

VisaTech application in five steps

VISATECH PROGRAM

This initiative seeks to facilitate the process of obtaining a visa, with a focus on advanced human capital in the area of global services. The Program can be used by both those who set up companies in this field and the employees they hire. It has special requirements and offers a fast-track service through which a visa can be obtained in approximately 15 business days.

Visas obtained through the Program can be of two types: “subject to contract” and “temporary”. In the case of overseas companies¹, the application must be managed by InvestChile while, in the case of local companies, applications should be filed with the Undersecretariat of Economy. If a company is supported by Start-Up Chile, it manages the application.

WHY WAS VISATECH CREATED?

Through its promotion strategy for Exportable Technology Services, InvestChile detected a need to attract highly qualified talent from overseas to:

- A. Use in the implementation of international investment projects in the exportable technological services sector;
- B. Incorporate into the expansion projects of international companies present in Chile, attended by InvestChile;
- C. Fill the gaps that may exist in international companies in the sector, attended by InvestChile, because the skills they need are not necessarily available in Chile in the quantity or quality required.

STEP 1: REGISTERING THE COMPANY

- I. The first requirement is to register as an overseas company in the technology services sector by sending an e-mail to icandia@investchile.gob.cl, attaching the following documents:
 1. Copy of the company’s deeds;
 2. Tax number (RUT) and the company’s field of activity as registered with the National Tax Service (SII);

The company will then receive an e-mail indicating whether it is eligible to use VisaTech. Finally, the company must:

¹ An overseas company is understood as a company in which foreign capital accounts for at least a 10% stake.

3. Send an e-mail with a power to represent it before InvestChile in order to appoint the counterparty for the purpose of obtaining the visa.

STEP 2: ELIGIBILITY OF THE PROFILE

- II. The profile of the applicant's post is analyzed to determine its eligibility. For this, it is necessary to send an e-mail with the following documents:
 1. Updated CV;
 2. Description of the profile of the post (responsibilities, IT skills required);
 3. IT degree and/or certificates².

An e-mail will then be sent indicating whether the applicant is eligible to use VisaTech.

STEP 3: LETTER OF INVITATION

- III. Request for a Letter of Invitation for Business Purposes: Send an e-mail with the following documents³:
 1. Identity card;
 2. Passport;
 3. Letter from the company indicating the applicant's pre-selection;
 4. Certificate of criminal record⁴.

At this stage, InvestChile will issue a letter of invitation. If the applicant is from a country for which a consular tourist visa is required, this must be requested online, attaching the letter of invitation, through the following website: <https://tramites.minrel.gov.cl/>.

When the applicant has entered Chile as a tourist, the VisaTech application can be submitted.

STEP 4: REQUEST FOR VISATECH

- IV. Once the two parties – the company and the employee – confirm the hiring conditions, a VisaTech can be requested by sending an e-mail with the following documents:
 1. Visa Application Form (subject to contract or temporary);
 2. Migration Card;
 3. Contract signed by both parties before a notary⁵;
 4. Consular Tourist Visa⁶;

² It is not necessary for the degree to be duly legalized or certified.

³ This part of the process applies only to overseas citizens who are not in Chile and not to those in Chile as tourists or in any other migratory capacity.

⁴ In the case of citizens of Colombia, Peru and the Dominican Republic, this must be certified.

⁵ In the case of a Temporary Visa, a work contract is not required, providing the applicant is a shareholder or partner in the company or its owner. It is necessary to provide a copy of the company's deeds.

⁶ Only if the applicant entered Chile with a Consular Tourist Visa.

5. Certified Certificate of Criminal Record⁷.

If visas for dependents are requested, the documents indicated in point IV⁸ must be attached for each one of them and, in addition:

1. Certified or duly legalized birth certificate (children);
2. Certified or duly legalized wedding certificate (wife);
3. Declaration of notary costs in Chile.

STEP 5: SUBMISSION OF VISA REQUEST

Once the VisaTech application has been submitted, a message will be sent requesting presentation of the physical documents listed in point IV. They must be sent in a sealed envelope to InvestChile's offices (Ahumada 11, Floor 12, Santiago, Chile) for their presentation to the Department for Overseas Citizens and Migrants (DEM).

When a visa has already been requested, an invoice for the work permit will be issued. This can be paid at any commercial bank and must be immediately scanned and sent to jcandia@investchile.gob.cl in order to obtain the special work card.

The visa approval process can be tracked on <http://consultas.extranjeria.gob.cl/index.action>

Once this shows that a visa has been approved, it is necessary to review the documents available online. They will include a coupon for payment of the visa. It can be paid at any commercial bank.

Finally, the company is responsible for booking an appointment to have the visa stamped by the DEM. This marks completion of the process.

If you have any queries, please immediately contact Juan Pablo Candia on jcandia@investchile.gob.cl and ask for your VisaTech.

⁷ Applies only to citizens of Colombia, Peru and the Dominican Republic. In the case of citizens of Peru, the criminal record certificate for migratory purposes is issued by the Peruvian Consulate in Chile.

⁸ Except for the legalized contract and, in the case of under-18s, the criminal record certificate.