

Information regarding Visa and Residence permit application for the purpose of study

If you are going to study in the Netherlands you need a so called MVV (visa). We herewith list the information and documents needed for this application. Please do not come to the Netherlands before the application has been approved and you have the MVV-sticker in your passport, as you will not be allowed to travel into the Netherlands without it. Please do not book your flight until you have the MVV sticker. If you are staying more than four months you will also have to register as an inhabitant at City Hall.

Deadline for application of the visa and residence permit for academic year 2017-2018

The deadline for sending all required documents is 1st July 2017. If documents arrive late or if documents are incomplete, this will cause a delay in the application procedure.

Please note that all documents must be in the English, French, German or Dutch language. If the original is in a different language, an original and certified translation will have to be added.

Requirements

The following general information of the student is required

- Surname.
- First names.
- Date, place and country of birth.
- Civil status (married/single).
- Nationality.
- Full address in native country/country of residence including telephone number and email address.
- City and country where the MVV will be picked up (which embassy or consulate).
- Exact period of study and name of the course (which faculty you will attend).

The following documents are required

- only if you are staying more than 1 year: certified copy of the birth certificate of the student. Please note that a fax or regular copy will not be accepted. It needs to be a certified document with a seal and signature. Please do NOT send this to us but bring it with you when you come, this document is required for the registration at City Hall.
- A copy of your valid passport (page with personal information and pages with visa stickers/stamps).
- for Chinese students (except if you are from Hong Kong): a Nuffic certificate. For more information, please visit <https://www.studyinholland.nl/practical-matters/visas-and-permits/nuffic-certificate-for-chinese-students>
- Signed "Antecedentenverklaring" form (Bo1). **The original is required.**
- The TB declaration form (Bo3).
- Proof that you can support yourself financially (see paragraph *Finances* for more information). **Original documents are required**, copies are not accepted.

We advise you to either upload the documents in the online system (notify us of the uploads) or email them to immigration@zuyd.nl so they can be checked before sending them by registered post.

Fingerprints

As of 1 January 2014 Biometrics has been introduced as a replacement for the Photo Card form. Students who need an visa will have to provide a photograph at the Embassy / Consulate concerned. Students who do not require an visa will have to visit an IND front office after arrival in The Netherlands. Your fingerprints will be taken and a signature is required. This will be used for the production of the residence permit card.

Health care

Please also take into account that health care insurance is obligatory. For more information, please see the document "*health care insurance for international students in The Netherlands*".

Finances

When applying for the visa and residence permit, non-EU/EEA citizens will need to prove that they have enough money to live on while they are in the Netherlands. The monthly amount considered adequate depends on your status. Per 1 January 2017 the minimum amount is 867,68 euro per month (10.413 euro per year) for a student of higher education. Please note that this amount is purely meant for living costs and does not include tuition fees. Sufficient means for the tuition fee payment must be shown separately via a bank statement (not the same as for living costs) or proof of the transfer to Zuyd's bank account. If you have a grant, you can use a grant declaration form as proof of (part of) those finances.

You can show proof of your finances for living costs and payment of tuition fees in several ways:

- You can transfer an amount of € 10.413 + the tuition fee amount to the account of Zuyd University of Applied Sciences. After arrival in The Netherlands and opening a Dutch bank account, the money will be reimbursed. The bank account information is the same as the account for the legal fee.
Please note that it can take a long time before you receive this money back!
- If you have sufficient money in your personal bank account, you have to provide an original statement from the bank, which must meet all of the following requirements:
 - must contain the date the statement was issued.
 - may not be older than 3 months.
 - must contain the address of the bank.
 - it has to be a certified document (with stamps and signatures). If it is in a different language than English or Dutch, you must add a certified translation.
 - must contain your full name.
 - must contain the account number.
 - must contain the balance (amount) and currency.
 - the balance must be freely accessible. Please note: if it doesn't concern a regular checking account, the sentence "balance is freely accessible" or "there are no restrictions in accessing this account" must be on the statement.

Please note that "Certificates of Deposit" are not accepted by IND (Dutch Immigration Authorities) unless it clearly states that the "balance is freely accessible".

Investments are not accepted.

