



Business Newsletter

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Apply for a Declaration of compliance with fiscal obligations yourself when applying for recognition as a sponsor

When you apply for recognition as a sponsor we often request a Declaration of compliance with fiscal obligations from the Tax Administration (in Dutch: [Verklaring van Betalingsgedrag van de Belastingdienst](#)). Is this declaration necessary in your own case? Then apply for this yourself from now on. Because of a procedure change at the Tax Administration it is no longer possible for the IND to request this declaration for you. Meaning, you can no longer authorise the IND to do this for you.

Make sure that you enclose the Declaration of compliance with fiscal obligations with your application for recognition as a sponsor. This will prevent the decision from being delayed. If you do not send the declaration to the IND, this can be a reason to reject your application.

New required amounts for highly skilled migrants as of 1 January 2024

The new income requirements for highly skilled migrants were published in the Government Gazette (Staatscourant) on 4 December. These are the required amounts for 2024:

- Highly skilled migrants over 30 years of age: €5,331
- Highly skilled migrant under 30 years of age: €3,909
- Orientation year for highly educated migrants: €2,801
- European Blue Card: €6,245

The above-mentioned required amounts can be found as of 1 January 2024 on our website. See Income requirements required amounts. Or already read the public information notice [2023/83 Normbedragen geldend vanaf 1 januari 2024](#) (only in Dutch).

The income of a highly skilled migrant must meet the required amount applicable on the application date

Are you submitting a first application or an application for extension of a highly skilled migrant's residence permit? Then the salary of the highly skilled migrant must meet the required amount that applies at the time you submit the application.

New application fees as of 1 January 2024

As of 1 January, the costs of applications (fees) will change. As of that date, the new amounts can be found on the page [Fees: costs of an application](#).

The new amounts are already stated in the Open Data Portal of the IND. Read the notice about fees: [Informatiebericht 2023/85 Legeswijzer en codes aangepast per 1-1-2024](#) (only in Dutch).

IND Report: Highly skilled employees and highly skilled 'job-seekers'

How is it going with highly skilled workers who came to the Netherlands for work or to seek work (orientation year)? For example how long did they stay in the Netherlands? Did they work? Which other residence permits could they have had? And where did they live? These are some of the questions that the Research and Analysis Department of the IND has studied. Read the results of the study in the report [Kenniswerkers en zoekjaarders in Nederland](#) (only in Dutch). Or see the [infographic](#). These and other (Dutch) IND reports can be found on our page [Trend analyses, policy monitors and policy evaluations](#).

Cooperating Service will close on 21 December at 13.00 hours

The Cooperating Service will close on Thursday 21 December at 13.00 instead of 17.00 hours.

Solution for Business Portal failures is a priority

If you use the Business Portal there is a good chance that you had issues with technical errors last year. They prevented you from having access to the portal or you were unable to submit applications. Especially the malfunction around 13 October affected large groups of users.

We understand from the many reports we received how frustrating this is for you. Restoring the stability of the Business Portal is one of the IND's priorities. Our technicians do their very best to detect and repair defects in the portal, so that you will be able to use a fast and well operating portal again. Do you still have problems with logging in or with submitting applications or notifications? Keep on [reporting failures of the Business Portal](#).

Explanation of earlier newsletter article 'Pension payments do not count towards the wage criterion'

The report 'Pension payments do not count towards the wage criterion' from the Business Newsletter of August 2023 raised the following question: will the IND now deal differently with pension premium in determining the gross salary in the context of the highly skilled migrant regulation? This is not the case. The report was meant to clarify the difference between the employee's and the employer's contribution. We would like to explain this further.



Difference between employee's contribution and employer's contribution

The pension premium can be included in gross monthly salary of highly skilled migrants. A distinction must be made between the employee's contribution and the employer's contribution. The employee's contribution is a payment by the employee that is withheld from the gross salary. The employer's contribution is a payment by the employer over and above the salary and does not form part of the gross monthly salary of highly skilled migrants. That is why only the employee's contribution can be included in determining the gross salary.

Proof of completion of study when changing the residence purpose to highly skilled migrant

In the newsletter of 20 September 2023 we requested the enclosure of a proof of study completion when a residence permit is changed from study to highly skilled migrant. We request this to avoid delay.

Enclose one of the following items of evidence with your application:

- A completed [Appendix Statement on completion of study](#)
- A letter from the educational institution stating that the study programme has been completed.

Has the educational institution already deregistered the student (your employee) with the IND? Then you do not have to enclose any proof of completion of study with your application.

New rules for European Blue Card partly in effect

On 20 October 2021 a revised directive on the European Blue Card was adopted. The amendments still have to be turned into national legislation. This process has been delayed. This is expected to be done in the first quarter of 2024. You will still be informed of this in more detail. Read more about this in the [Kamerbrief over niet tijdige omzetting herziene richtlijn kennismigranten](#) (Letter to the Netherlands House of Representatives about late transposition of the revised highly skilled migrants directive, only in Dutch).

Until that time, the existing legal framework and policy remain. Some of the rules from the revised Directive did take effect on 18 November 2023. The relevant application forms and the web page [European blue card residence permit](#) have been adapted to this. These are the changes:

- Persons who have international protection status in an EU Member State can now qualify for a European Blue Card if they meet the requirements.
- A higher education degree is required for the Blue Card. ICT managers and ICT professionals can now qualify on the basis of work experience. At least 3 years of relevant experience in the past 7 years is required for this.
- The minimum term of the required employment contract has been shortened from 12 to 6 months.
- Holders of a European Blue Card in a different EU Member State are now allowed to come to the Netherlands for work-related activities for 9 months at most. This is called short-term mobility. In order to stay more than 90 days (long-term mobility), an individual must apply for a European Blue Card in the Netherlands. Long-term mobility is possible after a stay of at least 12 months in another EU Member State. This was previously after 18 months.
- Holders of European Blue Cards who have used long-term mobility may qualify sooner than before for the status [long-term EU resident](#). For this purpose they may in fact also include other forms of residence.

- No job-market test applies to EU long-term residents who are former holders of a European Blue Card and have applied for residence in the Netherlands for the purpose of performing an economic activity as an employee or self-employed person. This means that the application is no longer assessed for the presence of jobseekers from the EEA. Nor does an employer need to place a vacancy notice and demonstrate recruitment efforts.
- Several [decision periods](#) have been shortened.