

The Dutch highly skilled migrants scheme

In order to stimulate the knowledge-based economy, the Netherlands has created the highly skilled migrants scheme. This scheme makes it easier for Dutch employers to employ highly skilled workers from outside the European Union. In order to do this, the company must have the status of recognised sponsor, which indicates that it is a reliable partner of the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND).

Middle Point has the recognised sponsor status. Middle Point has years of experience in applying for residence permits for its employees in the context of the highly skilled migrants scheme. This means that Middle Point is able to handle the application process efficiently and effectively, so you can focus on your new job and life.

Conditions

To be eligible for the highly skilled migrants scheme, you must meet the following conditions:

- You must have an employment contract with an employer in the Netherlands. This employer must be acknowledged by the IND as a **recognised sponsor**.
- A highly skilled migrant aged **30 years or older** must earn a salary of €4,500 gross per month (year 2019).
- A highly skilled migrant **under the age of 30**, must earn a salary of €3,299 gross per month (year 2019).
- Where a highly skilled migrant has held the 'orientation year for highly educated persons' residence permit, in the subsequent year the highly skilled migrant must earn a salary of €2,364 per month (year 2019); where a highly skilled migrant has not held this 'orientation year highly educated persons' residence permit, the highly skilled migrant must earn a salary of €2,364 (year 2019), provided that work is taken up within 3 years of graduation or completion of a scientific research project. *This lower threshold also applies if your employer applies for a highly skilled migrant residence permit for you and you meet the requirements for the orientation year for highly educated persons (looking for work after graduation, or after completion of a PhD or scientific research project), but you have not previously held an 'orientation year for highly educated persons' residence permit that was issued on the basis of this graduation or scientific research project. What happens if you have previously held an 'orientation year for highly educated persons' residence permit, but no application was made for a 'highly skilled migrant' residence permit during your orientation year nor in the subsequent year? Then the lower threshold does not apply. In that case, depending on your age, you must earn an income that is at least equal to the standard amount for highly skilled migrants aged 30 years or older or highly skilled migrants under the age of 30.*
- The agreed salary must be in line with **market conditions**.
- You must have a valid passport or other travel document.
- You must complete a **criminal record declaration form**. In this declaration form, you must provide information about your criminal past. For example, you will declare that you have not committed any crimes, that you have not provided any false information and that you have not resided illegally in the Netherlands.
- **Within three months** of arriving in the Netherlands, you must have a **medical examination for tuberculosis** (TB). This is not necessary if you have the nationality of one of the countries that are exempt from this requirement. If you do not meet these conditions, your residence permit may be revoked.

The aforementioned conditions can change annually. To see the most recent version and salary criteria, please go to <https://www.ind.nl>

In addition to helping you, if applicable, we can also apply for residence permits for your family members, so that they can live and work in the Netherlands together with you. Documents required as part of this process include a legalised and translated birth certificate and, if applicable, a legalised and translated marriage certificate.

You can rest assured that Middle Point will actively help you with the application process for highly skilled migrants residence permit. Although we have an excellent track record in applying for highly skilled migrants residence permits for our employees, it is the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) that decides on the granting of the permits. We are never able to guarantee the outcome.

Questions

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.