



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

RE-MIGRATING TO GUYANA

All you need to know about re-migrating to Guyana!



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The Re-migrant Scheme of the Government of Guyana is administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation in conjunction with the Guyana Revenue Authority. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation is responsible for determining and granting re-migrant status while the Guyana Revenue Authority administers the tax exemptions.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

All you need to know about re-migrating to Guyana

» Who is a qualifying re-migrant?

(a) A Guyanese citizen who is eighteen (18) years and above, who has been residing legally overseas for a minimum of five (5) consecutive years and is now returning to reside in Guyana.
(b) A Guyanese graduate who has completed their studies at an institution abroad and resided overseas for a minimum of three
(3) years and is now returning to Guyana to reside.

» Where applications for re-migration status should be made?

Applications must be submitted in person to the Diaspora Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & international cooperation

Address: "Takuba Lodge" <u>254 South Road & Shiv Chanderpaul</u> Drive Georgetown

Telephone number: (592) 226-1606-8 ext. 339/340

Email: remigration@minfor.gov.gy

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» When should applications be submitted?

Applications must be submitted within the first six (6) months of re-assuming residence in Guyana.

» What are the documents that must accompany the application?

1. A current Passport which must be at least five years old. If the passport is less than five (5) years old, then a previous passport must be submitted.

2. In the case of students who are returning, evidence from the University, College or Educational Institution confirming completion and duration of the course of study or time spent at the institution.

3. Documentary evidence of how the potential re-migrant intends to earn a livelihood in Guyana to re-establish permanent stay.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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» What are the documents that must accompany the application?

4. A Statutory Declaration, which must be sworn by a Justice of Peace or Commissioner of Oaths to Affidavits in Guyana and which must include the following:

(a) That the items for which exemptions are sought are for personal and domestic use and not for sale or exchange.

(b) Whether the re-migrant has previously/never enjoyed tax exemptions.

(c) The model, year and the engine capacity of the vehicle for which exemptions are being sought. Please <u>click here</u> for more information

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» What are the documents that must accompany the application?

(d) That the re-migrant shall reside in Guyana for three (3) years cumulatively in the case of a used vehicle, or five years cumulatively in the case of a new vehicle failing which exemptions granted become immediately payable in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Act.

(e) A list of items for which exemptions are sought must be attached to the statutory declaration.

5. Two passport size photographs.

6. Registration, Certificate of Title or another form of proof of ownership of a vehicle.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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» What are the exemptions given?

The Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) is the entity mandated to determine the exemptions to be given.

Exemption from duty and Value Added Tax (VAT) however usually are given on the following:

(a) A reasonable quantity of personal effects

(b) A reasonable quantity of household effects including

domestic and electrical appliances.

(c) A limited amount of tools of trade

(d) 1 Motor Vehicle, 1 Motorcycle and 1 leisure boat that are owned by the re-migrant. Documentary evidence must be provided as noted below:

- The applicant must present the Registration, Certificate of Title or other form of proof of ownership of vehicle from the country where re-migrant resided to confirm that vehicle was owned by applicant.

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Please note that applicants are no longer required to own a motor vehicle for at least six (6) months prior to returning, in fact, re-migrants have the option of importing a new vehicle or purchasing a motor vehicle in Guyana.

Please also note effective October 1, 2020 and resulting from the 2020 budgetary measures, imports of vehicles over 8 years old will be allowed to enter Guyana.

For more information please contact :

Tax Advisory Services Section Communications & Tax Advisory Services Division <u>Guyana Revenue Authority</u> <u>200-201 Camp Street</u> <u>Georgetown</u> <u>Guyana</u>

Tel: 227-6060, 227-8222 Ext: 1201-1204 Email: <u>gravat@gra.gov.gy</u> Website: <u>www.gra.gov.gy</u>



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» Conditions that must be satisfied where exemptions are granted:

- The re-migrant must reside in Guyana for three (3) years cumulatively in the case of a used vehicle, or five years cumulatively in the case of a new vehicle failing which exemptions granted become immediately payable in accordance with the Customs Act.
- That the re-migrant must reside at least 183 days for each year until the three year or five year period has expired.
- During the three and five year periods, the re-migrant cannot transfer, lease, sell, gift or otherwise assign or dispose of the motor vehicle in respect of which the exemption is granted.

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» How long does it take to process an application for re-migrant status?

Applications submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation will be processed within 21 working days provided that all the necessary information is submitted.

It should be noted that the approval from the Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation signifies that the applicant meets the requirements of a qualifying re-migrant. However, the duty-free concessions are determined by the Guyana Revenue Authority following an examination of the documents submitted and an interview with the re-migrant.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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» How long is the approval letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation valid for?

The approval letter is valid for six months.



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List of Documents Required

LIST OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED



Copies of the bio-data page and all stamped pages of your current passport, if the current passport is less than five years old, then applicants must submit their previous passport.

Applicants who are unable to produce their previous passport must request their travel records for the last five (5) years from the Guyana Passport Office and produce evidence of legal residency in the country they reside, these documents include: citizenship certificate, tax returns, permanent residency card and/documentation from the Immigration Department of the said country stating your legal residency.

For prospective applicants in the Caribbean, they must submit evidence of legal residence in the country they are presently residing in, which includes CSME Certificates, work permits, permanent residency certificates etc.



LIST OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED



Original and copy of the Statutory Declaration from a Justice of Peace or a Commissioner of Oaths in Guyana.

- Copy of documentation proving that you are coming to resettle in Guyana, e.g. Transport, Lease, rent receipt, business licence, etc.
- If you are a disabled or a substantive pensioner, a pension letter, Bus Pass, Medical letter or Social Security card must be provided.
 - If you are a student, copy of certificate, a student card and a letter from the University attended covering the duration of study must be provided.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED



Copy of motor vehicle, motorcycle or boat for leisure Registration, Certificate of Title or other form of ownership must be provided if necessary.

Intentions of purchasing a new vehicle must be stated in the Statutory Declaration or a copy of a Quotation for the vehicle must be submitted.



A detailed list of household and personal effects, which must be itemized and quantified.



Two passport size photographs.



Copy of Tax Identification Number certificate (TIN).



Copy of Birth Certificate.



LIST OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED



In the case of a name change, copy of a deed poll or a marriage certificate. Two copies of each document must be submitted to the Re-migration Office.

All documents that are not in English must be translated and certified by a creditable organisation.

For more information on the Re-migrant Scheme contact us via

<u> remigration@minfor.gov.gy</u>



