

Handbook of frequently asked legal questions for persons displaced from Syria to Armenia

Preface

The conflict in Syria, which caused the displacement of more than 9 million persons, is the biggest humanitarian tragedy faced in the young 21st century. Among other populations and neighbouring countries, the crisis has affected Armenia and many diaspora Armenians as well. Since the outbreak of the conflict in Syria in March 2011, more than 16,000 persons primarily of ethnic Armenian background have sought protection in Armenia, of whom some 12,000 are estimated to remain in the country. Influx continues as does the conflict. UNHCR observes that persons arriving in Armenia more recently often find themselves in the most vulnerable conditions, as many have left acute fighting and were unable to bring any belongings with them.

Taking into account the importance of providing protection and reception to displaced persons as well as of taking steps towards their integration in the Republic of Armenia, the Chamber of Advocates undertook the legal advice programme “Legal Assistance to Syrian-Armenians.” The first phase of the programme comprised free legal assistance for displaced persons from Syria, legal counseling, free representation in state bodies, as well as judicial representation in straightforward cases.

The second phase constituted the publication of a legal brochure on the frequently asked questions raised during the first phase and identified through other experiences. This will serve as a compass and will provide an opportunity to people displaced from Syria to orientate in the legal environment of the Republic of Armenia.

The brochure is a more comprehensive product due to the involvement of two organisations having complementary knowledge and experience. On the one hand, UNHCR with its decades of experience in providing protection to displaced persons. On the other hand, the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia with its professional abilities to provide legal support to most vulnerable people.

It is important to note that the Republic of Armenia has supported the displaced persons from Syria since the outbreak of the conflict. This was demonstrated in different fields of state activity, from the adoption of legal acts (which promote the quick and favourable solution of Syrian-Armenians’ different problems) to micro-credit assistance.

In particular it should be noted that three protection options are available: (i) simplified acquisition of citizenship, (ii) accelerated asylum procedures which resulted in a 100 per cent recognition rate, or (iii) privileged granting of short, mid-term or long-term residence permits.

In our daily work serving displaced populations, we observed however that the displaced sometimes felt insufficiently informed to fully understand the advantages and disadvantages as well as the legal consequences of the different protection options available. This brochure will assist persons displaced from Syria, seeking protection in Armenia to make well informed decisions about which avenue towards protection they would like to take.

Moreover, the protection of refugees and other displaced population is primarily about ensuring respect for, protection of and fulfilment of their rights. This in turn is closely linked to the displaced persons being well informed about their rights, available assistance schemes and related procedures. Legal questions raised by persons of concern relate to documentation, economic rights and opportunities, impact on future migration plans, access to tertiary education and civil servant posts, military service requirements, access to social protection schemes and pensions and many other aspects of personal and economic life.

The authors of the brochure would like to express their gratitude to the Passport and Visas Department of the Police, the State Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration, the Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia, as well as key service providers among civil society, which have reviewed the content of the present brochure and submitted proposals.

Most importantly, we hope that this brochure will go some way to alleviating some of the stress of displacement and will contribute towards a smoother adaptation to life in Armenia.

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UNHCR Representative in Armenia

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Office of the Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia

Organizations providing free advice

Legal acts

1. Questions concerning entry visa for the Republic of Armenia

How to enter the Republic of Armenia (RA)?

Foreigners shall enter the Republic of Armenia on the basis of availability of a valid passport and in case of authorization by the Border Troops of the National Security Service adjunct to the RA Government. For the entry into the country, one of the following documents is required:

- Entry visa,
- Document attesting the residence status in RA.

Foreigners up to the age of 18 can enter RA with their parents, one of their parents, other legal representative or an accompanying person or alone if they are coming to the Republic of Armenia with their parents, one of their parents, other legal representative or to a host organization. The abovementioned requirements do not relate to persons arriving in the Republic of Armenia with the purpose to apply for asylum (see Chapter 4 for more detailed information).

Article 6 of the RA Law “On Foreigners”

What is the term of the RA entry visa?

