



**MINISTER OF
HOME AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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HEAD OFFICE

REGIONAL OFFICES

PORTS OF ENTRY

OPERATIONAL CENTRES

VISA FACILITATION CENTRES

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS & COOPERATION :**

CONSULAR SERVICES

MINISTERIAL IMMIGRATION DIRECTIVE NO. 1 OF 2022

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CRITICAL SKILLS LIST.

In providing for the regulation of admission and departure of foreigners to and from the Republic, The Immigration Act, No 13 of 2002 directs the Department of Home Affairs to contribute to an environment in which economic growth is promoted through the employment of needed foreign labour, facilitating foreign investment and enabling the entry of exceptionally skilled or qualified people.

I, Dr. PA Motsoaledi, Minister of Home Affairs hereby, with the powers bestowed upon me in terms of section 19(4) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002) make the following transitional arrangements with regards to the new Critical Skills List:

TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Any critical skills work visa issued in terms of the current 2014 List for a determined period shall continue to be in force and effect in accordance with the terms and conditions under which it was issued, but may only be renewed in terms of the 2022 List, provided that —

- i. The applicant meets the prescribed requirements of the 2022 List.
- ii. Applications already submitted to Home Affairs prior to 31 January 2022 shall be processed in terms of the 2014 List including any Appeals arising out of such applications.
- iii. No new applications in terms of the 2014 List shall be accepted with effect from 01 February 2022 except for those applicants who had already secured an appointment at the Visa Application Centre or South African High Commission prior to 01 February 2022.
- iv. The holder of a valid critical skills work visa issued in terms of the 2014 list may apply for permanent residence from the date upon which he or she qualifies to apply.
- v. A critical skills visa is a work visa. The Department will no longer issue a 12 month's visa to applicants who have not secured or received an offer of employment. All applications in terms of the new 2022 List must be supported by a solid offer of employment.

POST QUALIFICATION EXPERIENCE

Applicants who submit applications that reference post-qualification experience as contemplated in Regulation 24(4)(b) should submit additional proof of vetted working experience verified by reputable institutions such as MIE (<https://www.mie.co.za/>). MIE is a trusted partner in South Africa and conducts background checks for international organisations and professional bodies.

Post-qualification vetting from other global providers such as Sterling (<https://www.sterlingcheck.com/services/global-checks/>) will also be accepted.

WITHDRAWALS

Withdrawal of **Ministerial Waiver (2005)**: *Exemption from the Requirements of the Immigration Amendment Act, 2002 (Act. No. 13 of 2002) and new Immigration Regulations to expedite the issuance of work permits to newly recruited foreign health professionals*

Withdrawal of **Immigration Directive 22 of 2014**: *Confirmation of the skills or qualifications of the applicant as part of supporting documents for a critical skills visa.*

Withdrawal of **Ministerial Waiver (2016)**: *Granting of Permanent Residence status in terms of Section 27(b) of The Immigration Act, 2002 (Act. No. 13 of 2002): Graduates from South African Tertiary Institutions in the area of Critical Skills.*



Dr. PA MOTSOLEDI, MP
MINISTER: HOME AFFAIRS

DATE: 9/1/2022

This Immigration Directive follows Immigration Directive No.12 of 2021 which deals with "Temporary measures in respect of foreign nationals in light of the imposition of travel bans in an unprecedented attempt to curb the spread of the Omicron variant of the covid-19 virus".