

## **Harmonised list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for a Schengen visa in the Russian Federation: business/work**

- 1) Harmonised visa **application form** completed and signed by the applicant.<sup>1</sup>
- 2) **Travel document** valid for at least three months after the intended date of (last) departure from the Schengen area, containing at least two blank pages and issued within the previous ten years.
- 3) **Photograph** in line with ICAO guidelines ([http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex\\_A-Photograph\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf)).
- 4) **Visa fee** in line with the categories of the visa facilitation agreements with Russia and the Visa Code.
- 5) **Travel medical insurance** Applicants for a uniform visa for one or two entries shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance to cover any expenses which might arise in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention and/or emergency hospital treatment or death, during their stay(s) on the territory of the Member States. Applicants for a uniform visa for more than two entries (multiple entries) shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance covering the period of their first intended visit. The insurance shall be valid throughout the territory of the Member States and cover the entire period of the person's intended stay or transit. The minimum coverage shall be EUR 30 000.
- 6) **Copy of the internal passport** (issued at the age of 14): pages concerning the applicant's biodata, foreign passport(s) issued to him/her, his/her marital status and registration in Russia.
- 7) *In cases of minors:*
  - i. **Copy of the birth certificate.**
  - ii. **Consulate General of Greece in Moscow and Consulate General of Greece in St.Petersburg:**  
**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian DULY NOTARIZED** is required if the minor travels with both parents/ legal guardians or alone or only with one parent/ legal guardian. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the singleparent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

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<sup>1</sup> In cases of minors, the application form shall be signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or legal guardianship.

**Consulate General of Greece in Novorossiysk:**

**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian** should be required only if the minor travels alone or only with one parent. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the singleparent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

- iii. **Copy of the valid Schengen visa of the parent(s) travelling with the minor** for whom a visa is not applied at the same time with the parent(s).
- 8) *In cases of third-country nationals, proof of legal residence* in the Russian Federation in line with federal legislation (e.g. residence permit, long-term visa or FMS registration), valid for at least three months after the planned return from the Schengen area or a document proving that the applicant has applied for a renewal of proof of legal residence. If not resident, proof of legal presence in the Russian Federation and justification for submitting visa application in the Russian Federation instead of the country of residence. Original work certificate indicating the position, duration of work and average monthly salary. The certificate must be issued on the company's letterhead (indicating its address and phone numbers) and certified by the signature of the person in charge and the seal. Certificates issued not earlier than a month before the submission of documents are accepted.
- 9) *As per category of traveller:*
- a) Members of official delegations:
- i) **Letter** (e.g. verbal note) issued by a competent Russian authority (e.g. MID) confirming that the applicant is a member of its delegation travelling to the Schengen Member State.
- ii) **Copy of the official invitation.**
- b) Participants in official twin city programmes:
- i) **Written request** from the head of administration/mayor of the city where the twinning activity is to take place.
- ii) **Written request** from the head of administration/mayor of the sending city with full details of the participant.
- c) Employees travelling on business:
- i) **Written request** from a hosting firm or organisation, an office or branch, state or local authority of the Russian Federation and the Member State or organising committees of trade and industrial exhibitions, conferences and symposia to attend meetings, conferences or events connected with trade, industry or work; if no such written request can be obtained, other proof of purpose of stay (e.g. information on participation in conference, entrance ticket to trade fair, business correspondence, programme of the business trip).
- ii) In case not already sufficiently demonstrated in the written request, **proof of employment.**

d) Self-employed people:

- i) **Written request** from a hosting firm or organisation, an office or branch, state or local authority of the Russian Federation and the Member State or organising committees of trade and industrial exhibitions, conferences and symposia to attend meetings, conferences or events connected with trade, industry or work; if no such written request can be obtained, other proof of purpose of stay (e.g. information on participation in conference, entrance ticket to trade fair, business correspondence, programme of the business trip).
- ii) **Proof of economic activity** (e.g. 2NDFL or 3NDFL form, extract from the trade/fiscal registry or certificate for individual business) or bank statement(s) covering at least three preceding months.

e) Drivers (international cargo and passengers):

- i) **Written request** from the Russian national association of carriers (ASMAP or RAS) or the national association of carriers of the Member State stating the purpose, duration and frequency of trips.

f) Members of train, refrigerator and locomotive crews:

- i) **Written request** from the competent Russian railway company (OAO-RZD with its branches and OAO "Refservice") or a competent railway company of the Member State stating the purpose, duration and frequency of trips.

g) Air crews (if in need of a visa):

- i) **Letter** from the operating body.

h) Journalists:

- i) **A certificate or other document** issued by a professional organisation proving that the person is a qualified journalist.
- ii) **Letter** from his/her employer stating that the purpose of the journey is to carry out journalistic work.