Entry visas of the Republic of Armenia are issued for single entry for a term of up to 120-day stay, with the possibility of extension for a maximum term of up to 60 days.

Article 9 of the RA Law “On Foreigners”

How to obtain RA entry visa?

Syrian citizens of Armenian origin¹ (but not their relatives of non-Armenian origin) may obtain RA entry visa without an invitation, at the RA state border crossing points. Visas are issued by the respective unit of the Passports and Visas Department of the RA Police (OVIR).

Article 9 of the RA Law “On Foreigners”

Syrian-Armenians are exempted from payment for visas.

Article 26 of the RA Law “On State Duty”

What are the consequences of staying in Armenia without legal basis?

In case of foreigners, residence in RA without a valid permit or residence status or with invalid documents results in imposing a fine equal to AMD 50,000 – 100,000.²

Article 201 of the RA Administrative Offences Code

2. Questions concerning legalization of residence in the Republic of Armenia

There are three options available for the legalization of residence in Armenia:

1. Acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Armenia (see Section 3);
2. Acquisition of refugee status (see Section 4);

¹ The list of the documents certifying the Armenian origin has been defined by the RA Government and is presented In Chapter 3 of the present brochure.

² The amounts of fines and fees are stated as in force at the time of publication of the Brochure.

3. Acquisition of residence status (see Section 5).

What are the main observations by which one should be guided when choosing one of the mentioned options?

- Citizenship is a permanent solution to the displacement problem, as opposed to the refugee status and residence permit, which are of a temporary nature;
- You can apply for citizenship even after acquiring refugee status or residence permit but after acquiring citizenship you cannot acquire refugee status or residence permit;
- You can acquire citizenship before arriving in the RA but after that you cannot apply for the other two statuses anymore;
- One can renounce all three statuses. The renouncement of citizenship, however, is possible only in case of meeting all of the following conditions:
 - You have a citizenship of another country or you can present a reference from the authorized body of another country on the possibility of acquiring the citizenship of that country and
 - You are not being prosecuted,
 - There is no judgment of a court against you that has entered into force and is subject to execution,
 - Your renouncement of the RA citizenship does not contradict the national security interests of the Republic of Armenia,
 - You do not have outstanding obligations towards the State.

3. Questions concerning citizenship

What are the main consequences of the status of the citizen of the Republic of Armenia?

In case of acquiring RA citizenship:

- you receive a passport of the citizen of the Republic of Armenia, acquire a termless right to travel with it, to legally reside in RA and have access to RA diplomatic protection;
- you will benefit from the right of entering into the RA at any time;
- your children less than 18 years of age acquire RA citizenship (in case of children aged 0-14 it will happen automatically, and in case of children aged 14-18 it will happen with the children's consent);³
- male citizens of conscription age must serve in the Armed forces of the Republic of Armenia, except for cases prescribed by the law;
- you acquire the right to free of charge higher education in the framework of state quota envisaged for the RA citizens, on a competitive basis;
- you have the right to acquire land as a private property;
- you are granted the right to elect and be elected in all national and local self-governance elections as prescribed by the law;

³ In case only one parent has acquired Armenian citizenship, consent of the parents will be required.

- your spouse and parent of non-Armenian origin have the right to acquire RA citizenship being exempted from the requirements of residing in Armenia for the period of three years and knowing Armenian;
- your spouse and close relatives (parents, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandchildren) have the right to acquire residence status in the Republic of Armenia.
- According to the Syrian legislation currently in force, after acquiring RA citizenship you will not be deprived of Syrian citizenship. However, the possibility of changes being made to the legislation in future cannot be excluded.⁴ If you have concerns over losing your Syrian citizenship as a result of acquiring Armenian citizenship, you may consult a representative of UNHCR.

Who can be granted RA citizenship?

The following persons have the right to apply for RA citizenship:

Any legally competent person, who is 18 years of age, is not an RA citizen, resides (stays) in a foreign country or lawfully resides (stays) in the Republic of Armenia, may apply for acquiring RA citizenship, if he/she:

- 1) has been lawfully residing on the territory of the Republic of Armenia for the preceding 3 years;
- 2) is able to explain himself/herself in the Armenian language;
- 3) is familiar with the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia.

