

# Work Authorization Summary Sheet

## Primary Immigration Category for Temporary Expatriates

Temporary Residence Visa for Remunerated Activities – For foreign nationals transferred to Mexico for a temporary assignment.

### Validity Period & Extensions

- Initial work permit length:** 1 year
- Extension process:** Application to extend temporary work status should be initiated at least 6 months prior to expiration.
- Maximum period allowed in status:** 4 years

### Dependents

- Spouses are not work authorized
- Non-married partners allowed
- Same-sex partners allowed
- Children study authorized
- 17

 Maximum age for dependent children

### Steps in Immigration Process

1. Work visa pre-approval from the INM
2. Consular application for entry visa
3. Local registration in Mexico

### Timing

**Estimated lead time:** 3-4 months.

Step Description	Time Estimate
Document gathering	1-2 weeks
File application for work visa pre-approval with the INM	4-10 weeks
Make an appointment with Mexican consulate for visa interview	1-5 days
Processing of visa application with the Mexican consulate	1-10 days
Entry into Mexico	1 day
Local registration for residence card (within 30 days of entry)	2-4 weeks
Biometrics appointment and issuance of residence card	1-2 days

- Key Criteria:**
- There must be a local, sponsoring Mexican company which is registered with the National Immigration Institute (INM)
  - At least a portion of the employee’s salary must originate from the Mexican company
  - Assignment must be at least 180 days in duration

- Be Aware!**
- Processing times can be rather lengthy and subject to change due to unpredictable political situations
  - Performing work activities is permissible for under 180 days per entry. However, the details of this allowance should be discussed with legal counsel before travel.

### Other Common Work Authorization Categories

1. Temporary Residence Visa for Non-Remunerated Activities – For employees who will not receive any remuneration from a Mexican source
2. Work Permit exemption for under 180 days (no application required) – For those traveling to perform work activities for a limited period of time, which will not require long-term work authorization.