

**Article 59**  
**(Conditions for issuing a permanent residence permit)**

(1) A permanent residence permit may be issued to an alien on the following conditions:

- a) that he/she has resided on the territory of BiH on the basis of a temporary residence permit for at least five years uninterruptedly prior to submitting the application for issuance of a permanent residence permit,
- b) that he/she has sufficient and regular funds in order to support himself/herself,
- c) that he/she has confirmed adequate accommodation,
- d) that he/she has confirmed health insurance,
- e) that he/she has knowledge of one of the languages and scripts which are in official use in BiH, and
- f) that there is no criminal procedure being conducted against the alien, which is proved with a certificate issued by the competent authority of the country in which he/she has habitual place of residence and which is not older than six months from the day of applying for residence.

(2) An examination of knowledge of one of the languages and scripts which are in official use in BiH may be conducted by universities, secondary education institutions or education institutions for adults, which, on the basis of an approval of the ministry competent for education in BiH, conduct programs for learning of a language which is in official use in BiH and examinations. The following are excluded from examination: preschool children, persons attending or have finished primary, secondary or higher education in one of the languages in official use in BiH and persons over 60 years of age unless they are in a work relationship. The expenses of potential courses for language learning and examinations are paid by the alien.

(3) An alien is considered to uninterruptedly reside in BiH if during the period of five years he/she repeatedly left BiH for up to 10 months in total or for up to six months on a single occasion.

(4) An alien shall submit an application for the approval of permanent residence within the time of validity of his/her temporary residence.

(5) An alien shall not be granted permanent residence even in the case of fulfilled conditions if, in the past five years, he/she resided in BiH:

- a) on the basis of temporary protection or has submitted an application for temporary protection and awaits a decision on his/her status;
- b) on the basis of international protection or has submitted an application for temporary protection and awaits a decision on his/her status;
- c) on the basis of a legal status as set out in Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations from 1961, Vienna Convention on consular relations from 1963, Convention on special missions from 1969 or Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character from 1975;
- d) on the basis of temporary residence due to humanitarian reasons under Article 54 (*Temporary residence on humanitarian grounds*), paragraph (1), item b), c), d) and e) of this Law;
- e) for the purpose of serving a sentence or execution of another criminal sanction or other commitment on the basis of a Court decision or a decision of another competent authority;
- f) on the basis of medical treatment or rehabilitation,
- g) on the basis of work without a work permit toward the realization of a project relevant for BiH which is implemented by an international or a local institution or a humanitarian organization, an association, a foundation or another organization;
- h) on the basis of work without a work permit if an alien provides services on behalf of a foreign employer or is a volunteer, or

i) on the basis of family reunification with an alien whose basis for temporary residence does not belong to the one which is subject to application for permanent residence in BiH.

(6) An alien whose temporary residence is granted on the basis of education, for the time necessary for the approval of permanent residence as referred to in paragraph (1), item a) of this Article, half of the time spent on the basis of granted temporary residence is considered. Application for permanent residence which is filed during temporary residence may not be on the basis of education.