

Frequently Asked Questions

Residence and Work Authorisations for International Teleworkers

1.- What is an international teleworker?

A worker authorised to remain in Spain in order to carry out an employment or professional activity remotely for companies established outside Spanish territory, exclusively through the use of computer, telematic and telecommunications systems.

2 .- Can this type of authorisation be requested for any kind of activity?

No. Only for activities that can be carried out remotely through the exclusive use of computer, telematic and telecommunications systems.

3.- What is meant by exclusive use of computer, telematic and telecommunications systems?

It means that the duties inherent to the position must not require on-site supervision and/or management at the place of origin, such as production activities, human resources management, sales visits, etc.

Additional information may be requested regarding the size of the company, its activity and organisational structure, in order to determine whether the duties inherent to the position can be performed exclusively at a distance through telematic and telecommunications means.

4.- Who can obtain an authorisation as an international teleworker?

A third-country national, of legal age. (This does not apply to citizens of the European Union or to those to whom European Union law applies.)

5.- Can a self-employed worker be considered an international teleworker?

Yes, provided that they can prove a professional relationship through a commercial contract with the foreign company for which they work for a minimum period of three months.

6.- Is registration of the teleworker with the Spanish Social Security system mandatory?

Yes. As the work activity is carried out from Spain, registration is mandatory

pursuant to Royal Legislative Decree 8/2015, of 30 October, approving the revised text of the General Social Security Act (see Article 15). Two situations may arise:

- **Employed worker:** The company must be previously registered with the Social Security system as a non-resident entity without an establishment in Spain in order to affiliate the teleworker under the General Regime. In the case of employed workers, the Social Security registration requirement may only be replaced by the importation of coverage rights from the country of origin, provided that an international social security agreement exists between Spain and that country and that the social security authority of the country of origin issues the relevant document under that agreement together with a certificate expressly stating that it provides coverage for the teleworker in Spain.
- **Self-employed worker:** The worker must register themselves under the Special Regime for Self-Employed Workers (RETA). Registration with RETA is mandatory for self-employed workers or those treated as such, and the importation of social security coverage rights under a bilateral agreement is not applicable in this case.

7.- What happens if I do not register with Social Security immediately after obtaining the authorisation as a self-employed worker?

If this is detected during a subsequent review, the authorisation will be terminated pursuant to the seventh additional provision of Law 14/2013, and both the holder and their dependent family members will be barred from residing and working in Spain.

9.- How can I register with RETA in an efficient way?

You must attend a Point of Attention for Entrepreneurs (PAE) with your resolution and request that your registration with the Tax Agency and Social Security be processed through

https://administracion.gob.es/pag_Home/Tramites/miEmpresaEnTramites/Iniciativas.html.

10.- What is a PAE?

A PAE (Point of Attention for Entrepreneurs) is an office authorised by the Ministry of Industry that:

- Provides free advice on registering as self-employed or creating a company.
- Processes the DUE (Single Electronic Document) to centralise registrations.
- Guides you through tax and Social Security procedures.

- Can complete the registration on your behalf if you do not have a digital certificate.

<https://paelectronico.es/es-es/CreaEmpresaConAyuda/Paginas/BuscadorPAE.aspx>

11.- If the company has a branch in Spain, can teleworkers be registered with Social Security through that company or can Social Security coverage be imported based on that transfer?

In that case, they would not be considered teleworkers but rather transferred workers between companies or ICT (Intra-Company Transfer), and would be governed by that specific legal category and its requirements.

12.- What other requirements are necessary?

- Not to be in an irregular situation in Spain.
- To have no criminal record in Spain or in the country or countries where the applicant has resided during the five years prior to the application (certificates must be provided from the country or countries of residence during the two years prior to the application, together with a sworn declaration of no criminal records in the countries of residence during the last five years).
- To hold public health insurance (through registration with Social Security) or equivalent private health insurance contracted with an **insurance company authorised to operate in Spain**. Travel insurance policies, reimbursement-only policies, or those with waiting periods or co-payments are not accepted.
- To have sufficient financial means for themselves and their family members during the period of residence in Spain.

