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Navigating  
Educational Pursuits:

**A Comprehensive Guide to**

# **STUDY VISAS FOR TURKEY**



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## INTRODUCTION

Turkey, a country known for its rich history, diverse culture, and exceptional educational institutions, has become an increasingly popular destination for international students seeking quality education and unique experiences. To embark on your academic journey in Turkey, understanding the study visa process is essential. This comprehensive guide delves into Turkey's study visas, including the types of visas available, eligibility criteria, the scope of study visas, required documents, the application procedure, and post-arrival formalities.



## TYPES OF STUDENT VISAS

Turkey offers several types of study visas tailored to different educational needs:

**Student Visa for Higher Education:** This visa is designed for international students enrolling in undergraduate, postgraduate, or doctoral programmes at Turkish universities. It is typically issued for the duration of the academic programme.

**Short-Term Study Visa:** Intended for students attending short courses, language programmes, or non-degree programmes in Turkey, this visa allows a stay of up to one year.

**Student Internship Visa:** For students participating in internships or vocational training as part of their educational programme in Turkey.

**Research Assistant Visa:** This visa is for foreign students working as research assistants at Turkish universities, typically for the duration of their assistantship.



## SCOPE OF VISA

Study visas in Turkey serve the following primary purposes:

**Matriculation and Attendance at an Accredited Educational Institution:** The visa permits students to matriculate in accredited educational institutions, attend classes, engage in extracurricular pursuits, and utilise campus resources, including libraries and other amenities offered by the institution.

**Part-Time Employment:** Students are granted the privilege of part-time employment, with a cap of 20 hours per week, aimed at supplementing their living expenses. This employment mustn't disrupt their academic commitments.

**Intra-Turkey Travel:** Students have the liberty to travel within the boundaries of Turkey for the duration of their visa, allowing them to explore the nation's multifaceted cultural heritage and diverse geographical features.

**Intermittent Travel Beyond Turkish Borders:** Students are also eligible to embark on short-term journeys outside of Turkey, including attendance at conferences or participation in international exchange programmes. However, it is essential to secure a re-entry visa if they intend to return to Turkey following their temporary absence.



## ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for a study visa in Turkey, you must meet specific eligibility criteria:

**Acceptance at a Turkish Educational Institution:**

You should have received a formal acceptance letter from a recognised Turkish educational institution.

**Financial Means:** Demonstrate your financial capability to cover tuition fees, living expenses, and other costs during your stay in Turkey.

**Health Insurance:** Provide proof of comprehensive health insurance coverage for the duration of your stay in Turkey.

**No Threat to Public Order:** You should not pose a threat to public order, national security, or public health in Turkey.



## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

When applying for a study visa in Turkey, you will need to provide specific documents. Here is a list of essential documents:

**Visa Application Form:** Complete the Turkish visa application form available through Turkish embassies or consulates.

**Passport:** Ensure your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your intended departure from Turkey and contains sufficient blank pages for visa stamps.

**Acceptance Letter:** Submit the official acceptance letter from the Turkish educational institution, detailing your programme and the duration of your study.

**Financial Proof:** Provide evidence of your financial means to cover tuition fees, living expenses, and other costs in Turkey. This may include bank statements, scholarship documentation, or a sponsor's financial guarantee.

**For study programmes lasting one year or more:**

- **Istanbul:** €500 per month
- **Other cities:** €350 per month

**For study programmes lasting less than one year:**

- **Istanbul:** €600 per month for the duration of your studies
- **Other cities:** €420 per month for the duration of your studies

**Health Insurance:** Include proof of comprehensive health insurance coverage for your entire stay in Turkey.



**Passport Photos:** Provide recent passport-sized photographs that meet Turkish visa photo specifications.

**Visa Fee:** Pay the non-refundable visa application fee, as determined by Turkish authorities. The current visa fee for a student visa for Turkey is €60

### **Language Proficiency Requirements**

- IELTS- A minimum band score of 6
- TOFEL iBT- A minimum score of 80
- PTE Academic- A minimum score of 58





## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

The application procedure for a study visa in Turkey typically involves these steps:

**Acceptance from Educational Institution:** Secure admission to a recognised Turkish educational institution.

**Collect Required Documents:** Gather all the necessary documents as listed above.

**Online Pre-Application:** Complete the online pre-application through the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' official website.

**Visa Application Submission:** Submit your application in person or through a visa processing centre, embassy, or consulate in your home country.

**Biometrics and Photographs:** Provide biometric data and photographs, if required, at the designated visa processing centre.

