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| **Stay and work of third-country nationals** |
| **Short-term stay (up to 90 days)** | * On the basis of work permit, except for certain cases, e.g. :
* persons managing business companies/branches of foreign legal entities;
* members of managing boards and boards of directors of business companies who are not employed under an employment contract;
* family members of a foreigner holding a long-stay permit;
* family members of EU nationals, etc.
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| **Long-term stay (up to 1 year)** |
| **Long-term stay (5 years with an extension option)** | Under the procedures for Bulgarian nationals (without work permit) unless there are any additional requirements in respect of the particular work set by a regulatory document. |
| **Residence (unlimited period)** |

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| **Issue of work permits** |
| **Competent authority** | * National Employment Agency
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| **Procedure** | * The employer submits the required documents to the Employment Service Directorate according to the foreigner's place of work.
* The administration may require additional documents to certify the satisfaction of the conditions.
* The Employment Service Directorate shall send the documents to the executive director of the National Employment Agency accompanied by an opinion on the request.
* The executive director of the National Employment Agency shall take a decision whether to issue or refuse to issue a permit.
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| **Required documents** | * Fixed form request and statement;
* Reasons for the request;
* Three photographs of the foreigner;
* Certified copy of the registration document or ID code proving the employer's identity;
* Legalized documents evidencing the foreigner's education, specialty, legal capacity and/or acquired professional qualification, skills and experience;
* Report by the employer on the foreigners working for the latter;
* Report on the average staff employed under employment contracts for the previous 12 months;
* Employment contract;
* Other documents related to the specifics of the job and required by a regulatory documents;
* Copy of a valid document for travelling abroad with a validity term no shorter than 7 months;
* Regarding senior management staff and experts of a foreign legal entity: official legalized document certifying the job occupied by the foreigner in the structure of the foreign legal entity in the last 12 months.
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| **Terms** | * 3 days from filing of the documents they are sent to the National Employment Agency;
* The executive director of the National Employment Agency takes a decision within 1 month
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