

VISA OPPORTUNITIES

STARTUP VISA

The [Startup Visa](#) is a residence visa for non-EU-Schengen startup founders who want to be part of one of the fastest developing startup communities in Europe. The program focusses on foreign entrepreneurs who want to establish an innovative business, will have access to a residence visa thus allowing the development or relocation of their startup business to Portugal. This visa is also available to entrepreneurs who want to develop their project in Portugal or still have no business company in their country of origin, and/or for entrepreneurs that already have entrepreneurial projects developed in their country of origin and are looking to establish a business in Portugal.

The Startup Visa is an online submission that has no deadline as it is a rolling programme. The program is executed by one of our partnering companies, IAPMEI, together with the National Network of Incubators that works throughout the country. This will help to ensure that your business will be set up next to a community of entrepreneurs in the Portuguese ecosystem and help you become acquainted with all the idiosyncrasies of the Portuguese and European markets.

The visa application is an online process. Once you have selected and attached an invoice of the certified incubators you wish to physically incubate your startup with during the Startup Visa program, your application is complete and you are ready to go! Entrepreneurs can apply for the Startup Visa [here](#). A complete list of the certified incubators can be found [here](#) as well as any [FAQ](#) for further assistance.

TECH VISA

The [Tech Visa](#) is a certification programme created within the national strategy Startup Portugal, that aims to ensure that highly qualified staff, especially from technological areas, can access jobs created by Portuguese incorporated companies or startups, in a simplified way. This program is available to nationals from countries not included in the Schengen area. Our partner, IAPMEI, is responsible for the evaluation and certification of companies, under the Tech Visa program.

The Tech Visa certification is valid for a period of 2 years and is renewable. Companies may recruit highly qualified workers from all over the world and have access to a reduced visa and recruiting bureaucracy.

Companies have a maximum ceiling of 50% of workers recruited through the Tech Visa Program. Companies from the inland have a higher ceiling. There will be a minimum mandatory wage for workers recruited through the Tech Visa Program.

VISA PARTNERS

There are two very important partners that are responsible for the management and success of the Startup and Tech Visas.

1. [IAPMEI](#)

Both visa programs are executed by one of our key partnering companies, IAPMEI. This partner is the main governmental agency for economic policies targeted to Portuguese companies and it works under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy. The company envisages the future of the economy through the digitization of processes, focused on process design that brings improvement to various organizations. The Startup Visa is one of the programs IAPMEI has available for international entrepreneurs seeking to live and work in Portugal.

2. [The National Network of Incubators](#)

The National Network of Incubators and accelerators is a nation-wide network empowered to support entrepreneurs when they start and aims to reduce to half their failure rate. The goal of The National Network of Incubators (RNi) is to identify, connect and enable existing incubators and accelerators of startups created by associations, universities, scientific and technological centres, local authorities and national and international private companies. More than 120 incubators, accelerators, FabLabs and coworkers are already part of this network.