- If you have a sponsor, I need the following documents from him/her:
 - copy of passport or ID card.
 - bank statement which shows sufficient money to support the student for the period concerned. This statement must meet the same requirements as listed above.
 - financial statement (declaration of financial support). Special format available on request.

- If you receive a grant from a specific organization you can make use of the grant declaration form (format available on request).

Costs

The legal fees for the visa and residence permit (€ 317) must be paid in advance to Zuyd University of Applied Sciences. If you do not pay the fee, we can't send the application to IND. Please take into account any bank costs that may be charged.

Bank name: Rabobank
 Bank address: Croeselaan 18, 3521 CB Utrecht
 Beneficiary name: Stichting Zuyd Hogeschool
 Beneficiary address: Nieuw Eyckholt 300, 6419 DJ Heerlen
 Iban code: NL83 RABO 0311 0197 49
 BIC / SWIFT code: RABONL2U
 Amount: as of 1 January 2017: € 317 + any possible bank fees !
 Description: "last name & initials / faculty / student number / MVV & VVR" *

As soon as the payment and all the required information and documents have been received we will send the application to the Dutch Authorities (IND). Because we are able to make use of a special procedure we should receive a letter from IND within 3 weeks regarding the approval (or rejection) of the application.

Picking up the visa

When your visa application is approved we receive a letter from IND which we will forward to you via email. IND also sends a message to the Embassy concerned.

As soon as you receive the visa approval letter please contact the Embassy concerned for an appointment. At the Embassy you have to provide your biometric data.

Please note: not all embassies can provide MVV stickers; in some cases the passport will have to be sent to a back office. If this is the case, it can take up to 2-3 weeks until you have your passport back.

After arrival in The Netherlands

Registration at City Hall - BRP ("Basisregistratie Personen")

Registration as an inhabitant is only required if you are staying more than 4 months (usually exchange students do not have to register). You can't do this until you have confirmation from IND regarding the residence permit application. This letter is sent to the International Office.

We organise central registration sessions for students. You will receive a separate invitation for these sessions.

If you can't take part, you have to make an appointment yourself with the department of "Burgerzaken" at City Hall. For Maastricht the telephone number is 043-3504000. They can be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 - 17:00 hours and on Thursday from 8:00 - 19:00 hours. The address is: Mosae Forum 10 in Maastricht. If you have problems with this, please let us know and we can help you.

You need the following documents for the registration as an inhabitant:

- If you are staying more than 1 year: birth certificate extract: this may not be a copy, but must be an original and certified document! It may not be older than 6 months. Please don't send this document to us ! Bring it with you when you travel.

- identification document (e.g. passport);
- letter from IND which confirms the receipt of the application for your residence permit (as mentioned before this will be forwarded to you by Zuyd University of Applied Sciences).
- In some cases also a copy of the rental agreement of your room or flat.

TB test

For most foreign students a TB test is obligatory. You provide a declaration that you are willing to take this TB test. After arrival you will receive information about the actual test (the Municipal Health Service Organisation takes a photograph of your lungs). The test costs € 45 and can only be paid by bank card (PIN). We organize two central sessions per year. If you can't attend the central sessions, you have to go to Roermond for the test. The information can be provided by email after the visa approval or by visiting our office after arrival in The Netherlands.

Student Counselors

If you experience any problems during your study you can contact one of Zuyd's student counselors. More information is available on request.

Study Progress requirement

As of 1 June 2013 the new "Migration Law" has come into effect. The residence permit will be granted for the entire study period as opposed to for a period of only one year. Consequently study progress reports will have to be sent to IND annually. A minimum of 50% of study credits must be obtained. This also means that it's not possible to switch courses if you have obtained insufficient study credits. (this doesn't apply to exchange students)

Please make sure that once you have your residence permit card, you send a copy (front and back) to the Central Student Administration desk at: bureauinschrijving@zuyd.nl !

This is very important for your enrolment process.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Nicole Lardenoije-Lemmens
Zuyd International Office
P.O. Box 634
6200 AP Maastricht
The Netherlands
Tel. 0031-43-3466487 (direct line)
Fax 0031-43-3466609 (general number)
Email: immigration@zuyd.nl
Office hours: Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday from 8:30 - 12:30.

Visiting address (for carriers that can't deliver to P.O. boxes):

**Brusselseweg 150
6217 HB Maastricht
The Netherlands**