

# Stay in Belize with a Belize Work Permit

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It is mandatory for you to have a passport in order to visit [Belize](#). The passport should be valid for six months at least beyond the extent of your stay there. On arriving at Belize, you will be given a thirty days visa and an extension up to six months from the [Immigration](#) Office. A fee of \$25 has to be paid every month. The Belizean Embassy needs to be contacted to obtain a visa before going there.

So if you want to stay or get a job at Belize then you need to get a Belize work permit. Getting a Belize work permit isn't that easy because the Belize Labor Department have issued regulations to protect the employment of the Belizeans thereby discouraging non-Belizeans from getting a Belize work permit. The first step in getting a Belize work permit is by purchasing the application form from Angelus Press. A Belize work permit is of two types – application for authorization to employ foreigners and application for short-term self-employment.

Application for authorization to employ foreigners – If you want to work in this city then you have to be a legal resident of Belize for at least six months. You need to have a visa and a Belize work permit from the Immigration Department. The employer of the applicant needs to submit the application form along with the following documents – three passport size photos, valid passport of the applicant, \$20 stamps and proof that the applicant is competent for the job. The foreign applicant will be considered for a Belize work permit only when no suitable national was found competent for the job after advertising the position locally for three weeks at least.

Application for short-term self-employment – This kind of work permit applies to foreign investors. The applicant should be residing in Belize legally. He/she should have a visa and/or a Belize work permit. The applicant needs to provide a local bank account statement to prove that he/she has sufficient funds in his/her account. The applicant has to acquire a reference from the organization or relevant Ministry with which the work of the applicant is concerned. In this case, a mandatory six months residency is waived off. It is assumed that such a venture will help create employment to the Belizeans in near future. The applications have to be presented to the Labor Office in the appropriate district where the applicant intends to work.

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