13.- Can I apply for a residence authorisation as a teleworker if I already hold a non-lucrative temporary residence authorisation issued under Royal Decree 1155/2024 of 19 November (Articles 61 et seq.)?

No. The non-lucrative temporary residence authorisation does not permit work; therefore, remote work cannot be claimed as having been carried out previously. Working without the corresponding authorisation constitutes an infringement classified under Title III of Organic Law 4/2000 of 11 January on the rights and freedoms of foreign nationals in Spain and their social integration.

14.- Can I apply as an international teleworker if I hold a valid authorisation for stay for higher studies (Article 52.a of Royal Decree 1155/2024) that allows me to work?

Yes, provided that you have been registered with Social Security under the corresponding regime from the moment you started providing services for the foreign company.

15.- Can I carry out other work activities in Spain?

Always under the premise that work must be carried out exclusively through computer, telematic and telecommunications systems, two situations are possible:

- **Employment relationship:** In Spain, you may only work for the foreign company for which you perform your teleworking activity.
- **Professional relationship:** You may work for a company located in Spain, provided that you maintain the professional relationship with the company on which the authorisation is based, and that the work carried out for Spanish company or companies is always a professional (never employment) relationship and does not exceed 20% of your total professional activity.

16.- Can I apply for a residence authorisation as a teleworker from my country of origin?

No. In this case, you must apply at the Spanish consulate for an international teleworker visa, which authorises residence and work in Spain for one year. It is not possible to apply directly from abroad for a residence authorisation for international teleworkers.

Only if there are 60 days remaining before the expiry of the visa, and provided it is still valid, may an initial residence authorisation be requested.

17.- Can family members obtain an authorisation or visa?

Yes. The spouse or partner in an analogous affective relationship, minor children or adult children who are financially dependent on the holder and have not formed their own family unit, and dependent ascendants who accompany or join the foreign national, may apply jointly and simultaneously or subsequently for the authorisation and, where applicable, the visa.

18.- Can family members work in Spain?

Yes. The fourth additional provision of Law 14/2013 establishes that residence authorisations allow residence and work without restrictions, both as employees and as self-employed workers.

19.- Is it possible to change to another type of authorisation once the residence and work authorisation as an international teleworker has been granted?

Provided that the requirements demonstrated for obtaining the international teleworker authorisation continue to be met and maintained:

- A change to another type of authorisation under Law 14/2013 may be requested at any time, provided that the requirements for the new authorisation are met.
- If applying for an authorisation under the general regime, the provisions of Title XI of Royal Decree 1155/2024 (Modification of the status of foreign nationals in Spain) shall apply.

20.- Is it necessary to prove minimum financial resources (means of subsistence)?

Yes. Applicants for international telework visas or residence authorisations must prove that they have sufficient financial resources obtained from employment income for themselves and their family members, in accordance with the following amounts:

- **Holders of visas and residence authorisations:** an amount representing 200% of the minimum interprofessional salary (SMI) per month. (1,221 euros at present)
- **Family units consisting of two persons**, including the holder and the accompanying family member: at least 75% of the SMI. An additional 25% of the SMI will be required for each additional family member.

21.- Where is the fee paid?

The fee of €73.26 for initial applications, both for the main applicant and any family members, must be paid online in advance by credit card, direct debit or Bizum, obtaining the NRC (Complete Reference Number), which must be indicated in the application submission.

7. SOLICITUD DE AUTORIZACIONES DE MOVILIDAD INTERNACIONAL (LEY 14/2013):

Autorización de residencia inicial



Autorización de residencia renovada



IMPORTE DE LA TASA 73,26 Euros

ingreso efectuado a favor del Tesoro Público, cuenta restringida de la A.E.A.T.

Proof of payment must be submitted at the time of application.
<https://expinterweb.inclusion.gob.es/Tasa038/login.htm>

22.- Can the fee be paid on behalf of a third party?

Yes. Any person may pay the fee on behalf of another person by selecting the option “Payment on behalf of another person.”

In all cases, the applicant’s details must be entered in the “Authorisation details” section.

DATOS DE LA AUTORIZACIÓN		
Nombre (*)	Apellido 1.º (*)	Apellido 2.º
Nacionalidad		