

**HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

This leaflet will give you information on the health requirements required to be granted entry into and remain in the Falkland Islands. This will apply for work permits for longer than 9 months, accompanying dependent permits, and dependent permits.

All applicants, even British nationals, who are entering the Falkland Islands as visitors or on another type of permit for 9 months or less who have medically self-declared, will need to have adequate medical insurance to cover all medical evacuation costs.

**Acceptable standard of health**

Applicants must have an acceptable standard of health. We consider you to have an acceptable standard of health if you are:

* Unlikely to be a danger to public health.
* Unlikely to impose significant costs or demands on the Falkland Islands health services for treatment and drugs, including aero medical evacuation costs or special education services.
* Able to carry out the duties for which you are applying for entry.

**Showing that you have an acceptable standard of health**

To show that you have an acceptable standard of health you will have to complete a health assessment. This health assessment will be used for all applicants, accompanying dependants, and dependents of those holding permanent Falkland Islands residence, including children.

Chest X-rays will be required in certain circumstances, i.e. if you come from an area with a high incidence of TB. (please see “Chest X-Ray Requirements” below).

If you have had a previous health assessment you may not need a new one as long as it is still valid (can be a maximum of five years) and there have been no significant changes to your health.

**Health assessments are required of all applicants**

The health assessment is the first part of the application to be filled out when applying to come to the Falkland Islands. Delays in doing this will delay your application.

**Chest X-Ray Requirements**

If you hold a passport from a place that is not on the list below, you must provide a Chest X-ray.

**Countries, Areas and Territories with a low incidence of tuberculosis (TB)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| American Samoa | Cyprus | Jordan | Saint Lucia |
| Andorra | Czech Republic | Libya | San Marino |
| Antigua & Barbuda | Denmark | Liechtenstein | Slovakia |
| Australia | Dominica | Luxembourg | Slovenia |
| Austria | Finland | Malta | Sweden |
| Barbados | France | Monaco | Switzerland |
| Belgium | Germany | Monserrat | Trinidad & Tobago |
| Bermuda | Greece | Netherlands Antilles | Turks & Caicos Islands |
| British Virgin Islands | Grenada | Netherlands | United Kingdom |
| Canada | Iceland | New Zealand | United States of America |
| Cayman Islands | Ireland | Norway | United States Virgin Islands |
| Chile | Israel | Oman | Vatican City |
| Costa Rica | Italy | Puerto Rico |  |
| Cuba | Jamaica | Saint Kitts & Nevis |  |

**You must provide a Chest X-ray Certificate if you:**

* Have lived in or visited a place / places not on the list above for a combined total of three months or more in the five years prior to your application.
* Have previously applied and provided a Chest X-ray Certificate, however, you have since spent six consecutive months in any one or more countries not on the list above since your previous application.

*Example:*

*You hold a British passport and you live in the United Kingdom, which is on the list above. However, in the last five years, you have spent five weeks in Thailand and eight weeks in Fiji. Thailand and Fiji are not on the list, therefore you have spent a total of at least three months in a place which is not on the list. You must complete a Chest X-ray Certificate.*

*Example:*

*You hold a Chinese passport and live in China. You have previously spent twelve months in the United Kingdom as the holder of a student visa. You provided a Chest X-ray Certificate with your previous application to the UK, which was dated less than 36 months ago. However, since your previous application you have spent six months in China. China is not on the list. You must complete a Chest X-ray Certificate.*

**Where do I go for a medical examination?**

If you live in the UK or the Falkland Islands your own General Practitioner (GP) can complete the form. If you come from Ireland, Canada, USA, Australia or New Zealand your own doctor can complete this form.

If you live outside any of the countries listed you will need to have the form completed by an approved panel physician. Panel physicians are doctors who have been approved by the Falkland Islands Government to undertake this medical examination. A list of approved panel physicians can be obtained from the King Edward Memorial Hospital.

If you live in a country which does not have any panel physicians, a registered medical practitioner, preferably your own GP, can complete this assessment.

**How long are medical assessments valid for?**

A health assessment, and / or a Chest X-ray Certificate (and associated reports) must be less than three months old at the time you lodge your application.

Generally, health assessments and chest X-ray certificates provided to us can be valid for five years, and immigration permits can be issued for a maximum of four years, however immigration permit validities can vary depending on the results of your health assessments. If you have lodged another application with us recently, and you provided a health assessment and / or chest X-ray certificate with your previous application, you may not have to submit another assessment provided there have been no changes in your health.

**What will we do with information about your health?**

When you have submitted your application, we will assess your health status. We use the information provided on your health assessment form as the basis of our assessment.

We may request further medical information from you after you have lodged your application if we need to establish whether you have an acceptable standard of health. We will then pass on your health assessment to the Customs & Immigration Service for them to process your immigration permit application.

**People who do not have an acceptable standard of health**

It does not affect your statutory rights to apply, however if you, or any family member does not have an acceptable standard of health, your application may be refused by the Customs & Immigration Service. With certain conditions a medical waiver may be granted or exceptions put in place. These will be considered on a case by case basis.

**A medical waiver cannot be granted if you or your family have one of the following:**

* A requirement for dialysis treatment, or dialysis treatment will be required within five years from the date of the medical assessment; or
* Severe haemophilia; or
* A physical, intellectual, cognitive and/or sensory incapacity that requires full-time care, including care in the community, or full-time special needs at school; or
* Current tuberculosis (TB) (any form including pulmonary, non-pulmonary, multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant TB) and has not completed full treatment for TB.
* A history, diagnostic findings or treatment for multidrug-resistant or extensively drug-resistant TB.

**Applicants who are pregnant**

Applicants who are pregnant need to have a full discussion with the Chief Medical Officer before applying, i.e. so that the applicant can make a fully informed decision about whether to move to the Falklands and proceed with their pregnancy in the Islands or not.