



**Consulate General of Italy
Lagos**

ENTRY VISA FOR “SELF-EMPLOYMENT” (V.S.U. OR V.N.)

The self-employment visa allows entry into Italy, for a short or long stay, either fixed-term or indefinite, to foreigners intending to carry out professional or work activities of a non-subordinate nature, pursuant to Article 26 of Legislative Decree no. 286/1998.

The issuance of new entry visas is reserved for the following categories of workers:

1. Entrepreneurs engaged in activities of interest to the Italian economy;
2. Freelance professionals;
3. Partners and administrators of non-cooperative companies;
4. Artists of clear international fame and high professional qualification, engaged by public or private entities;
5. Artisans from non-EU countries who contribute financially to investments made by their citizens in Italy.

To apply for the visa, the following must be submitted:

1. Application form;
2. One recent ICAO-format photo;
3. Valid passport with an expiry date at least 3 months beyond the duration of stay for visa type C, or 15 months for visa type D;
4. Recently issued authorization (Nulla Osta) from the Police Headquarters;
5. Proof of sufficient financial resources in Italy;
6. Contract of purchase or lease of property;
7. Proof of income above the minimum level required for exemption from healthcare cost contributions;
8. Travel health insurance valid for the entire visa period, with minimum coverage of €30,000 for emergency hospitalization and repatriation expenses (only for Schengen visas).

The issuance of a self-employment visa for partners and administrators of companies or holders of contracts for self-employment services may occur only if the destination company in Italy has been active in the country for at least 3 years, as shown by the Chamber of Commerce certificate. For applicants intending to carry out entrepreneurial, commercial, or artisanal activities, the visa is subject to the presentation of certification issued by the competent Chamber of Commerce, identifying the necessary resources for the activity, which the applicant must possess in Italy. These declarations, certifications, or substitute documentation, together with the Police Headquarters authorization, must be submitted to the competent Italian diplomatic-consular representation for visa issuance.

For verification of requirements, the non-EU worker must demonstrate suitable accommodation and an annual income from lawful sources above the minimum level required by law for exemption from healthcare cost contributions, or provide equivalent guarantees from institutions or citizens legally residing in Italy.

Applicants must be informed of the impossibility of carrying out their activity for a client other than the one for whom the visa was issued, and of the impossibility of converting the residence permit for other reasons.

ATTENTION: The above list of documents should be considered indicative for applicants. The Consulate reserves the right to carry out further checks depending on the case and to request additional documentation.