



# WHAT A FOREIGNER SHOULD KNOW DURING RESIDENCE IN TAIWAN

## 1. Extension for Alien Resident Certificate(ARC):

Within 30 days prior to the expiration date of your own residence, you must go to local service centers of National Immigration Agency(NIA) close to where you have resided with your passport, current ARC, Taiwanese spouse's ID or household certificate, a 2x2 inch photo and NT\$1,000 to 3,000 for the fee. If you cannot apply for the extension of residence in person, you can authorize your spouse or other people to apply for that for you with these documents mentioned above and the power of attorney. If you are not in Taiwan while applying for extension of residence, you also can entrust other people in Taiwan to apply for that for you with your original passport, current ARC, other documents in need and the power of attorney authenticated by Taiwanese embassies abroad.

## 2. Work in Taiwan:

By the Employment Service Act, a foreigner with a valid ARC that the purpose of his/her residence in Taiwan is dependent is allowed to work in Taiwan without applying for working permit but cannot do some jobs against the laws of Taiwan e.g., sexual trading.

## 3. Relatives Coming to Taiwan for visit:

Your relatives need to apply for visas at Taiwanese embassies abroad in the first place. After entering Taiwan, they cannot work or do some activities unrelated to their purposes of visas and need to depart Taiwan before the deadline of visas to avoid having a record of overstay, which could affect their next application of visas.

## 4. Changing address:

If you move to a new place, please go to local NIA service centers close to where you have moved in to apply for modification of your resident address within 15 days. You could be fined if failed to do it.

## 5. Divorce or death of Taiwanese spouse:

At first, you need to report the situation at local household registration office. Then you must apply for alteration of your purpose of residence in Taiwan at local NIA service centers.(A foreigner without his/her children's guardianship after divorce has to leave Taiwan within specified days, but he/she can continuously stay in Taiwan if he/she has children, who are aged under 20, with household registration in Taiwan after divorce judged by Taiwanese courts because of domestic violence.)

## 6. Domestic violence:

If your Taiwanese spouse treats you violently, you can apply for the mandate of protection at local police stations or through dialing 113 to the special line for protection of women and children. ( If you have a valid protection order, you can still apply for extension of your ARC at local NIA service centers.)

## 7. Identifications or certifications detained by someone:

If your Taiwanese spouse viciously detains your own passport or ARC, you can report the event to local police stations asking assistance to retrieve it. If your Taiwanese spouse refuses to return it to you, you can apply for a new ARC and a document reporting a passport missing with some paper proving the situation at local NIA service centers.

## 8. Being identifications or certifications with you any time:

ARC is an important certification for you while residing in Taiwan, and you need to take it with you any time for identifying and contacting in case of emergency.



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### **9. Requiring assistance for looking for a missing foreigner:**

Please report that a foreign spouse is missing to local brigades of NIA for asking help to search.

### **10. Overstay in Taiwan:**

If a foreigner has overstayed in Taiwan for 91 days or above, he/she must prepare his/her own passport, ARC, flight ticket that the flight will depart within 10 days and NT\$10,000 and then come to local brigades of NIA to accept interrogation and pay the fine of NT\$10,000 for being permitted to leave Taiwan within 10 days. If a foreigner has overstayed in Taiwan for 90 days or less, he/she must take his/her own passport, ARC, flight ticket that the flight will depart within 10 days and NT\$2,000 to 8,000 based on how long he/she has overstayed in Taiwan to go to local service stations of NIA to pay the fine for being allowed to depart Taiwan within 10 days.

(\*A foreigner aged less 14 will not be punished for the overstay, but he/she aged 14 to 18 will need to pay the money half of regular fine for the overstay)

11. Since 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2008, a foreign spouse with continuous and authentic marriage does not have to depart Taiwan after paying the fine to local NIA service centers of for having overstayed 29 days or less in Taiwan. His/ Her resident duration will not be interrupted due to this but days of overstay will not be counted into the duration of legal residence in Taiwan.

### **12. Expiration date of passports is due:**

Prior to the deadline of valid passports, please go to the embassy representing of the government of your home country in Taiwan to apply for extension of his/her passport or replacing his/her current passport with a new one.

### **13. Early application of the extension of ARC due to special reasons:**

A foreigner spouse can early come to local NIA service centers of for applying extension of his/her own ARC with some documents in need because he/she needs new ARC to ask for new certifications such as drive licenses, or credit cards.

**WE CARE ABOUT WHAT YOU CARE**

Second Kaohsiung City Service Center, Southern Administration Corps,  
National Immigration Agency, Ministry of the Interior