



## Guidelines on Obtaining a Work Authorization in Georgia for Foreign Workers and Self-Employed (Individual Entrepreneur, etc.) Foreign Nationals

(Prepared by the Legal Department of Credo Bank)

On 1 March 2026, amendments to the Law on Labour Migration entered into force. Under these amendments, foreign nationals are required to obtain authorization in order to engage in remunerated activity in Georgia.

### 1. In what cases am I not required to obtain work authorization?

You are not required to obtain the right to carry out activities if:

- You hold an investment residence permit, a permanent residence permit, or a valid special residence permit issued on the basis of a written initiative of a member of the Government of Georgia;
- You carry out short-term professional activities in Georgia, or you work for the benefit of a public institution or an enterprise established with state shareholding participation;
- You perform employment activities or provide services fully remotely for a local employer, and such activity does not require your entry into the territory of Georgia;
- You are a partner/shareholder of an enterprise registered in Georgia;
- You perform employment activities or provide services for the benefit of a non-resident person, and such employment activity/service is related to the non-resident person's activities carried out outside Georgia;
- You carry out managerial or executive activities provided for under the Law of Georgia on Entrepreneurs, or perform activities in an audit committee, in a first, second, or third category enterprise as defined by the Law of Georgia on Accounting, Reporting and Auditing;
- You carry out activities related to conservation, restoration and/or rehabilitation works of a cultural heritage monument.

For more information regarding how to obtain residence permit, you may contact the Public Service Hall: <https://psh.gov.ge/>; Tel: 0322405405. You may also use the Public Service Hall online chat: <http://chat.cloud.gov.ge/>.

### 2. In what cases am I required to obtain work authorization?

If you do not hold any of the above-mentioned types of residence permits or do not meet any of the criteria indicated above, you are obliged to obtain the right to carry out activities in order to perform activities in Georgia, including in cases where you carry out commercial activities in Georgia, for example: you are a freelancer, an individual entrepreneur, an entrepreneurial natural person, etc. — except for the exceptions indicated above.

### 3. In which sectors are my Labor/entrepreneurial activities restricted?

Labor/entrepreneurial activity related to courier services	Annual quota – 0
Labor/entrepreneurial activity related to the provision of tour guide services to tourists	Annual quota – 0
Labor/entrepreneurial activity related to passenger transportation	Annual quota – 0
Labor/entrepreneurial activity related to the provision of mountain, alpine and ski guide services to tourists	Annual quota – 200

### 4. In what case will I be considered to be carrying out short-term professional activities?



This will be the case if you carry out activities/provide services for the period established by Georgian legislation, and your activity does not constitute long-term employment on the Georgian labour market, but is related to a specific short-term project, event, or service.

The list of short-term professional activities to be carried out by a foreigner, as well as their duration, the criteria and conditions for considering an activity as a short-term professional activity, shall be determined by a resolution of the Government of Georgia.

For consultation on this matter, you may contact the State Employment Support Agency; Email: [infosesa@moh.gov.ge](mailto:infosesa@moh.gov.ge). Tel: 0322395306;

5. If I was carrying out entrepreneurial activity in Georgia as of 1 March 2026, what is the deadline for obtaining work authorization?

By 1 May 2026

6. How do I obtain work authorization?

Work authorization is issued by the State Agency for Employment Promotion. <https://sesa.moh.gov.ge/>, Tel: 0322395306, [infosesa@moh.gov.ge](mailto:infosesa@moh.gov.ge).

If you are employed by a local employer or carry out remunerated labor activity remotely (from outside Georgia), the application for obtaining authorization for your labor activity must be submitted by your employer.

If you otherwise perform remunerated/entrepreneurial (non-employment) activity, the application for obtaining work authorization must be submitted directly by you.

7. In what form should I or my employer submit an application to obtain work authorization?

An application for work authorization must be submitted through the electronic system on the following website: [www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge](http://www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge);

8. What documents should I or my employer submit to obtain work authorization?



If you are employed by a local employer or carry out remunerated labor activity remotely (from outside Georgia), your employer must submit:

Information about the local employer:

- a) name of the local employer;
- b) identification/personal number of the local employer;
- c) actual and legal addresses of the local employer;
- d) economic activity sector of the local employer;
- e) contact information of the local employer (telephone number and email address).

2. Personal data of the person responsible for submitting the information:

- a) first name and surname (in Georgian and Latin script);
- b) personal number;
- c) job position held;
- d) contact information (telephone number and email address).

3. Personal data of the foreign national:

- a) first name and surname (in Georgian and Latin script);
- b) date of birth (day/month/year);
- c) sex;
- d) citizenship;
- e) country of origin;
- f) foreign passport number;
- g) copy of the foreign passport page containing the person's photograph and personal data;
- h) issuing authority of the foreign passport (according to the entry indicated in the passport);
- i) passport issue date and validity period;
- k) personal eleven-digit number assigned in Georgia (if any);
- l) residence permit number in Georgia (if any);
- m) issue date and validity period of the residence permit in Georgia (if any).

4. Position to be held by the foreign national and qualification requirements established for that position:

- a) the position to be held by the foreign national (selected from the classifier available in the system);
- b) requirements established for the position:
  - b.a) professional knowledge/qualification/functions;
  - b.b) required level of education:
    - b.b) primary;
    - b.c) basic secondary;
    - b.d) complete secondary;
    - b.e) vocational;
    - b.f) higher;
    - b.g) f) not required;
  - b.c) work experience/seniority in the profession (if such requirement exists);
  - b.d) specific skills (if any);
  - b.e) additional knowledge and skills (if any);
  - b.f) other additional requirements (if any).

