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## **AIRPORT TRANSIT** **(TYPE A – TRANSIT)**

A type A airport transit visa allows you to wait for a connecting flight in the international area of the airport. This visa does not grant access to the Schengen area. Only some nationalities require an airport transit visa.

### **Documents to be submitted (original + 1 copy of every original; passport: copy of identity page + every previous visa and stamps):**

- 1) A valid national passport** / travel document in which a visa can be affixed. This travel document must be valid for three months longer than the visa, have at least 2 empty pages and have been issued maximum 10 years ago;
- 2) A visa application form** correctly completed, signed and accompanied by 1 recent passport **photograph** bearing a true likeness to the applicant.(white or cream background);
- 3) Proof of reservation return ticket.** Only when your visa has been approved, will you be asked to submit your paid-for return ticket;
- 4) A valid entry visa** for the country of destination.

## **TRANSIT THROUGH THE SCHENGEN AREA** **(TYPE C – TRANSIT)**

A type C short-stay Schengen transit visa allows you to stay for a few days in the Schengen area, prior to travelling onwards to a country located outside the borders of the Schengen area.

### **Documents to be submitted (original + 1 copy of every original; passport: copy of identity page + every previous visa and stamps):**

- 1) A valid national passport** / travel document in which a visa can be affixed. This travel document must be valid for three months longer than the visa, have at least 2 empty pages and have been issued maximum 10 years ago;
- 2) A visa application form** correctly completed, signed and accompanied by 1 recent passport **photograph** bearing a true likeness to the applicant.(white or cream background);
- 3) A valid entry visa** for the country of destination;
- 4) Proof of a hotel reservation** or a letter of invitation;
- 5) Proof of sufficient means of subsistence** for the duration of the stay (e.g. cheques and credit cards accepted in Belgium, a sponsorship form, an employment contract, bank statements, proof of enrolment on the trade register and/or of professional activity);
- 6) In case of official mission or business:** mission statement has to clearly mention transit via Belgium;
- 7) Proof of reservation return ticket.** Only when your visa has been approved, will you be asked to submit your paid-for return ticket;
- 8) Proof of a valid Overseas Medical Insurance** with a minimum cover of 30.000 euro, valid for all Schengen countries and covering all urgent medical treatments and/or urgent hospital admissions and repatriation;

**9)** Documents showing that you intend to leave Belgium or the Schengen area before your visa expires (e.g. proof of financial means in the country of residence, proof of employment, proof of real estate property, proof of family ties in the country of residence).

**Important:**

1. Visa fee has to be paid when your file is submitted and is non-refundable even when you cancel your trip or when the visa is refused. Visa fee is 60 euro to be paid in fcfa. No other fee will be asked for submitting an application unless for legalizing official documents.
2. A decision is taken within 15 days but can be extended to 30 days and exceptionally to 60 days. Purpose of travel and duration cannot be changed after submission of the documents unless you make a new application.
3. If you transit through more than 1 airport in the Schengen area (e.g. Amsterdam and Brussels) before taking your flight to your end destination, you will need to apply for a visa type C, even if you don't leave the airport. A multiple transit visa will only be granted if the need for such a visa has been proven.
4. Only applicants resident in Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Ghana can submit their file at the Embassy. Files for non-residents will be submitted to our Ministry for decision.
5. Minors travelling alone or with persons other than their parents require a statement of authorization to travel signed by both parents or by a legal guardian. This statement must be authenticated by the local authorities.
6. The documents listed above are only the basic documents to be submitted in all cases. Additional documents may be requested by the Embassy and applicants could also be invited for an interview.  
When your visa has been approved you will be asked to submit a return ticket and travel insurance + **copy**. Please take into account that when you submit these documents, the visa will be issued within 48 hours during the working week and not the same day.
7. Your real purpose of travel should be as stated on your form. Otherwise your visa could be refused.
8. All documents should be submitted by the applicant. The Embassy only received confidential documents for the file.
9. Enquiries about your file can be done with your visa file number via email. You can also consult the following website: [www.dofi.fgov.be](http://www.dofi.fgov.be)

*The fact that you have been issued an entry visa for Belgium or the Schengen area does not give you an absolute guarantee that you will be allowed to enter the Schengen area. The authorities involved in border control can refuse entry when for example you cannot proof your purpose of travel and/or if you do not have sufficient financial means on you.*

Please consult the following link

<https://dofi.ibz.be/sites/dvzoe/FR/Pages/Ouenestmademandedevisa.aspx> when your application has been submitted to the Foreigners Department of the FPS Home Affairs. Please enter your visa file number and where you submitted your file –Abidjan– and it will give you the status of your file. If necessary you can contact the helpdesk of the Foreigners Department by phone (+ 32 2 793 80 00) or by e-mail ([infodesk@ibz.fgov.be](mailto:infodesk@ibz.fgov.be)).