*(Freelance journalists: **proof of journalistic activity** (e.g. a press card or work contract) and proof of economic activity/financial means (e.g. 2NDFL or 3NDFL form, excerpt from the trade/fiscal registry, certificate for individual business, bank statement(s) covering at least three preceding months).*

i) Other short-term (90/180 days) labourers (if permissible with Schengen visa and relevant national law):

- i) **Letter** from the employer, **employment contract** and/or other document in accordance with the legislation of the Schengen Member State concerned.

## Harmonised list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for a Schengen visa in the Russian Federation: tourism/other private visits

- 1) Harmonised visa **application form** completed and signed by the applicant.<sup>2</sup>
- 2) **Travel document** valid for at least three months after the intended date of (last) departure from the Schengen area, containing at least two blank pages and issued within the previous ten years.
- 3) **Photograph** in line with ICAO guidelines  
([http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex\\_A-Photograph\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf)).
- 4) **Visa fee** in line with the categories of the visa facilitation agreements with Russia and the Visa Code.
- 5) **Travel medical insurance** Applicants for a uniform visa for one or two entries shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance to cover any expenses which might arise in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention and/or emergency hospital treatment or death, during their stay(s) on the territory of the Member States. Applicants for a uniform visa for more than two entries (multiple entries) shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance covering the period of their first intended visit. The insurance shall be valid throughout the territory of the Member States and cover the entire period of the person's intended stay or transit. The minimum coverage shall be EUR 30 000.
- 6) **Copy of the internal passport** (issued at the age of 14): pages concerning the applicant's biodata, foreign passport(s) issued to him/her, his/her marital status and registration in Russia.
- 7) *In cases of minors:*
  - i. **Copy of the birth certificate.**
  - ii. **Consulate General of Greece in Moscow and Consulate General of Greece in St.Petersburg:**

**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian DULY NOTARIZED** should be required if the minor travels with both parents/ legal guardians or alone or only with one parent/ legal guardian. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the single parent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

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<sup>2</sup> In cases of minors, the application form shall be signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or legal guardianship.

**Consulate General of Greece in Novorossiysk:**

**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian** should be required only if the minor travels alone or only with one parent. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the single parent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

iii. **Copy of the valid Schengen visa of the parent(s) travelling with the minor** for whom a visa is not applied at the same time with the parent(s).

8) *In cases of third-country nationals, proof of legal residence* in the Russian Federation in line with federal legislation (e.g. residence permit, long-term visa or FMS registration), valid for at least three months after the planned return from the Schengen area or a document proving that the applicant has applied for a renewal of proof of legal residence. If not resident, proof of legal presence in the Russian Federation and justification for submitting visa application in the Russian Federation instead of the country of residence. Original work certificate indicating the position, duration of work and average monthly salary. The certificate must be issued on the company's letterhead (indicating its address and phone numbers) and certified by the signature of the person in charge and the seal. Certificates issued not earlier than a month before the submission of documents are accepted.

9) *As per category of traveller:*

i. Visitors of military and civil burial grounds:

i) **Official document** confirming the existence and preservation of the burial ground and relationship between the applicant and the buried.

ii) **Proof of employment** (with salary information); if not available, other **proof of financial means and will to return** (e.g. bank/credit card statement(s) covering at least three preceding months, proof of real estate property in Russia or proof of sponsorship<sup>3</sup>).

ii. Property owners in the Schengen area and their close relatives:

i) **Relevant national document** (e.g. recent extract from the real estate register, copy of the purchase contract/deed of sale, etc.) proving that the applicant possesses the property in question.

ii) In cases of close relatives, **proof of the relationship**.

iii) **Proof of employment** (with salary information); if not available, other **proof of financial means and will to return** (e.g. bank/credit card statement(s) covering at least three preceding months, proof of real estate property in Russia or proof of sponsorship<sup>4</sup>).

