

Client Alert

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Ministerial instructions to enhance the attractiveness of France - provisions concerning applications at the Prefecture under the Talent Passport scheme

Summary: Making France attractive to international talent is a government priority. The Ministry of the Interior reminds us of the main measures in force in order to ensure quality reception and prompt processing of applications at the Prefecture under the Talent Passport residence permit scheme.

I - "Ensuring quality information and facilitating access to the prefecture".

In order to streamline the path for applicants for Talent Passport residence permits (worker and accompanying family), the appointment request for both the first requests and the renewal will not go through the on-line appointment booking systems, but by specific procedures set up with dedicated counters. Personalized interviews can be organized. In all cases, access to the counter should not require more than two weeks of waiting. Finally, the applications under the Talent Passport process should be an on-line process at the end of 2020.

II - "Recommendations in terms of instructions".

Rapid processing of applications must be ensured, with approximately fifteen days between the filing of the application and the issuance of the residence permit. It is recalled that the authority which takes the decision to grant the residence permit is the consulate. The Prefect limits its instruction to questions of public order.

The national list of supporting documents for a first-time Talent Passport requests has been simplified. The birth certificate will not have to be produced either for the first time or for renewal. The period of validity of proof of address is also increased to six months. The list of supporting documents for renewal of Talent Passport employee categories as well as ICT postings must also be simplified by decree.

It is recalled that a Provisional Residence Authorization (APS) of six months will be systematically issued pending the effective delivery of the residence permit. The Circulation Documents for Minor Children (DCEM) are issued for the same duration as the parents' residence permit and the services of the Prefecture are invited to always check the travel needs of applicants and their children.

Finally, it is reminded that the change of status is authorized and does not constitute a misuse of procedure. The applicant should fulfill the substantive conditions of the new category of residence permit, and the application for such permit must be made during the period of validity of the initial residence permit. A change of status is a plausible event in the life course of foreign nationals holding a residence permit in France. This is the case for holders of an ICT title or for students applying for a Talent Passport or another professional title.

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