5. Profession/qualification, experience and skills of the foreign national to be employed:

- a) education:
  - a.a) primary;
  - a.b) basic secondary;
  - a.c) complete secondary;
  - a.d) vocational;
  - a.e) higher;
  - a.f) no education;



- b) profession/qualification;
- c) work experience/seniority in the profession (indicating years and field);
- d) general and specific skills (if any);
- e) additional knowledge and skills (if any).
6. Dates of conclusion, entry into force and termination of the employment agreement concluded between the local employer and the foreign national (day/month/year).
7. Copy of the employment agreement concluded between the local employer and the foreign national.
8. Application form, confirmed with a qualified electronic signature or electronic stamp, confirming the foreign national's intention to be employed.
9. Payment of the fee for authorization for labor activity by bank card, through non-cash payment (the service is available through the special labor migration electronic system at [www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge](http://www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge))

If you otherwise perform remunerated/entrepreneurial/commercial (non-employment) activity, for example as a freelancer, individual entrepreneur, entrepreneurial natural person, founder/partner of an enterprise, etc., you must submit directly (personally):

Information about the foreign national:

- a) first name and surname (in Georgian and Latin script);
- b) date of birth (day/month/year);
- c) sex;
- d) citizenship;
- e) country of origin;
- f) foreign passport number;
- g) copy of the foreign passport page containing the photograph and the person's personal data;
- h) issuing authority of the foreign passport (according to the entry indicated in the passport);
- i) passport issue date and validity period;
- k) personal eleven-digit number assigned in Georgia (if any);
- l) residence permit number in Georgia (if any);
- m) issue date and validity period of the residence permit in Georgia (if any);
- n) identification number according to the extract from the Register of Entrepreneurs and Non-Entrepreneurial (Non-Commercial) Legal Entities.

2. Profession/qualification and work experience of the foreign national:

- a) education:
  - a) primary;
  - b) basic secondary;
  - c) complete secondary;
  - d) vocational;
  - e) higher;
  - f) no education;
- b) profession/qualification;
- c) labor/entrepreneurial activity experience (indicating years, field and functions);
- d) specific skills (if any);
- e) additional knowledge and skills (if any).

3. Information about the labor/entrepreneurial activity of the foreign national:

- a) field, nature and place of the labor/entrepreneurial activity carried out by the foreign national in Georgia;
- b) where the foreign national has already established an enterprise in Georgia:
  - b) company identification number or the personal number of the individual entrepreneur;
  - c) b) document on the company's/individual entrepreneur's annual turnover issued by LEPL Revenue Service (where the activity of such person is connected with a company registered in Georgia or the person is registered as a individual entrepreneur);
- c) where the foreign national intends to start entrepreneurial activity in Georgia, a detailed business plan (including the planned investment and annual turnover volume), as well as information on the resources needed by the foreign national to start labor/entrepreneurial activity and a document evidencing the relevant financial support.

4. Recording of the video interview conducted between the foreign national and the agency representative, which is arranged by the agency.



5. Payment of the fee for authorization for labor activity by bank card, through non-cash payment (the service is available through the special labor migration electronic system at <a href="http://www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge">www.labourmigration.moh.gov.ge</a> ).
9. What is the fee for issuing work authorization?
Within 30 calendar days – GEL 200 Within 10 working days – GEL 400
10. If I obtain work authorization, is that sufficient for working/carrying out entrepreneurial activity in Georgia?
Yes, if you hold any type of Georgian residence permit.
11. What should I do if I have obtained work authorization but do not hold any type of Georgian residence permit?
<p>If you are not in Georgia, within 30 calendar days after obtaining work authorization you must apply to the competent authority for a D1 category visa (work visa);</p> <p>If you are legally present in Georgia, within 10 calendar days after obtaining work authorization you must apply to the competent authority for a residence permit or for a residence permit for a person employed in the information technology (IT) field.</p> <p>One of the prerequisites for obtaining a labor residence permit is that your remuneration must not be less than five times the subsistence minimum (which is variable and currently is approximately GEL 300), and the annual turnover of the employer enterprise per foreign national must not be less than GEL 50,000; for educational or medical institutions, it must not be less than GEL 35,000.</p> <p>For clarification regarding the procedure/documentation required for obtaining a residence permit, you may contact the Public Service Hall: <a href="https://psh.gov.ge/">https://psh.gov.ge/</a>; Tel: 032 2405405. You may also use the Public Service Hall online chat: <a href="http://chat.cloud.gov.ge/">http://chat.cloud.gov.ge/</a>;</p> <p>For clarification regarding the procedure/documentation required for obtaining a D1 category visa, you may contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia: <a href="https://mfa.gov.ge/">https://mfa.gov.ge/</a>; Tel: 032 294 50 00;</p>
12. For what period is work authorization issued, and can it be extended?
Work authorization is issued for a period of 6 months to 1 year, and its validity may be extended
<p>Note:</p> <p>This document reflects the interpretation of the Legal Department of Credo Bank regarding the procedures required to obtain authorization for labor activity in Georgia. Given that the regulation is new and there is no established practice regarding the procedures for obtaining such authorization, the information set out in this document may change in accordance with additional recommendations and clarifications issued by the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and/or other relevant competent authorities. This document does not constitute a legal opinion or advice. For a comprehensive legal opinion, please consult a legal specialist.</p>