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<sup>3</sup> including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO.

<sup>4</sup> including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO.

iii. Tourists and other private visitors:

- i) **Proof of accommodation** (e.g. an invitation/sponsorship form from the host if staying with one<sup>5</sup>, document from the establishment providing accommodation or any other appropriate document indicating the accommodation envisaged in accordance with the legislation of the Schengen Member State concerned); if not available, **adequate written description of the planned journey**.
- ii) **Proof of the itinerary** (e.g. a confirmation of the booking of an organised trip or any other appropriate document indicating the envisaged travel plans such as a reserved return ticket)<sup>6</sup>; if not available, **adequate written description of the planned journey**.
- iii) **Proof of employment** (with salary information); if not available, other **proof of financial means and will to return** (e.g. bank/credit card statement(s) covering at least three preceding months, proof of real estate property in Russia or proof of sponsorship<sup>7</sup>).

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<sup>5</sup> including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO. For visits to distant relatives/friends (not residents of the country being visited): proof of legal residence.

<sup>6</sup> If the reserved accommodation/return ticket is not deemed sufficient, the applicant can be requested for a proof of payment thereof.

<sup>7</sup> including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO.

## **Harmonised list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for a Schengen visa in the Russian Federation: close relatives'/family members' visits**

- 1) Harmonised visa **application form** completed and signed by the applicant.<sup>8</sup>
- 2) **Travel document** valid for at least three months after the intended date of (last) departure from the Schengen area, containing at least two blank pages and issued within the previous ten years.
- 3) **Photograph** in line with ICAO guidelines  
([http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex\\_A-Photograph\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf)).
- 4) **Visa fee** in line with the categories of the visa facilitation agreements with Russia and the Visa Code.
- 5) **Travel medical insurance** Applicants for a uniform visa for one or two entries shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance to cover any expenses which might arise in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention and/or emergency hospital treatment or death, during their stay(s) on the territory of the Member States. Applicants for a uniform visa for more than two entries (multiple entries) shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance covering the period of their first intended visit. The insurance shall be valid throughout the territory of the Member States and cover the entire period of the person's intended stay or transit. The minimum coverage shall be EUR 30 000.
- 6) **Copy of the internal passport** (issued at the age of 14): pages concerning the applicant's biodata, foreign passport(s) issued to him/her, his/her marital status and registration in Russia.
- 7) *In cases of minors:*
  - i. **Copy of the birth certificate.**
  - ii. **Consulate General of Greece in Moscow and Consulate General of Greece in St.Petersburg:**  
**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian DULY NOTARIZED** should be required if the minor travels with both parents/ legal guardians or alone or only with one parent/ legal guardian. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the singleparent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

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<sup>8</sup> In cases of minors, the application form shall be signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or legal guardianship.

### **Consulate General of Greece in Novorossiysk:**

**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian** should be required only if the minor travels alone or only with one parent. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the single parent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

- iii. **Copy of the valid Schengen visa of the parent(s) travelling with the minor** for whom a visa is not applied at the same time with the parent(s).
  
- 8) *In cases of third-country nationals, proof of legal residence* in the Russian Federation in line with federal legislation (e.g. residence permit, long-term visa or FMS registration), valid for at least three months after the planned return from the Schengen area or a document proving that the applicant has applied for a renewal of proof of legal residence. If not resident, proof of legal presence in the Russian Federation and justification for submitting visa application in the Russian Federation instead of the country of residence. Original work certificate indicating the position, duration of work and average monthly salary. The certificate must be issued on the company's letterhead (indicating its address and phone numbers) and certified by the signature of the person in charge and the seal. Certificates issued not earlier than a month before the submission of documents are accepted.
  
- 9) *As per category of traveller:*
  - a) Close relatives visiting Russian citizens residing legally in a Schengen Member State:
    - iii) **Written request** from the host person, whose authentic signature must be proved by the competent authority, in accordance with the legislation of the Schengen Member State concerned.
    - iv) **Proof of the legal residence of the inviting person and family tie** in accordance with the legislation of the Schengen Member State of residence.
    - v) **Proof of employment** (with salary information); if not available, other **proof of financial means and will to return** (e.g. bank/credit card statement(s) covering at least three preceding months, proof of real estate property in Russia or proof of sponsorship<sup>9</sup>).
  
