



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**VISA 308
COMIX 999**

NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Visa Working Party
Subject : Age limits for issuance of individual residence permits to children

Delegations will find attached an overview of Member States' practice for issuing individual residence permits to children (age limits).

Additional information provided by Member States is set out on page 3 - 5.

Member State	Age from which residence permits are issued
BELGIUM	12 years
THE CZECH REPUBLIC	0 year
DENMARK	18 years
GERMANY	0 year
ESTONIA	0 year
GREECE	0 year
SPAIN	0 year
FRANCE	16 years
IRELAND	16 years
ITALY	14 years
CYPRUS	0 year
LATVIA	0 year
LITHUANIA	0-3 months
LUXEMBOURG	0 year
HUNGARY	0-30 days
MALTA	no legally defined age
NETHERLANDS	0 year
AUSTRIA	0 year
POLAND	no legally defined age
PORTUGAL	0-6 months
SLOVENIA	0 year
THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC	0 year
FINLAND	0 year
SWEDEN	0 year
UNITED KINGDOM	0 year
ICELAND	0 year
NORWAY	0 year
SWITZERLAND	0 year
BULGARIA	14 years
ROMANIA	0 year

Norway

All other foreign residents irrespective of age are issued residence permits.(EEA citizens in card format, other foreign residents in sticker format). If a child does not have its own a passport, the sticker is affixed in the passport of the parents.

Sweden

It is compulsory to issue individual residence permits to children

Hungary

Children born by a foreigner holding a Hungarian residence permit must be registered within thirty days of the date of birth and a residence permit is issued automatically. The period of validity of the child's permit will correspond that of his/her parent's.

Latvia

Individual residence permits are issued to all children, irrespective of age.

Estonia

Residence permits may be issued to children from the day they are born. An application for a child under 15 years of age shall be submitted by his/her legal representative - a parent, a guardian or a representative of a guardianship authority.

Luxembourg

Children are issued individual residence permits immediately after birth, if the mother holds a residence permit.

Poland

There is no legally set age limit for issuing the individual residence permits to minors, but it is possible to add the minor's name in his/her parents documents - in such case the decision is upon the interested parents.

Bulgaria

Individual residence permits are issued to long-term and permanent residents from the age of 14.

Italy

Minors residing in Italy, up to the age of 14, have to be enrolled on the residence permit of one or both parents.

Finland

An individual residence permit in sticker form to children of all age will be introduced as of 1.12.2006, at which date Finland will start issuing residence permit stickers with photo. A residence permit sticker with photo is also issued to minors even if they do not have their own passport or other travel document. The stickers will then be affixed to the travel document of one of their parents or other guardian.

Denmark

Only in some cases the Danish authorities issue an individual residence permit (sticker or card) to children. As a main rule a letter is forwarded to the child saying that he/she is allowed residence in Denmark, but that no proof of residence is required until the age of 18.

If a child applies for a residence permit at a Danish mission abroad he/she is granted a residence permit in the form of a sticker. After the expiry of this residence permit the child will get a letter as mentioned above.

If a child applies for a residence permit during his/her stay in Denmark he/she will receive a letter as mentioned above. If the child needs to travel within the Schengen area, the Danish authorities will insert a residence permit sticker in his/her passport.

If a child does not live with his/her parents or custody holder, if the parents have a residence permit because of a specific job, if the parents are refugees, or if the child is granted a residence permit on special grounds, the Danish authorities will issue an individual residence permit sticker or card.

Ireland

Ireland does not operate a system of ID cards for adults or children. In terms of migrant registration it currently register persons aged 16 years and over.

Switzerland

Individual residence permits are issued to children from birth, but photos are only attached to these permits when the child is 2 years old.

Portugal

Individual residence permits are issued to children from the day they are born (including photo and fingerprints). For children born in Portugal the document should be issued within 6 months after the date of birth.

Lithuania

Individual residence permits are issued to children. If a child is born in Lithuania, the parents must apply for a residence permit within 3 months from the date of birth.

Spain

It is compulsory to issue individual residence permits to children from the moment they are born (with their fingerprints on them).

Germany

Children are issued individual residence permits already immediately after birth if the mother possesses a residence permit or settlement permit.

The Netherlands

Individual residence permits are issued from the age of 0 year.

Slovak Republic

The Slovak Republic issues residence permits in the form of a sticker (temporary residence permit) and in the form of the identification of the polycarbonate card (permanent residence permit) to all foreigners.

Iceland

All foreigners (except citizens of the Nordic countries) residing in Iceland are issued their own residence permit, regardless of their age. Minors (under the age of 18) are issued residence permit in accordance with the validity of the parent/custodian's residence permit.

Cyprus

Individual residence permits are issued to minors from the day they are born.

Greece

Individual residence permits are issued to minors without any minimum age limit.

Belgium

Individual residence permit are issued to children from the age of 12. Younger children are issued the same document as Belgian children.

Czech Republic:

There is no age limit for issuing individual residence permits to minors. The maximum validity of residence permits issued to children under 15 is 5 years.

Romania

There is no minimum age for issuing individual residence permits. All residence permits are issued on individual basis, even for small children.

France

Residence permits are issued to foreigners from the age of 18. If a young foreigner wishes to work, a residence permit may be issued from the age of 16.

Malta

In Malta, in so far as immigration legislation is concerned, there is no set limit as regards age for the issue of a residence document in respect of minors (persons who are under eighteen years of age). The said minors are issued with a residence permit (in the form of a sticker) which is affixed in their passport. Where the child is included in his parent's passport it is the policy to request the parent of the said child, who has been authorised to reside in Malta, to have a passport issued in the child's name. Until such time that this document is obtained, the child's residence permit is affixed on the parent's passport.

It is also pertinent to note that persons residing in Malta (Maltese nationals and foreigners) are also required to be in possession of an identity card after six months residence in Malta. However, in accordance with the relative legislation, such identity cards are issued only to persons who are over fourteen years of age.
