

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS**

#### **Eligibility**

1. Foreign students who are studying in Singapore may submit an application for permanent residence (PR) to the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) for consideration. They must have resided in Singapore for more than 2 years at the point of application, have passed at least one national exam (i.e. PSLE or GCE 'N'/'O'/'A' levels) or are in the Integrated Programme (IP).

#### **Application**

2. Submission of PR application is done via the Electronic Permanent Residence (e-PR) system. When completing the online application form, "NA" must be keyed in for fields that are not applicable.

3. You are highly encouraged to refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Step-by-Step guide at the e-PR homepage for more information before proceeding with the PR submission. Incomplete and insufficient information / documents may result in non-acceptance of the application.

#### **Photograph of Applicant(s)**

4. One passport-sized digital, colour photograph of each applicant to be uploaded during the submission of supporting documents.

5. Photo Guidelines:

- 35mm wide by 45 mm high without border and taken within the last 3 months;
- Taken against a plain white background with a matt or semi-matt finish;
- 400 by 514 pixels image size;
- Taken full face without headgear, unless the applicant habitually wears a headgear in accordance with religious or racial customs. The headgear must not hide the applicant's facial features;
- Facial image must be between 25 mm and 35 mm from chin to crown; and
- JPEG image format

#### **Occupation / Industry**

6. When completing the offline application form, please input a keyword and click 'Search' in order to search for the correct option under the list. If there is no exact match, applicant may wish to choose the best option available. Please refer to Appendix A for the full list of available occupations and industries.

#### **Translated Documents**

7. Documents not in English must be translated. ICA accepts:

- (i) Translations provided by the embassy of the country that issued the document
- (ii) Translations produced by a notary public in Singapore or the country that issued the document
- (iii) Privately created translations attested by the embassy of the country that issued the document, or notarised by a notary public in Singapore or the country that issued the document.

8. Please refer to the attached Document List for details on the required documents.

#### **Declaration**

9. Declaration forms, one set each for the applicant and parent (if applicable), are required to be downloaded and printed after login to e-PR system. The signed declaration form must be uploaded via the e-PR system during the submission of supporting documents.

10. All information furnished in the form must be complete, accurate and verifiable. You may be required to provide additional information and documents if necessary.

## National Service Liability

11. Under the Enlistment Act, all male Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents, unless exempted<sup>1</sup> are required to serve National Service (NS). Following the completion of full-time NS, they will be required to serve up to 40 days of Operationally Ready National Service (ORNS) per year for the duration of their ORNS training cycle till the age of 50 years (for officers) or 40 years (for other ranks).

12. **Main applicants who are granted PR status as a Foreign Student or under their parents' sponsorship are required to register for NS upon reaching 16 ½ years old and will be scheduled for enlistment at the earliest opportunity upon reaching 18 years old.** Deferment from NS for university studies, regardless of whether such studies have begun, will **not** be granted. Those who are pursuing full-time GCE 'A' Level or Polytechnic Diploma studies (or equivalent) may be granted deferment if they meet the deferment conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Defence. **All male applicants are required to access [www.cmpb.gov.sg](http://www.cmpb.gov.sg) for information on NS deferment, pre-enlistment process and Exit Permit requirements, before proceeding with this application.**

13. Males who are granted Singapore PR, and who were previously Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents, are liable to be called up for NS regardless of the scheme under which their PR status was granted.

14. Renouncing or losing one's PR status without serving or completing full-time NS would have an adverse impact on any immediate or future applications to work, study or live in Singapore, or for Singapore citizenship or PR status. Renouncing or losing one's PR status without serving or completing full-time NS may also adversely affect any immediate or future applications for renewal of Re-entry Permits made by one's family members or sponsors.

15. For further enquiries, please contact:

Central Manpower Base  
Email: [contact@ns.sg](mailto:contact@ns.sg)  
Contact no(s): 1800-3676767 (local) or  
65-65676767 (overseas)

## Important Notes

16. The grant of permanent residence does not exempt an individual from registration with the relevant professional bodies or any other statutory conditions as required by legislation governing the regulation of their professions (e.g. doctors, lawyers, etc.).

17. Ex-Singapore Citizens and Ex-Singapore PRs who have withdrawn their CPF monies would have to refund the full CPF amount withdrawn if their PR application is approved. **A letter of clearance from CPF Board is required for completion of PR formalities.** For further enquiries please contact the CPF Board via the following avenues:

CPF Service Centres  
(you may visit [www.cpf.gov.sg](http://www.cpf.gov.sg) for the addresses of the five Service Centres and their operating hours)  
Contact number: 1800-2271188  
Email: [closing-account@cpf.gov.sg](mailto:closing-account@cpf.gov.sg)

18. You should inform ICA promptly via the e-PR system should you change your residential address before the outcome of your application is known, otherwise you will not receive important letters relating to the application.

19. ICA collects personal information to administer immigration and registration functions in Singapore. We may share necessary data with other Government agencies (or non-Government entities authorized to carry out specific Government services) so as to process any applications you made or to render you a service, to serve you in the most efficient and effective way, unless such sharing is prohibited by law.

## Enquiries on PR Application

20. Applicants may enquire the status of their PR application via iEnquiry (<https://ienquiry.ica.gov.sg>) or use the "Enquire Application Status" function in the e-PR homepage.

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<sup>1</sup> Male applicants who are granted PR status under the Professionals/Technical Personnel and Skilled Workers Scheme or the Investor Scheme are exempted from NS.

**Warning**

If you knowingly and wilfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document in relation to any application, action will be instituted against you and you will be denied all immigration facilities. In addition, you will face severe penalties provided by the law.

## **DOCUMENT LIST FOR PR APPLICATION (FOREIGN STUDENTS)**

**IMPORTANT!** Please ensure that all the required documents are submitted within **7 days/ 168 hours** from the time you start the online application. Incomplete submission will result in non-acceptance of the application during e-PR submission. **Official translations are required if documents are not in English.**

- A1. Valid travel document with valid Immigration Pass and passport pages showing personal particulars and official descriptions;
- A2. Identity card (if applicable);
- A3. Birth certificate or official household census list or family register showing both parents' name;
- A4. Deed Poll or change of name certificate (if applicable);
- A5. Highest educational certificates (including all tertiary qualifications), transcripts, professional license/membership certificates and vocational trade certificates;
- A6. Your parents' valid travel documents and passport pages showing personal particulars and official descriptions;