has been registered with ESD or MDEC **and**
- The foreign worker comes under the following categories of work:
 - Category 1: Expertise transfer / Training / Consultant
 - Category 2: Research
 - Category 3: Internship (has to be relevant for education of applicant)

5. Income tax under a PVP

It is worth stating at this point that an employee under a valid PVP is liable to Malaysian income tax after staying in Malaysia for 60 days or more within one calendar year. The inviting company has to register the employee at LHDN. Since the employee does not receive any salary from the Malaysian company under a PVP, the statutory income tax deduction should be determined on an individual basis.

6. Contact

MGCC can assist you in all matters regarding visa, work permits and their application in Malaysia.

Kindly contact our Corporate Services Department: corporateservices@malaysia.ahk.de.

Disclaimer of liability: This information is intended to provide a general overview on short term visa in Malaysia. No responsibility for loss to any person acting or refraining from acting as a result of any information in this overview can be accepted by Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry.