## Guidelines for Foreign National Applying for Residency, Extension of Residency, or Change in Residency Status

Applying Agency:	Service Center
Required Documents:	<ol> <li>Application For ARC and Extension of Stay.</li> <li>A recent, color, uncovered head photo taken within the last two (2) years (following the same specifications as a national ID photo).</li> <li>Original and photocopy of passport and visitor visa (original to be returned after verification).</li> <li>Original and photocopy of relevant supporting documents for the purpose of application:         <ul> <li>Proof of enrollment, registration certificate (proof of enrollment must demonstrate a minimum of four (4) months of study and continuous registration for at least three (3) months, with a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of classes per week from Monday to Friday), and attendance records (absences, including leave, must not exceed one-fourth of the total class hours). The residence permit validity period will be issued based on the duration of the proof of enrollment, with a maximum validity period of one (1) year for the Alien Resident Certificate (ARC), and the total extension of the residence period should not exceed two (2) years as a general rule.</li> </ul> </li></ol>
Application Fees:	1. Applicants for residence, extension of residence, and change of residence purpose: NTD 1,000 for one-year validity, NTD 2,000 for two-year validity,

	NTD 3,000 for three-year validity, NTD 4,000 for
	four-year validity, and NTD 5,000 for five-year
	validity.
	2. For reissuance, replacement, and registration of
	data changes: NTD 500 (requires reissuing of the
	certificate).
	Ten (10) working days (excluding the time for
Processing Time:	document return, supplementation, and interview).
	Applicants with incomplete or insufficient documents
	must rectify the issue within fifteen (15) days from
	the day of notification. For those who need to apply
	from overseas, mainland China, Hong Kong, or
	Macau, the rectification period is extended to three
	(3) months. Failure to rectify or incomplete
	rectification by the deadline will result in the rejection
	of the application. After rectification, the processing
	time will be recalculated, starting from the date of
	resubmission, with a duration of ten (10) working
	days.
Notes:	1. For the first issuance of the Alien Resident
	Certificate (ARC) for foreign spouses or for
	changes in residence status due to marriage, when
	applying for a family reunion, the presence of the
	ROC spouse is required. A one-year validity ARC
	will be issued. The application should be
	submitted to the service center of the NIA at the
	applicant's current place of residence.
	residence visa must apply for an Alien Resident
	Certificate (ARC) within thirty (30) days from
	the day following their entry into the ROC. Those

- who fail to apply as required shall be subject to a fine according to the law.
- 3. Applications for extending residence should be submitted within three (3) months prior to the expiration of the residence period.
- 4. In the event that a foreign national changes his/her resident address or his/her place of employment during the period of his/her residence, he/she shall apply to the NIA for registering the change within thirty (30) days, calculating from the next day of the occurrence of the event. Those who fail to apply as required shall be subject to a fine according to the law.
- 5. Any ROC national residing in the Taiwan Area with a registered household, who has entered the ROC with a foreign passport and is applying for residency or an extension of residency, shall first apply to a household registration office for household de-registration. Applications from individuals who are either approaching the age of mandatory military service or are already of military service age, but do not possess proof of exemption or residency endorsement in their ROC passport, or who have resided in Taiwan for over a year as overseas compatriot military conscripts, subject mandatory or are to conscription but have not fulfilled their military service obligation, and are subject to travel restrictions, will not be processed.
- 6. Applicants who are unable to obtain a new Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) due to changes in

their residence status before the expiration of their original residence permit must depart within the specified period. Applicants for changing their residence status for reasons not covered under Article 23 of the Act must first consult with the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, obtain the relevant residence visa, and then reapply for an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC).

- 7. Upon approval of the change in residence status, the duration of residence will be reassessed accordingly.
- 8. Pursuant to the proviso in Paragraph 2 of Article 23 of the Act, applicants whose spouses are foreign migrant workers residing in the ROC are not eligible to apply for a change in residence status.
- 9. According to Article 8 of the Act for Foreign Professionals, foreign nationals designated as specific professionals and permitted to reside by the NIA are granted a residence permit with a maximum validity of five (5) years from the day of approval. If there is a need for continued residence upon expiration, an extension of up to five (5) years can be applied for before the expiration of the residence period, without being subject to the restrictions stipulated in Paragraph 3 of Article 22, and Paragraph 2 of Article 31 of the Act. The same applies to the validity period and extension period of the residence permit for the spouses of such foreign professionals, their

- minor children, and adult children with physical or mental disabilities who are unable to live independently, as permitted by the NIA.
- 10. According to Article 10 and Article 11 of the Regulations, the validity period of the residence permit for applicants applying for an extension of residency is as follows:
  - a. According to Article 10 of the Regulations, applicants may apply for an extension of six (6) months; if necessary, they may apply for one more extension, with a maximum total extension period of one (1) year. The same applies to their spouse, children under the age of eighteen (18), and adult children aged eighteen (18) who are unable to live independently due to physical or mental disabilities.
  - b. According to Article 11 of the Regulations, applicants may apply for an extension of one (1) year; if necessary, they may apply for one more extension, with a maximum total extension period of two (2) years. The same applies to their spouse, children under the age of eighteen (18), and adult children aged eighteen (18) who are unable to live independently due to physical or mental disabilities.
- 11. Applicants attending non-formal educational programs for study purposes (limited to research-oriented programs, overseas compatriot students in special programs, excluding theological students and Mandarin language center students) may submit a completion certificate and apply to

- the NIA for an extension of residence, with a maximum extension period not exceeding three (3) months.
- 12. Foreign nationals who have overstayed their residence permit for less than thirty (30) days and whose original reason for residence still exists may reapply for residency with the NIA after being penalized according to the Act.

\*For the updated information, please refer to their website directly:

https://www.immigration.gov.tw/