

# Start-up Visa Program

## How to apply?

The program is designed to promote the establishment of start-ups and boost innovation in Latvia. It is a **temporary residence permit (TRP)**.



While not mandatory, but we suggest to send us a free-form description of the start-up idea at [startup@liaa.gov.lv](mailto:startup@liaa.gov.lv), before applying at OCMA, to check whether your idea qualifies for the visa.



**Book an appointment (via phone or e-mail)**

**either**

Inside Latvia - through any OCMA division ([list of all branches](#))

**or**

Outside Latvia - through the Consular Section of Latvian Embassy\* ([list of embassies and consulates](#))

\*In case of applying outside of Latvia, call the respective embassy and learn about the process. While in general the process is similar, some details, timelines and fees may vary.



**Appointment Day - Submit Documents**

### Application Package:

- Valid passport (if you have multiple, bring all)
- **Fully** filled application for a residence permit
- 3x4 cm photo on a light background
- Proof of subsistence (bank statement) - 780 EUR \* 12 months = 9360 EUR
- Free-form description of the start-up & detailed 3 year plan of commercial activities
- Statement about criminal records
- Proof of payment of the state fee



**State Fee** (paid by card or bank transfer):

- 30 days - 160 EUR
- 10 working days - 280 EUR
- 5 working days - 560 EUR

### Important!

- TRP can be issued to max 5 foreign founders under the same start-up
- Need to have a valid Schengen visa for the whole application period
- OCMA can prolong the process if necessary (even if paid for fast-track)



**Decision Letter from OCMA**

OCMA will send you a decision letter (*Lēmums*) - if you have any difficulties understanding it, please contact us.

**Upon positive decision OCMA will ask you to submit the following documents and biometric data:**

- Annual health insurance policy
- Medical certificate confirming you don't have tuberculosis
- Proof of residence in Latvia (rent agreement on your name or statement of owner allowing you to live there)



**How to Receive Your TRP?**

**Pay the State Fee** (by card or bank transfer):

- 10 working days - 45 EUR
- 2 working days - 80 EUR

**Pick Up Your TRP at OCMA by bringing:**

- Decision Letter
- Passport

### Important Things to Remember:

TRP recipient is not allowed to be employed or be a member of the board of another company in Latvia. BUT being a shareholder is OK!

To keep your TRP valid:

- Be registered as a member of the board in a newly established company
- Within a year - attract an investment (>30k EUR from a VC fund or >15k EUR from an accelerator/business angel)

**OR**

If you don't attract investment within a year, you shall submit your progress report. Committee will then decide whether to renew your TRP

TRP is issued for max 3 years, but it needs to be renewed annually by submitting progress report to OCMA