The above mentioned refers to persons of non-Armenian origin.

Persons of Armenian ethnicity acquire RA citizenship through a simplified procedure; for the latter the above listed three conditions are not mandatory.

A person who is not an RA citizen may be granted RA citizenship without being subject to the 1st and 2nd conditions set above, if he/she:

- 1) is married to a citizen of the Republic of Armenia or has a child who holds RA citizenship,
- 2) has parents or at least one parent that has held RA citizenship in the past or was born on the territory of the Republic of Armenia and had applied for RA citizenship within 3 years of attaining the age of 18;
- 4) has renounced RA citizenship of his/her own accord after January 1, 1995.

Article 13 of the RA Law "On RA Citizenship"

What documents are necessary to apply for RA citizenship?

The following documents are needed to apply for RA citizenship:

1. application;

⁴ For an analysis of the Syrian legislation on citizenship, you may consult Z ALBARAZI, "The Stateless Syrians – Report of the Middle East and North Africa Nationality and Statelessness Research Project", *Tilburg Law School Legal Studies Research Paper Series*, [2013], available at http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2269700.

2. passport and a copy of the passport;
3. 6 (colour) photographs of 35 x 45 mm size;
4. birth certificate and a copy of the birth certificate;
5. marriage certificate and a copy of the marriage certificate;
6. the spouse's passport and a copy of the passport, or a certificate of the spouse's citizenship;
7. birth certificate of the child and a copy of the certificate, or the certificate that certifies RA citizenship and a copy of the certificate, or the passport of the RA citizen and a copy of the passport.
8. residence certificate of a stateless person and a copy of the certificate, or the travel document and the document certifying the RA residence status and copies of these documents;
9. any of the documents certifying that the applicant is of Armenian origin (in case of applicants of Armenian origin);
10. document certifying the payment of the state fee (AMD 1,000).⁵

In case you are missing a document, seek legal advice from OVIR or organisations providing legal advice (listed in Annex 2 of this brochure).

What are the documents to certify being of Armenian origin?

- Passport bearing a note about being of Armenian nationality;
- Birth certificate bearing a note about being of Armenian nationality;
- Residence certificate of a stateless person,⁶ travel document, document certifying the residence status in the Republic of Armenia, bearing a note about being of Armenian ethnicity;
- Document on baptism issued by church institutions listed in the Annex 4 of the RA Government decree No. 1390-N (adopted on November 23, 2007)⁷, and approved by a Republic of Armenia diplomatic representation or a consular body in foreign countries, bearing a note about the baptized person or his/her parent being of Armenian ethnicity;
- Document on being of Armenian ethnicity issued by authorized bodies in a foreign country and approved with an apostil or consular validation;
- Other documents substantiating the circumstance of being of Armenian origin, approved by a Republic of Armenia diplomatic representation or a consular body in foreign countries;
- The birth certificate of a parent (or grandfather, grandmother, sister or brother) or other identification document bearing a note about being of Armenian ethnicity. You may also submit the birth certificate (or another document certifying ethnicity) of your brother or sister from father's or mother's side if your consanguineous parent is ethnic Armenian. In case of submitting a document stated in this point it is also necessary to submit a document confirming the relationship with the relevant person.

RA Government decrees No. 1522-N (adopted on 29.11.2012) and No. 1390-N (adopted on 23.11.2007)

⁵ Persons of Armenian ethnicity from a country of origin in a state of war are exempt from the payment of the state duty – *Government decree N 1469-N adopted on 22.11.2012.*

⁶ A special type of document issued to stateless persons residing in Armenia.

