



QUALIFYING FOR A RETIREMENT EXTENSION OF STAY FOR THOSE THAT ENTER THAILAND AS VISA EXEMPT OR ON A TOURIST VISA

Under Immigration Rules, in order to receive an extension of stay for purpose of retirement, the applicant must have a Non-Immigrant Visa. If you entered Thailand on Visa Exempt (30-day stay) or Tourist Visa (60-day stay) and meet the age and financial resource requirements for a retirement extension, you can use a two-step process to extend your stay at Thai Immigration within Thailand.

STEP 1

Non-Immigrant O Visa

The first step is to obtain a Non-Immigrant Visa from the Thai Immigration Office serving the geographical location where you reside.

If on a Visa Exempt entry, you apply for a Non-Immigrant O Visa. If on a Tourist Visa, you apply for a Change in Visa (from Tourist to Non-Immigrant O).

Although the rules are the same, each Office may set their own requirements for the documents needed to support the application for either a Visa (Visa Exempt Entry) or a Change in Visa (Tourist Visa Entry).

Although applications are made at the local Immigration Offices, they are submitted to Bangkok Headquarters for approval – this process takes 15 days. Therefore, you must have at least 15 days remaining on your Permission to Stay. (check with Immigration Office where you plan to apply as they may require a longer period). Note: If you are on your initial entry and do not have the required time remaining, you are permitted to apply for a one-time extension of an additional 30 days which should then allow time for the process.

In all cases, you will need to complete one of the following Application forms and pay a 2,000 baht fee:

Form TM.86 - APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN VISA or

Form TM.87 - APPLICATION FOR VISA.

The form can be obtained from your local Immigration Office or [click here](#) to go to a website that has Thai Immigration forms available and select the form for download – it is available in Word or PDF format.

Upon Thai Immigration approval, you will receive a Non-Immigrant O Visa and a new Permission to Stay stamp allowing 90 days from the date of the Visa's issue.



Documents Needed at Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration Office

Applying for the Non-Immigrant O Visa for purpose of retirement at Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration, in addition to your original passport, Application (Form TM.86 or TM.87), and 2,000 baht fee, you will need:

- Photograph – 4x6cm (Available at shop next to Immigration)
- Photo Copy of Passport Pages
 - Identification page
 - Latest entry into Thailand stamp
 - Tourist Visa if using Form TM.86 for Change in Visa
- Photo Copy of TM.6 Departure Card
- Copy(ies) of Proof of Residence documents (Rental Agreement, Housebook, Company documents if Company owned, etc.)

Proof of meeting the financial requirements will depend on whether you will use the 800,000 baht in a Thai bank, a monthly income of at least 65,000 baht, or a combination of both income & bank deposit.

❖ **800,000 Baht in Thai Bank** – documents needed:

- Bank Book - Photocopies of Identity Page, Page(s) showing the deposit of funds into the account that total at least 800,000 baht ending balance [NOTE: deposit(s) must be from an International source; not from within Thailand or cash deposit]. They may require it show a transaction on the date of application although this is not always the case.
- Letter from the Thai Bank dated as of the date of application, or if applying early before banks open, the day before) – Verifying the name of the account holder and the amount on deposit as of the date of the letter.

❖ **65,000 Baht in Monthly Income** – documents needed:

- Certification Letter from your Embassy attesting to the amount of monthly income.
- Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration requires an Attestation Stamp from the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MofFA) verifying the Consular signature on the Embassy letter [this stamp IS NOT required when applying for the one year extension of stay in Step 2 of the process].

NOTE: The Department of Consular Affairs fee is 400 baht for regular processing or 800 baht express processing (same day). You may wish to check with Pattaya Immigration to confirm this requirement is still in effect before traveling to Bangkok:

Legalization Division, 3rd floor

Department of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

123 Chaeng Watthana Road, Bangkok 10210

Telephone: 02-575-1056/59 Email: consular04@mfa.go.th

Service hours: 08.30 - 14.30 hrs. (Closed on Saturday - Sunday and Public Holidays)

Thai Immigration is also located nearby.

NOTE: Embassies for UK, USA, & Australia do not provide such certifications, so use of the monthly income method to obtain a Non-Immigrant O Visa within Thailand is not available – the alternative for citizens of those countries is to obtain the Visa from a Thai Embassy or Consulate outside of Thailand – see Entering Thailand Section for more information on obtaining a Non-Immigrant O Visa.

❖ **Combination of Monthly Income and Baht in Thai Bank (12 x monthly income + bank balance =>800,000 baht)**

- Certification Letter from your Embassy attesting to the amount of monthly income.
- Bank Book - Photocopies of Identity Page, Page(s) showing the amount of funds on deposit in a Thai bank account. They may require it show a transaction on the date of application although this is not always the case.
- Letter from the Thai Bank dated as of the date of application, or if applying early before banks open, the day before) – Verifying the name of the account holder and the amount on deposit as of the date of the letter.

STEP 2**One Year Extension of Stay**

The second step once you receive the Non-Immigrant O Visa is to apply for a one-year extension of the 90 day stay. This can usually be done 30 days before the 90 day stay expires – the one year extension will begin at the end of the 90 day stay, so no time is lost by applying early (recommended to allow time in case of any issues raised by Thai Immigration regarding the supporting documents). Note, some Immigration Office may allow application up to 45 days before – but Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration Office limits it to 30 days before.

Documents Needed at Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration Office

You will need to complete Form TM.7 - Application for Extension of Temporary Stay in the Kingdom to obtain a one-year extension of stay. The following supporting documents are required:

- Photograph – 4x6cm (Available at shop next to Immigration)
- Photo Copy of Passport Pages
 - Identification page
 - Latest entry into Thailand stamp
 - Non-Immigrant O Visa (obtained in Step 1)
 - Permission to Stay Stamp (obtained in Step 1)
- Photo Copy of TM.6 Departure Card
- Copy(ies) of Proof of Residence documents (Rental Agreement, Housebook, Company documents if Company owned, etc.)

Proof of meeting the financial requirements will depend on whether you will use the 800,000 baht in a Thai bank, a monthly income of at least 65,000 baht, or a combination of both income & bank deposit.

❖ **800,000 Baht in Thai Bank** – documents needed:

- Bank Book - Photocopies of Identity Page, Page(s) showing the deposit of funds into the account that total at least 800,000 baht ending balance [NOTE: deposit(s) must be from an International source; not from within Thailand or cash deposit]. They may require it show a transaction on the date of application although this is not always the case.
- Letter from the Thai Bank dated as of the date of application, or if applying early before banks open, the day before) – Verifying the name of the account holder and the amount on deposit as of the date of the letter.

- ❖ **65,000 Baht in Monthly Income** – Certification Letter from your Embassy attesting to the amount of monthly income [at the time of applying in Step 1, ask if a photocopy will be acceptable for the subsequent application (TM.7) for the one year extension to determine if they will require another original certification letter].
- ❖ **Combination of Monthly Income and Baht in Thai Bank (12 x monthly income + bank balance =>800,000 baht)**
 - Certification Letter from your Embassy attesting to the amount of monthly income.
 - Bank Book - Photocopies of Identity Page, Page(s) showing the amount of funds on deposit in a Thai bank account. They may require it show a transaction on the date of application although this is not always the case.
 - Letter from the Thai Bank dated as of the date of application, or if applying early before banks open, the day before) – Verifying the name of the account holder and the amount on deposit as of the date of the letter.

The fee for the extension is 1,900 baht. Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration will then enter the appropriate stamp extending your stay for purpose of retirement, which will be one year from the end of the 90 days.