**Visa Stamping:** Once your visa is approved, you may need to visit the Turkish consulate or embassy to have the visa stamped in your passport.

**Visa Fee Payment:** Pay the stipulated visa fee as required.



## AFTER ARRIVAL

After arriving in Turkey on a study visa, several important post-arrival formalities must be completed:

**Residence Permit:** Within a specific timeframe, you must obtain a Turkish residence permit (ikamet) from the local immigration office. This permit is essential for your stay in the country.

**Health Insurance:** Ensure that your health insurance coverage remains valid and complies with Turkish regulations.

## CONCLUSION

Choosing Turkey as your destination for higher education promises not only academic excellence but also a unique cultural experience. To make the most of your academic journey, it's essential to understand the study visa process and post-arrival formalities. By meeting the eligibility criteria, preparing the required documents, following the application procedure, and fulfilling the necessary post-arrival steps, you can embark on a successful academic adventure in this historically rich and culturally diverse nation. For the latest information and guidance, consult Turkish authorities and your educational institution's international student office.



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What is a student visa for Turkey?**

A student visa for Turkey is an extended-stay visa that permits foreign individuals to enter and reside in Turkey to pursue studies at a recognised educational institution. The visa remains valid for the duration of the study programme, with an additional grace period of 90 days.

### **Who is eligible for a student visa to Turkey?**

To meet the criteria for a student visa in Turkey, the following conditions must be satisfied:

- Must not be a Turkish citizen
- Must have received acceptance at a recognised educational institution in Turkey
- Must demonstrate adequate financial resources to sustain themselves during their stay in Turkey
- Must maintain good health and possess a clean criminal record

### **What are the various types of student visas for Turkey?**

Two primary types of student visas are available for Turkey:

Long-stay visa for studies (category D): This is the most common student visa for international students pursuing studies in Turkey. It is a long-term visa allowing students to reside in Turkey for the entire duration of their studies, along with an additional 90-day grace period.



Short-stay visa for studies (category C): This visa is intended for international students who come to Turkey to complete a portion of their studies, engage in short-term research, or participate in internships. It is a temporary visa enabling students to stay in Turkey for up to one year.

### **How to apply for a student visa for Turkey?**

The application process for a student visa in Turkey typically entails the following steps:

- Complete the visa application form
- Gather the necessary documents
- Apply to the nearest Turkish embassy or consulate
- Attend an interview, if required
- Pay the visa fee

### **What are the essential documents for a student visa in Turkey?**

The required documents for a student visa in Turkey typically include:

- A valid passport
- Two passport-sized photos
- A copy of the acceptance letter from a recognised educational institution in Turkey
- Proof of financial means
- Proof of accommodation
- Medical insurance

Visa fee



## **What is the processing time for a student visa for Turkey?**

The processing time for a student visa in Turkey typically falls within the range of 15 to 30 days.

## **How much does a student visa for Turkey cost?**

The visa fee for a student visa in Turkey is generally around €60.

## **Can I work part-time while on a student visa in Turkey?**

Yes, individuals holding a student visa in Turkey are allowed to engage in part-time employment. The maximum number of hours they can work per week is typically 20.

## **Can I travel outside of Turkey while on a student visa?**

Certainly, it is possible to travel outside of Turkey while holding a student visa. However, a re-entry visa must be applied for to facilitate a return to Turkey.

## **What happens if my student visa expires?**

If a student visa expires, a renewal application must be submitted before one can continue their stay in Turkey.

## **Can I apply for a residence permit after completing my studies in Turkey?**

Indeed, it is permissible to apply for a residence permit upon the completion of studies in Turkey. The specific type of residence permit to apply for will depend on individual circumstances.



## **Where can I access more information about student visas for Turkey?**

For additional information regarding student visas for Turkey, please refer to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey.

## **What are some recommendations for applying for a student visa in Turkey?**

Consider the following tips when applying for a student visa in Turkey:

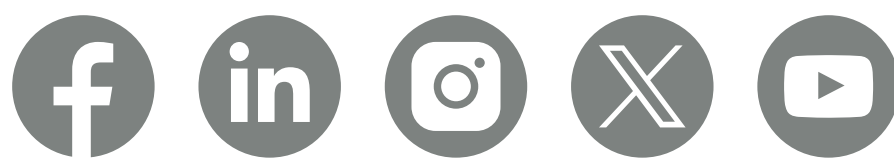
- Initiate the application process well in advance.
- Ensure that all the requisite documents are in order.
- Be prepared for a potential interview.
- Timely payment of the visa fee is crucial.





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