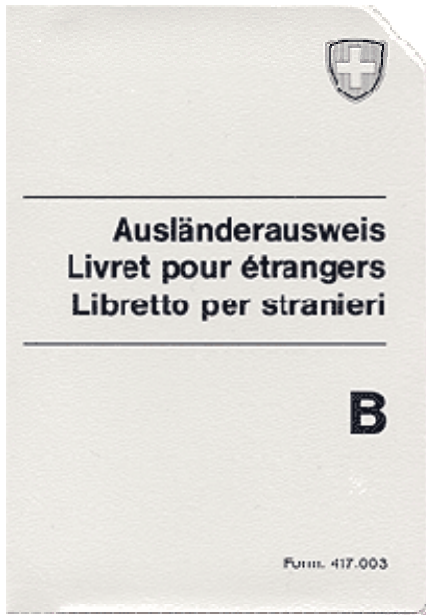


Residence permits for third-country nationals

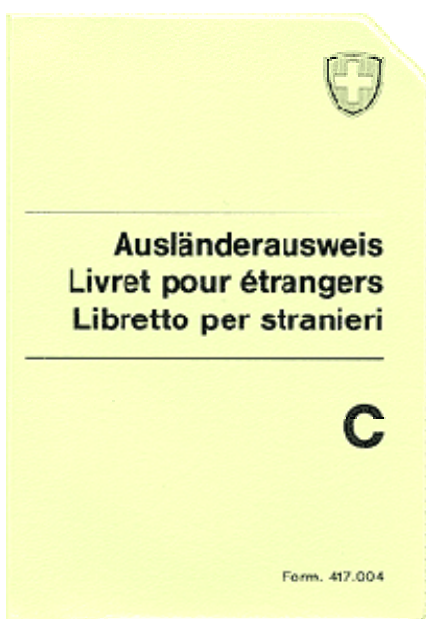
Permit B:



Resident foreign nationals are foreign nationals who are resident in Switzerland for a longer period of time for a certain purpose with or without gainful employment.

D. As a rule, the period of validity of residence permits for **third-country nationals** is limited to one year when the permit is granted for the first time. First-time permits for gainful employment may only be issued within the limits of the ceilings and in compliance with Arts. 7-11 BVO. Once a permit has been granted, it is normally renewed every year unless there are reasons against a renewal, such as criminal offences, dependence on social security or the labour market. A legal entitlement to the renewal of an annual permit only exists in certain cases. In practice, an annual permit is normally renewed as long as its holder is able to draw a daily allowance from the unemployment insurance. In such cases, however, the holder is not actually entitled to a renewal of the permit.

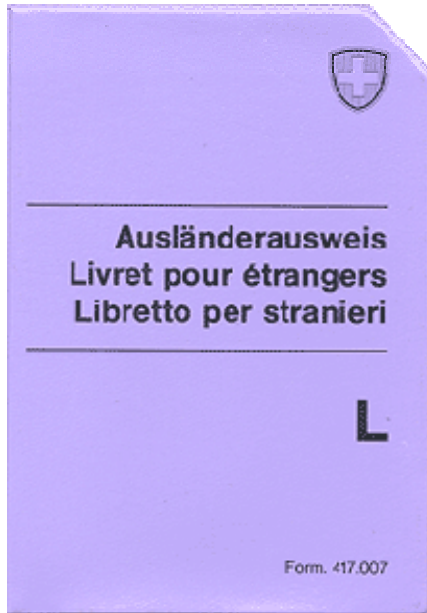
Permit C:



Settled foreign nationals are foreign nationals who have been granted a settlement permit after five or ten years' residence in Switzerland. The right to settle in Switzerland is not subject to any restrictions and must not be tied to any conditions. The Federal Office of Migration fixes the earliest date from which the competent national authorities may grant settlement permits.

As a rule, **third-country nationals** are in a position to be granted a settlement permit after ten years' regular and uninterrupted residence in Switzerland. US nationals are subject to a special regulation. However, third-country nationals have no legal entitlement to settlement permits. Apart from the provisions of settlement treaties, such a claim can only be derived from Arts. 7 and 17 ANAG and Art. 60 of the Asylum Act. Persons who hold a settlement permit are no longer subject to the Limitation Regulation, are free to choose their employers, and are no longer taxed at source.

Permit L:



Short-term residents are foreign nationals who are resident in Switzerland for a limited period of time, usually less than a year, for a certain purpose with or without gainful employment.

Subject to the provisions of Arts. 7-11 BVO, **third-country nationals** can only be granted a short-term residence permit for a stay of up to one year, as long as the ceiling for the number of third-country nationals which is fixed annually by the Federal Council has not been reached. The period of validity of the permit is identical with the term of the employment contract. In exceptional cases, this permit can be extended to an overall duration of no more than 24 months, provided the holder works for the same employer throughout this time. Employment as basic and advanced training practicals in Switzerland are also regarded as short-term residences. Permits which are granted to foreigners who are gainfully employed for a total of no more than four months within one calendar year are not subject to the quota regulation.

Trainees are also granted short-term residence permits. The period of validity of the permit is limited to one year but can be extended by another six months in exceptional cases. Trainees are persons who are aged 18-30, have completed their occupational training and want to undergo some advanced occupational or linguistic training in the context of gainful employment in Switzerland. Trainees are subject to special rules, which have been laid down in special treaties. Thus they are subject to special quotas, and the legal provisions concerning national priority are not applicable to them.