

Call in for a Coffee

RSM Nelson Wheeler, Thailand

Edition No 12

September 2003

Introduction

Welcome to RSM's 12th Edition of "Call in for a Coffee". This edition, focuses on the recent increases in Thai visa and immigration fees and the upcoming immigration regulations introduced by the Immigration Bureau on 26th August, 2003 and those proposed to be introduced on 10th July 2004.

Changes in the Immigration Bureau's Fee Rate

Whether applying for a visa extension, re-entry permit, residence permit or other immigration services, after 26 August 2003, foreigners visiting or living in Thailand will be required to pay large increased official fees at immigration offices, in accordance with Thai Ministerial Regulation No.27 (B.E.2546) which was issued by the Immigration Act B.E.2522 on the following basis :-

	Old fees (THB)	New fees (THB)
1. Visa		
1.1 Transit	200	800
1.2 Tourist visa	300	1,000
1.3 Non-immigrant visa		
a. for single use	500	2,000
b. for multiple use within one year	1,000	5,000
c. for multiple use within three years by a person holding a passport or substitute document issued by a member of the Economic Cooperation (APEC) and entering the Kingdom for business purposes	1,000	5,000
1.4 Immigrant visa	500	1,900
1.5 Non-quota immigrant visa		
a. for single use	500	1,900
b. for multiple use within one year	1,000	3,800

	Old fees (THB)	New fees (THB)
2. Appeal submission pursuant to Section 22 (where a person is found to have prohibited trait (s))	500	1,900
3. Application for extension of temporary stay in the Kingdom	500	1,900
4. Appeal submission pursuant to Section 36 (where a permit is revoked)	500	1,900
5. Application for re-entry permit		
a. for single entry	500	1,000
b. for multiple entries	1,000	3,800
6. Application for residence	2,000	7,600
7. Residence certificate		
a. Residence certificate for head of family (TM 16 Form)	50,000	191,400
If the applicant for a residence certificate is a spouse or a minor child of a foreigner having residence in the Kingdom or a Thai national	25,000	95,700
b. Residence certificate where an existing residence certificate (TM 16 Form) has expired	25,000	95,700
8. Endorsement	500	1,900
9. Residence Certificate (M 15 Form)	5,000	19,000
10. Document issued under Section 52 where an existing residence certificate (TM 17 Form) is damaged or lost	500	1,900
11. Application for proof of nationality	200	800

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Changes in the Immigration Bureau's provisions

In a related action, the Immigration Bureau has approved a new regulation governing the requirements for qualifying for extensions of visas. At present it is planned to implement this regulation in July 2004, and the main proposed clauses are as follows :-

New Minimum Wage Requirements for Foreigners

Companies must increase the monthly wages of foreign employees to new minimum rates which vary according to nationality, and are summarised as follows :-

- Japanese, US and Canadians Citizens will increase from Baht 40,000 to Baht 60,000
- Europeans and Australians will increase from Baht 35,000 to Baht 50,000
- South Koreans, Taiwanese, Singaporeans and Hong Kong Citizens will increase from Baht 35,000 to Baht 45,000
- Malaysians will increase from Baht 30,000 to Baht 45,000
- Indians and people from the Middle East will increase from Baht 30,000 to Baht 35,000
- Mainland Chinese, Indonesians and Filipinos will increase from Baht 25,000 to Baht 35,000
- Burmese, Laotians, Vietnamese, Cambodians and Africans will increase from Baht 20,000 to Baht 25,000
- Wages of Journalists working for newspapers (wages of journalists working for magazines and other media types are also categorized by nationalities) will increase from Baht 12,000 to Baht 20,000

Note: *These rates and other regulations will be reported on in later editions of "Call in for a Coffee". However, kindly note that they do not apply to teachers.*

RSM News – Important

We have been reliably informed that the Thai Revenue Department has recently become more proactive despatching Investigative Teams to review Companies for breaches of the Revenue Code. Whilst the tax audits are mainly random, it is important that Companies seek to "**put their houses in order**".

RSM Tax Consulting is headed by Steven Herring who has many years experience and successful dealings with the Thai Revenue Department representing both international and local based overseas companies.

Free consultation

If you have financial, legal or other problems **particularly relating to tax issues** that require innovative solutions, please contact the RSM team and "Call in for a Coffee" for a free consultation.

Contact Details

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