

Global overview partner work permits*

Once family member residence permit issued

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Open work permit

- Can work for any employer
- Or be self-employed

Work permit linked to employer

- Simple process or letter of consent
- No employment market test
- Procedure < 4 weeks

Work permit linked to employer

- Skills, salary, quota, employment market test; May need to return to home country
- Procedure > 4 weeks

Europeans in EU/EEA**,

Non-EU citizens in Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK.

Argentina, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, N.Zealand, US (L, E visas)

Belgium, Ireland,
Luxembourg (during 1st year, then open)
Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Singapore

Brazil, Brunei, China, Colombia, Egypt, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey,
USA (H1B, O visas)

Best practice model:

Spouse/partner has 'open' permission to work

Argentina *

Australia

Austria

Bulgaria

Canada *

Czech Republic

Denmark *

Estonia

Finland

France *

Germany

Hong Kong

Hungary

Italy

Latvia

Lithuania

Malta

Netherlands *

New Zealand *

Norway *

Poland

Portugal *

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain *

Sweden *

Switzerland

United Kingdom

United States* (L1, E visas)

Advantages

- Full access to employment market once resident visa issued
- Facilitates temporary project work, self-employment, tele-working
- Reduced bureaucracy for the authorities
- Helps employers fill urgent or temporary vacancies
- Attractive investment climate for employers with highly skilled international staff

Countries in **bold** font : recognise non-married partners
* recognise same-sex marriage