⁷ In Syria, these are the following church institutions: 'Mayr Ator Surb Echmiadzin' – 'Damascus Tem'; 'Metsi Tann Kilikio Katoghikosutyun' – 'Halepi Tem' and 'Jezirei Tem' (in Aleppo), 'Hay Katoghike Yekegheci' – 'Berio Tem' (in Aleppo), 'Damascus Tem' and 'Kamishli Tem'. For this and church institutions in other countries see Decree of the Government of Armenia No 1390-N of 23.11.07, available at <http://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=88586>.

What is the procedure for acquisition of RA citizenship?

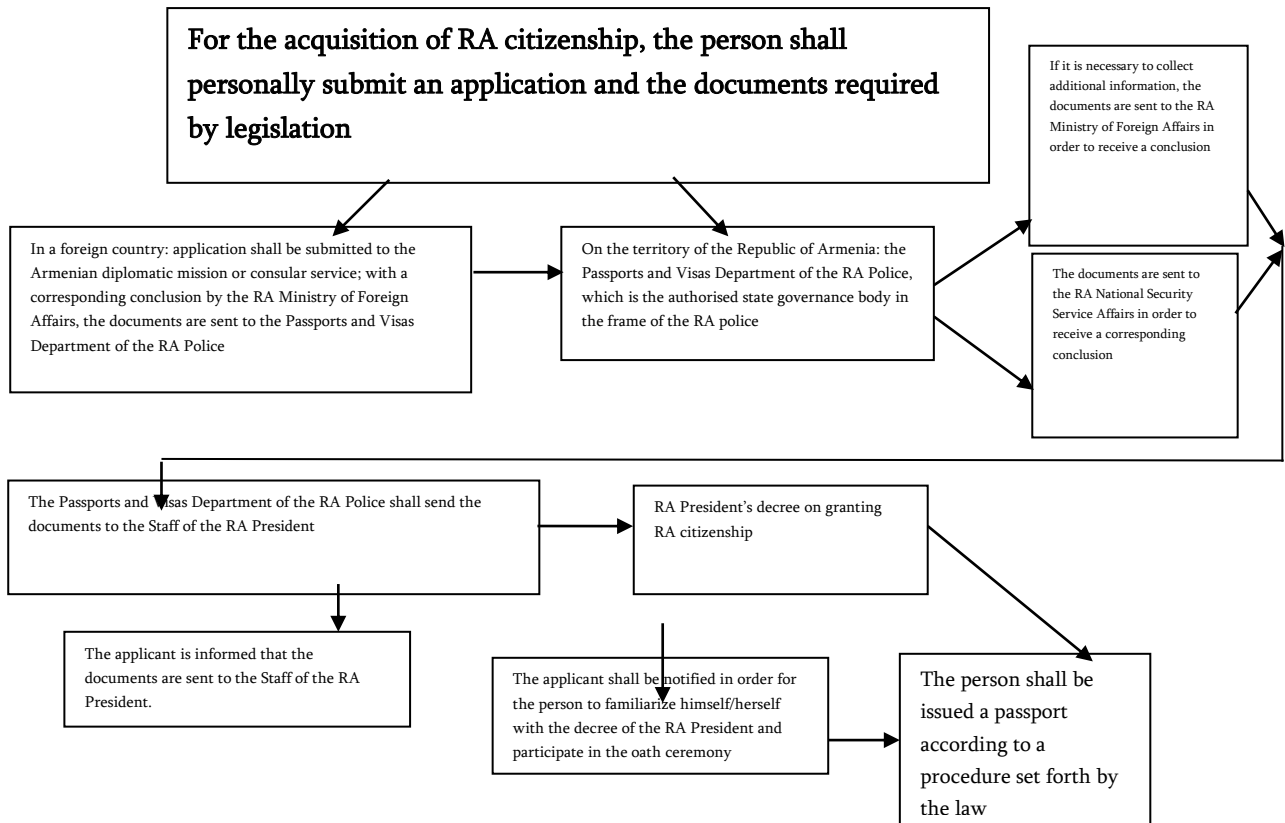
1. The person shall personally submit an application to the Armenian diplomatic mission or consular service in a foreign country, or, on the territory of the Republic of Armenia – to the Passports and Visas Department of the RA Police, which is the authorized state governance body in the frame of the RA Police.
2. For the collection of additional information about the applicant, the documents will be sent by the Passport and Visas Department to:
 - RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
 - National Security Service.
3. After the collection of comprehensive information, the Passports and Visas Department of the RA Police shall send the documents to the Staff of the RA President.
4. The applicant shall be notified that the documents were sent to the Staff of the RA President.
5. The President of the Republic of Armenia will issue a decree on granting RA citizenship.
6. The applicant shall be notified in order to familiarize himself/herself with the excerpt from the decree of the RA President and participate in the oath ceremony.
7. The person shall be issued a passport according to the procedure set forth the by the law.