  - a) Close relatives visiting EU (EEA & Swiss) citizens:
    - i) **Written request** from the host person, whose authentic signature must be proved by the competent authority, in accordance with the legislation of the Schengen Member State concerned.
    - ii) **Proof of the nationality of the inviting person and family tie** in accordance with the legislation of the Schengen Member State concerned.

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<sup>9</sup> including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO.

- iii) **Proof of employment** (with salary information); if not available, other **proof of financial means and will to return** (e.g. bank/credit card statement(s) covering at least three preceding months, proof of real estate property in Russia or proof of sponsorship<sup>10</sup>).
- b) Family members of EU (EEA & Swiss) citizens (not resident in their home country in line with Directive 2004/38/EC):
  - i) **Proof of the family tie** according to the legislation of the Schengen Member State of residence and of the EU.

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<sup>10</sup> including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO.

## **Harmonised list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for a Schengen visa in the Russian Federation: transit**

- 1) Harmonised visa **application form** completed and signed by the applicant.<sup>11</sup>
- 2) **Travel document** valid for at least three months after the intended date of (last) departure from the Schengen area, containing at least two blank pages and issued within the previous ten years.
- 3) **Photograph** in line with ICAO guidelines  
([http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex\\_A-Photograph\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf)).
- 4) **Visa fee** in line with the categories of the visa facilitation agreements with Russia and the Visa Code.
- 5) **Travel medical insurance** Applicants for a uniform visa for one or two entries shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance to cover any expenses which might arise in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention and/or emergency hospital treatment or death, during their stay(s) on the territory of the Member States. Applicants for a uniform visa for more than two entries (multiple entries) shall prove that they are in possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance covering the period of their first intended visit. The insurance shall be valid throughout the territory of the Member States and cover the entire period of the person's intended stay or transit. The minimum coverage shall be EUR 30 000.
- 6) **Copy of the internal passport** (issued at the age of 14): pages concerning the applicant's biodata, foreign passport(s) issued to him/her, his/her marital status and registration in Russia.
- 7) *In cases of minors:*
  - i. **Copy of the birth certificate.**
  - ii. **Consulate General of Greece in Moscow and Consulate General of Greece in St.Petersburg:**  
**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian DULY NOTARIZED** should be required if the minor travels with both parents/ legal guardians or alone or only with one parent/ legal guardian. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the singleparent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

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<sup>11</sup> In cases of minors, the application form shall be signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or legal guardianship.

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**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian** should be required only if the minor travels alone or only with one parent. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the singleparent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested)

- iii. **Copy of the valid Schengen visa of the parent(s) travelling with the minor** for whom a visa is not applied at the same time with the parent(s).
- 8) *In cases of third-country nationals, proof of legal residence* in the Russian Federation in line with federal legislation (e.g. residence permit, long-term visa or FMS registration), valid for at least three months after the planned return from the Schengen area or a document proving that the applicant has applied for a renewal of proof of legal residence. If not resident, proof of legal presence in the Russian Federation and justification for submitting visa application in the Russian Federation instead of the country of residence. Original work certificate indicating the position, duration of work and average monthly salary. The certificate must be issued on the company's letterhead (indicating its address and phone numbers) and certified by the signature of the person in charge and the seal. Certificates issued not earlier than a month before the submission of documents are accepted.
- 9) If applicable, **documents related to the onward journey to the final destination** (visa or other entry permit for the third country of destination; tickets for onward journey).
- 10) **Proof of employment** (with salary information); if not available, other **proof of financial means and will to return** (e.g. bank/credit statement(s) covering at least three preceding months, proof of real estate property in Russia or proof of sponsorship<sup>12</sup>).

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<sup>12</sup>including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO.

