

## Information Note on visa requirement for Malawi citizens travelling to Ireland

Malawian citizens require a valid visa to travel to Ireland. This requirement assists in protecting Malawian nationals who visit Ireland in order to attend conferences, visit family or friends, or for holiday purposes. It also ensures coherence with the United Kingdom with whom Ireland shares a border and operates a Common Travel Area.

Those planning to pursue further studies comprise the large majority of Malawians visiting Ireland. **Only courses included in the Interim List of Eligible Courses are eligible for immigration permission. This list is available on the INIS website. If your chosen course, or college, is not on this list, no visa will be issued.**

Malawian nationals visiting Ireland are also required to hold a separate, valid Schengen visa in order to travel to European Union member states within the Schengen area.

Applicants **must apply online** at [www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie)

Hard copies of material requested must then be brought, in person, to the Embassy.  
**Consular hours are strictly 8.00 AM-10.30 AM.**

Necessary items include

1. Visa Application Summary sheet- signed and dated. This sheet is generated through your online application
2. Two passport size photos, signed on the reverse by the applicant, **with a plain, white background**
3. Passport valid for **at least** six months
4. Invitation letter from host/sponsor. (Please note: invitations by students studying in Ireland are **not** accepted).
5. Sponsor's bank statement for past six months
6. If self-funding, applicant's bank statement for past six months **with proof** that Applicant has habitual access to **at least** €3,000. If seeking a visa for study purposes, applicant must show habitual access to €7,000.
7. Hotel booking or letter from host confirming accommodation. Host must provide his/her permission to reside in Ireland (if a non-EEA national), I.D., residential address, and must clearly state his/her relationship to applicant
8. Letter from employer in Malawi supporting the trip and detailing purpose and duration of travel
9. Pay slips for the last three months
10. If self-employed, proof of business
11. If child under 18 years of age, school permission; consent letters from both parents and their I.D.s - certified by Lawyer
12. For student visa applications: school's proof of registration; acceptance letter; proof of fee payment; medical insurance cover
13. Return air ticket /itinerary **and** travel insurance
14. Clear and explicit proof of the applicant's intention to return to Malawi

Not all of this documentation may be relevant to a specific application but equally, **more documentation may be necessary depending on the nature of the application.**

**Cost of Visa:**

- Single Entry Visa - €60
- Multiple Entry Visa - €100
- Transit Visa - €25

Visa costs payable in Malawi Kwacha. Exchange rate is updated at the beginning of every month and details are on our website at <https://www.dfa.ie/irish-embassy/malawi/news-and-events/>

The Embassy does not make the final decision on visas. This is a matter for the Department of Justice and Equality in Dublin. **This decision may take up to twelve weeks or longer.**

**It is important to bear in mind that even if a visa has been approved immigration officials ultimately decide entry into the State.**

*For further queries please contact [lilongweem@dfa.ie](mailto:lilongweem@dfa.ie)*

**Embassy of Ireland, Lilongwe**