Applications and petitions concerning citizenship issues shall be submitted in writing and considered within a six-month period. In case the application is rejected, the respective person shall be allowed to re-apply after one year from the date of rejection.

The Department sends the information on the process of applications regarding the acquisition of RA citizenship to the e-mail address of the applicant and/or mobile phone through SMS in a 3-day period, if the applicant has voluntarily filled in his/her e-mail address and/or mobile phone number in the questionnaire.

The applicant may be informed about the process of the application also through the official website of the Department, by inserting the individual code provided to him. The individual code is provided after the application is filed with the Department, by the e-mail address of the applicant or through the mobile phone number, simultaneously with the information being sent through SMS.

Diagram 1: Procedures for acquisition of RA citizenship



Who is exempted from fees for passports?

Those foreign citizens who are of Armenian origin or those citizens of the Republic of Armenia who are permanent residents of a foreign country where an emergency situation has emerged that threatens the life and health of the citizens, are exempted from the payment of fees for issuing or replacing a passport of an RA citizen that is valid in foreign countries.

RA Government decree No. 1469-N, adopted on 22.11.2012

Will your child also acquire RA citizenship in case you acquire RA citizenship?

A child under the age of 14 whose parents have acquired RA citizenship shall acquire RA citizenship automatically.

If the parents have acquired RA citizenship, their children of 14-18 years of age shall acquire RA citizenship in case of their written consent.

If one of the parents has acquired RA citizenship, while the other is a foreign citizen or a stateless person, the child shall acquire RA citizenship, if both parents consent, or if the child resides on the territory of the Republic of Armenia and the parent who holds RA citizenship consents.

A child of foreign citizens who have acquired RA citizenship shall acquire RA citizenship on the basis of an application submitted in accordance with the procedure stipulated in RA legislation to receive a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 16 of the RA Law "On RA Citizenship"

If your child is born after you acquire RA citizenship, what citizenship will the child have?

A child, both of whose parents hold RA citizenship at the time of his/her birth, shall acquire RA citizenship regardless of his/her place of birth.

A child, one of whose parents holds RA citizenship at the time of his/her birth, while the other parent is unknown or is a stateless person, shall acquire RA citizenship.

If one parent holds RA citizenship at the time of the child's birth, and the other parent is a foreign citizen, the child's citizenship shall be determined by the mutual written consent of both parents. No special format for the consent exists. The consent needs to be signed by both parents. In case one of the parents is absent from Armenia, his/her signature needs to be verified by a notary.

In the absence of such consent the child shall acquire the citizenship of the Republic of Armenia, if he/she was born on the territory of the Republic of Armenia, or if he/she would become a stateless person if he/she does not acquire citizenship of the Republic of Armenia, or if the parents permanently reside on the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 11 of the RA Law "On RA Citizenship"

For additional information please contact the Passports and Visas Department of RA Police; address: 17/10 building, 4th district, Davtashen, Yerevan city; telephone: (010) 370263, hotline: (010) 37 02 64.

4. Questions concerning refugee status

What are the main consequences of applying for/being granted refugee status?