## **Harmonised list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants for a Schengen visa in the Russian Federation: study or training, events or activities**

- 1) Harmonised visa **application form** completed and signed by the applicant.<sup>13</sup>
- 2) **Travel document** valid for at least three months after the intended date of (last) departure from the Schengen area, containing at least two blank pages and issued within the previous ten years.
- 3) **Photograph** in line with ICAO guidelines  
([http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex\\_A-Photograph\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www2.icao.int/en/MRTD/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf)).
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- 6) **Copy of the internal passport** (issued at the age of 14): pages concerning the applicant's biodata, foreign passport(s) issued to him/her, his/her marital status and registration in Russia.
- 7) *In cases of minors:*
  - i. **Copy of the birth certificate.**
  - ii. **Consulate General of Greece in Moscow and Consulate General of Greece in St.Petersburg:**  
**Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian DULY NOTARIZED** should be required if the minor travels with both parents/ legal guardians or alone or only with one parent/ legal guardian. Consent to the departure of minor children from parents or official representatives **must be issued no earlier than 6 months** before the submission of documents. The notarized form of consent must have a QR code and all countries of the Schengen Area must be mentioned in the form. Old consent forms without a QR code are not accepted. Consent of the parental authority or legal guardian is not required only if the singleparent with whom the minor is to travel holds the parental authority alone (i.e. in cases where the other parent has deceased or been deprived of custody, e.g. a death certificate of the other parent or a court degree vesting custody exclusively in the parent who is signing the application would be requested).

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<sup>13</sup> In cases of minors, the application form shall be signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or legal guardianship.

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- iii. **Copy of the valid Schengen visa of the parent(s) travelling with the minor** for whom a visa is not applied at the same time with the parent(s).
- 8) *In cases of third-country nationals, proof of legal residence* in the Russian Federation in line with federal legislation (e.g. residence permit, long-term visa or FMS registration), valid for at least three months after the planned return from the Schengen area or a document proving that the applicant has applied for a renewal of proof of legal residence. If not resident, proof of legal presence in the Russian Federation and justification for submitting visa application in the Russian Federation instead of the country of residence. Original work certificate indicating the position, duration of work and average monthly salary. The certificate must be issued on the company's letterhead (indicating its address and phone numbers) and certified by the signature of the person in charge and the seal. Certificates issued not earlier than a month before the submission of documents are accepted. For Students, Letter from the institution on institute's letterhead (indicating its address and phone numbers) and certified by the signature of the person in charge and the seal. Certificates issued not earlier than a month before the submission of documents are accepted.
- 9) *As per category of traveller:*
- a) Participants in scientific, cultural and artistic activities:
    - i) **Written request** from the host organisation in the Schengen Member State on participation in such activities.
    - ii) In case not included in the written request, a separate **statement on sponsorship** either from the sending or receiving party (or other proof of financial means)<sup>14</sup>
  - b) Pupils, students, post-graduate students and accompanying teachers:
    - i) **Written request or certificate of enrolment or student card** by the host university, academy, institute, college or school **or certificate of the courses** to be attended.
    - ii) In case not included in the written request, a separate **statement on sponsorship** either from the sending or receiving party (or other proof of financial means)<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup>including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO)

<sup>15</sup>including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO)

- c) Participants in international sports events and accompanying persons in their professional capacity:
- i) **Written request** from the host organisation (competent authority, national sport federation or national Olympic committee), including information on the role of the persons.
  - ii) In case not included in the written request, a separate **statement on sponsorship** either from the sending or receiving party (or other proof of financial means).<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup>including with a national form on proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation used by the following countries: BE, PT, DE, IT, NO)

*A "written request" referred to above shall contain the items mentioned in Article 4(2) of the EU-Russia Visa Facilitation Agreement as well as of the corresponding Article of the Denmark-Russia, Iceland-Russia, Norway-Russia and Switzerland-Russia Visa Facilitation Agreements on the invited person and inviting person/organisation.*

*Following Article 14(6) of the Visa Code, the consulate may waive one or more of the requirements above in the case of an applicant known to it for his integrity and reliability, in particular the lawful use of previous visas, if there is no doubt that he will fulfil the requirements of Article 5(1) of the Schengen Borders Code at the time of the crossing of the external borders of the Member States.*

*Following Article 21(8) of the Visa Code, the consulate may during the examination of an application in justified cases request additional documents, which are not mentioned in the above list, such as e.g. documents enabling an assessment of the applicant's intention to leave the Schengen territory before the expiry of the visa applied for, or request individual personal interviews. The applicant is hereby informed that submitting the abovementioned documents does not guarantee automatic issuance of a visa.*