

Singapore Permanent Residence (PR) Application: A Comprehensive Guide

Singapore Permanent Residence (PR) offer eligible foreigners the opportunity to reside in Singapore on a more permanent basis. However, the grant of PR status is subject to an assessment by the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) and meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee that an application will be approved.

1. Singapore PR Eligibility Requirements

Under the current ICA requirements, foreigners may be eligible to apply for PR if they fall within one of the following categories:

- (1) Spouse of a Singapore Citizen or PR;
- (2) Unmarried child below 21 years old, born within the context of a legal marriage to, or legally adopted by, a Singapore Citizen or PR;
- (3) Aged parent of a Singapore Citizen who is at least 21 years old;
- (4) Holder of an Employment Pass or S Pass;
- (5) Student studying in Singapore who meets the applicable examination or Integrated Programme (IP) requirements; or
- (6) Foreign investor in Singapore under the applicable Global Investor Programme.

The applicable submission procedure and sponsoring requirements differ depending on the applicant's category.

2. Factors Considered in PR Application Assessment

PR applications are assessed by ICA on a case-by-case basis. ICA has stated that it considers various factors, including:

- (1) Family ties to Singapore Citizens;
- (2) Economic contributions;
- (3) Educational and professional qualifications;
- (4) Age;
- (5) Family profile;
- (6) Length of residency in Singapore;
- (7) Ability to contribute to and integrate into Singapore society; and
- (8) Commitment to establishing roots in Singapore.

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There is no publicly disclosed formula or fixed scoring system that guarantees PR approval. Therefore, applicants should ensure that their application accurately presents their personal, professional and family circumstances and is supported by all relevant documentation.

3. PR Application Document Requirements

The documents required depend on the applicant's circumstances and PR application category. The following documents may be applicable to both the main applicant and any accompanying family member(s), depending on their individual circumstances and the applicable PR requirements. Common supporting documents may include:

(1) Personal Documents

- (a) Passport or travel document;
- (b) Birth certificate or household register;
- (c) Adoption papers, where applicable;
- (d) Marriage certificate, where applicable;
- (e) Separation deed, where applicable;
- (f) Deed poll or religious certificate for change of name;
- (g) Passport-sized photo;
- (h) Divorce certificates including certificate of Making Interim Judgment Final, where applicable;
- (i) Death certificate of spouse or children from previous marriage(s), where Applicable;
- (j) Letter of consent from ex-spouse, where applicable; and
- (k) Custody papers for children from previous marriage(s), where applicable.

(2) Education and Professional Documents

- 1) Educational certificates and transcripts;
- 2) Skill certificates or professional licences;
- 3) Professional membership certificates, where applicable; and
- 4) Other documents demonstrating professional qualifications.

(3) Employment and Income Documents

Applicants may be required to provide:

- (a) Current employment letter;
- (b) Recent 6 months' payslips;
- (c) Income tax documents, where applicable; and
- (d) Other employment or income-related supporting documents.

For self-employed applicants, ICA's current checklist may require documents such as the latest ACRA business registration information and recent financial statements, including the latest 3 years' balance sheets and profit and loss statements.

ICA may also request additional supporting documents depending on the circumstances of the application.

Where documents are not in English, ICA requires official translations that meet its stated requirements.

4. PR Application Process

A typical PR application involves the following stages:

- (1) **Preliminary Assessment**
Applicants should first determine whether they fall within one of the PR application categories and review their current circumstances and supporting documents.
- (2) **Document Preparation**
The applicant prepares the required personal, family, education, employment, income and other supporting documents applicable to the application.
- (3) **Document Review**
Before submission, documents should be checked for consistency, completeness and accuracy. Particular attention should be given to employment information, income details, family particulars and historical records.
- (4) **Online Submission**
PR applications are submitted through ICA's online e-Service. Depending on the application category, the applicant or sponsor may be required to log in using Singpass.
- (5) **ICA Assessment**
ICA will assess the application based on the applicant's circumstances and the information and documents submitted.
- (6) **Outcome and Completion of Formalities**
Applicants will be notified of the outcome by ICA. If the application is approved, the applicant will need to complete the relevant formalities before PR status is formally granted.

5. Government Fees and Processing Time

As of the current ICA requirements, the PR application fee is S\$100 per applicant, payable at the time of submission.

For a successful application, additional fees may apply, including:

- (1) S\$20 for the Entry Permit;
- (2) S\$50 for a 5-year Re-Entry Permit; and
- (3) S\$50 for the Singapore Identity Card.

All government fees are non-refundable.

PR applications are generally processed within 6 months, provided that all required documents are submitted and in order. However, some applications may take longer depending on the circumstances of the case.

If you wish to obtain more information or assistance, please visit the official website of Kaizen CPA Limited at www.kaizencpa.com or contact us through the following and talk to our professionals:

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