
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

NO. R. 7744

27 July 2026

DRAFT FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS ON FEES MADE UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ACT, 2002

The Department of Home Affairs (the "Department") invites public comments on the Draft First Amendment of the Regulations on Fees made under the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No. 13 of 2002).

Written submissions should reach the Department **on or before 11 August 2026**. Written submissions should be addressed to the **Chief Director: Legal Services** and may be forwarded to the Department in any of the following manners:

- (a) delivered by hand to the Department at **230 Johannes Ramokhoase Street, Hallmark Building (c/o old Proes and Andries Street), Pretoria, 0001**, for attention of **Adv Moses Malakate** (Tel.: (012) 406 4273) or **Adv Phumeza Dlabathi** (Tel.: (012) 406 2820);
- (b) mailed to the Department at **Private Bag X114, Pretoria, 0001**; or
- (c) e-mailed to: IMSRegulations@dha.gov.za.

Any enquiries should be directed to **Adv Moses Malakate** at **076 481 4716** or **Adv Phumeza Dlabathi** at **(012) 406 2820**.



DR L.A. SCHREIBER, MP
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

DATE: 24/07/26

GENERAL NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

No. R. _____ 2026

IMMIGRATION ACT, 2002

DRAFT FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS ON FEES MADE UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ACT, 2002

I, Dr Leon Amos Schreiber, MP, Minister of Home Affairs, hereby give notice that I, after consultation with the Immigration Advisory Board and with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, intend, in terms of section 7(1)(i) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No. 13 of 2002) ("Immigration Act"), to amend the Regulations on Fees, 2005, made under the Immigration Act.

In order to facilitate efficient and secure travel processing during the G20 Summit, the Department of Home Affairs ("Department") successfully introduced the Electronic Travel Authorisation ("ETA") platform in October 2025. This platform has remained operational and continues to be available to nationals of certain participating countries as part of the Department's broader digital transformation programme.

During the State of the Nation Address ("SONA") delivered on 12 February 2026, President Ramaphosa identified the ETA as a key enabler for economic growth. The President further announced that the ETA will be extended to tourists from all countries that require a visa to visit South Africa, enabling applications to be processed digitally and seamlessly within 24 hours. The Department is now ready to deliver this presidential commitment.

At the time of the implementation of the first phase of the ETA, visa fees for the onboarding countries were temporarily waived because the ETA platform did not yet include an integrated online payment capability. Consequently, neither visa fees nor a dedicated ETA processing fee have been charged to date, despite the need to invest in operational maintenance of the system.

The ETA has, so far, been operating as a fully subsidised service, which is unsustainable. The Department is now ready to roll out additional functionality, including an integrated online payment capability to collect application fees. It is proposed that a processing fee be set at R500,00 (Five Hundred Rand) per ETA application.

In the next phase, the ETA will become compulsory for travellers from non-visa-exempt countries included on the platform. Initially, it will be optional for travellers from visa-exempt countries. However, notwithstanding the optional nature of the platform for visa-exempt travellers, the Department anticipates fast uptake of this new system from visa-exempt travellers, given the significant improvements in efficiency and security it delivers.

As a result, visa-exempt travellers who voluntarily elect to utilise the ETA platform for an enhanced, streamlined and more convenient travel experience will also be liable for the R500,00 processing fee. This initial voluntary approach is intended to encourage uptake while preserving existing visa-free travel privileges.

Travellers from visa-required countries that are visa-fee exempt will be required to utilise the ETA platform and will be liable only for the visa processing fee of R500,00. No visa fee will be imposed on this category, in line with existing policy provisions relating to visa fee exemptions.

Travellers from visa-required countries that are not visa-fee exempt will be required to use the ETA platform and will be liable for both the applicable visa fee and the ETA processing fee of R500,00.

This dual fee structure ensures alignment with current cost-recovery principles, while supporting the maintenance, sustainability and operational funding of the ETA solution.

The introduction of the ETA platform and an associated processing fee of R500.00 per application will therefore deliver immediate cost savings for the category of

travellers reliant on the current outsourced service provider, as such travellers will now be paying a total of R925.00 per application, instead of the R1 975.00 they are currently charged. In effect, the Department is insourcing this critical function and enhancing state capacity, at a price for prospective tourists that is less than half the price they currently pay.

Table one: Existing fee structure

Category	Current outsourced service provider fee	Existing visa fee	Total cost to traveller
Non-visa-exempt	R1 550 (compulsory)	R425	R1 975
Non-visa-exempt but visa-fee exempt	R1 550 (compulsory)	R0	R1 550
Visa-exempt	R0	R0	R0

Table two: Proposed new fee structure

Category	Proposed new ETA to insource processing	Existing visa fee	Total cost to traveller
Non-visa-exempt	R500 (compulsory)	R425	R925
Non-visa-exempt but visa-fee exempt	R500 (compulsory)	R0	R500
Visa-exempt	R500 (voluntary)	R0	R0 or R500 (voluntary)

The ETA provides enhanced convenience to users in that travellers will be able to submit their applications from the comfort of their homes through a fully digital platform, eliminating the need to travel to South African missions or VFS application centres. This reduces both direct and indirect costs, including travel expenses, time, and administrative burden.

The introduction of the ETA platform also brings significant national security benefits.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

No. R. _____ 2026

IMMIGRATION ACT, 2002

DRAFT FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS ON FEES MADE UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ACT, 2002

I, Dr Leon Amos Schreiber, MP, Minister of Home Affairs, intend to, in terms of section 7(1)(i) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No. 13 of 2002), after consultation with the Immigration Advisory Board and with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, make the regulations in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

Definition

1. In this Schedule “the Regulations” means the Regulations made under the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No. 13 of 2002), published under Government Notice No. R.615 in Government *Gazette* No. 27725 of 27 June 2005.

Amendment of regulation 2 of the Regulations

2. The following regulation is hereby substituted for regulation 2 of the Regulations:

“2. The following fees, referred to in section 7(1)(i) of the Act, shall be payable in respect of the applications specified:

Application	Section of the Act	Amount (R)
Electronic processing fee (applicable to all visas and permits submitted and processed online)	7(1)(i)	R500, 00
Certificate to enter or depart from the Republic at a place other than a port of entry	9(3)(b)	R425, 00
Port of entry visa	10A	R425, 00
Transit visa	10B	R425, 00
Visitor's visa (including applications for renewal)	11	R425, 00
Study visa (including applications for renewal)	13	R425, 00

Treaty visa (including applications for renewal)	14	R425, 00
Business visa (including applications for renewal)	15	R1 520, 00
Medical treatment visa (including applications for renewal)	17	R425, 00
Relative's visa (for immediate family member other than a spouse or minor child) (including applications for renewal)	18	R425, 00
Work visa (including applications for renewal)	19	R1 520, 00
Retired person visa (including applications for renewal)	20	R425, 00
Corporate visa (including applications for renewal)	21	R1 520, 00
Exchange visa (including applications for renewal)	22	R425, 00
Permanent residence permit (excluding applications by a foreigner contemplated in sections 26(b), 26(c) and 27(d) of the Act	25	R1 520, 00
Proof of permanent residency	7(1)(i)	R100, 00

Short title and commencement

3. These Regulations shall be called the First Amendment of the Regulations on Fees and shall come into operation on **17 August 2026**.