- After the decision is made to recognize you as a refugee, you are granted a Convention Travel Document, a right to travel with that document, a right to legally reside in RA and benefit from RA diplomatic protection for as long as the circumstances that forced you to leave your country of origin (country of permanent residence) persist;
- During the asylum procedure and after you are recognized as a refugee you are protected by the *non-refoulement* principle, which means that you cannot, without your consent, be returned to the country of your origin (country of citizenship or permanent residence) or removed to any other country from where you may be returned to your country of origin;
- As long as your application for a refugee status is being processed, you receive an asylum seeker's identification card, which is the document certifying your legal residence in Armenia;
- During the asylum procedure, and based on a referral issued by the state authorized body, you can reside in the temporary reception center for asylum seekers **in case there are available rooms**;
- After being granted a refugee status you acquire a number of rights equal to RA citizens, such as the following:
 - right to work,
 - right to basic general education,
 - right to receive medical care,
 - right to social protection,
 - intellectual property rights,
 - right to be engaged in entrepreneurship.
- In case of being recognized as a refugee, your family members (dependents), in case of their consent, will also be recognized as refugees,
- You will be granted the right to reunite in RA with your family members (persons under your care) residing outside of the Republic of Armenia.
- You will not serve in the Armenian Army.
- You will not be able to acquire land as your private property.
- You will not be able to take part in national elections (for President and National Assembly).

Who is a refugee?

According to Article 1A(2) of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, as well as to Article 6(1)(1) of the RA Law on Refugees and Asylum, a refugee is a foreign national who

- is outside of the country of his/her citizenship;
- has a well founded fear of being persecuted in that country on certain grounds (race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, political opinion);
- is unable or owing to such fear is unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of the country of his/her citizenship.

The same refers to stateless persons with regards to the countries of their habitual residence.

According to Article 6(2)(2) of the RA Law on Refugees and Asylum, a foreign national or a stateless person who is compelled to leave the country of his/her nationality, or, in case of a stateless person the country of his/her habitual residence due to generalized violence, foreign

aggression, internal conflicts, massive violations of human rights or other serious events disrupting public order, is also a refugee.

Are there any circumstances in case of which a person will not be recognised as a refugee even if he/she meets the criteria of the refugee definition?

A foreigner or a stateless person will not be recognized as a refugee if there are serious reasons to believe that he/she:

1. has committed a crime against peace, a war crime or a crime against humanity,
2. has committed a serious non-political crime outside Armenia before becoming an asylum seeker in the RA,
3. has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Which body recognizes a person as a refugee and within what time limits?

Asylum applications are examined and decisions regarding them are adopted by the State Migration Service of the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration within 30 days from the submission of application. This time limit may be extended in cases prescribed by law. As of June 2014 the rate of satisfaction of asylum applications submitted by Syrian citizens is 100%.

What is asylum?

Asylum is protection granted in the Republic of Armenia to a foreign national or a stateless person.

How to apply for asylum?

You need to:

1. Make an application at the state border crossing points of the Republic of Armenia to the Border Guard Troops of the Republic of Armenia, orally, in writing, with the help of sign language, or by any other means of communication, or
2. Submit an application to the State Migration Service (SMS) of the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration or to the Police of the Republic of Armenia, on the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 13 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

Regardless of your ethnicity you are entitled to apply for asylum even in cases when you have entered Armenia illegally, do not possess a passport or any other identity document. Your asylum application will be accepted and you will be registered by the SMS as an asylum seeker.

You may apply for and be granted refugee status in Armenia even if you have left Syria before the outbreak of the conflict if you cannot return there due to the conflict or other reasons.

In case an asylum seeker does not hold a valid travel document or a valid entry permit, the Border Guard Troops may hold him/her for up to 72 hours in the special facility provided for that purpose.

Article 46 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

Asylum seekers and refugees shall not be subjected to criminal or administrative liability for illegal entry into, or presence in, the Republic of Armenia. However, due to some inconsistencies between the legislation on asylum and Criminal Code of Armenia with respect to this issue, criminal prosecution and detention of asylum seekers having entered Armenia illegally is still possible.

It is important for those entering RA illegally to present themselves to the RA authorities (for example, territorial police) without delay, to state the reason for the illegal entry and the intention of seeking protection in the RA.

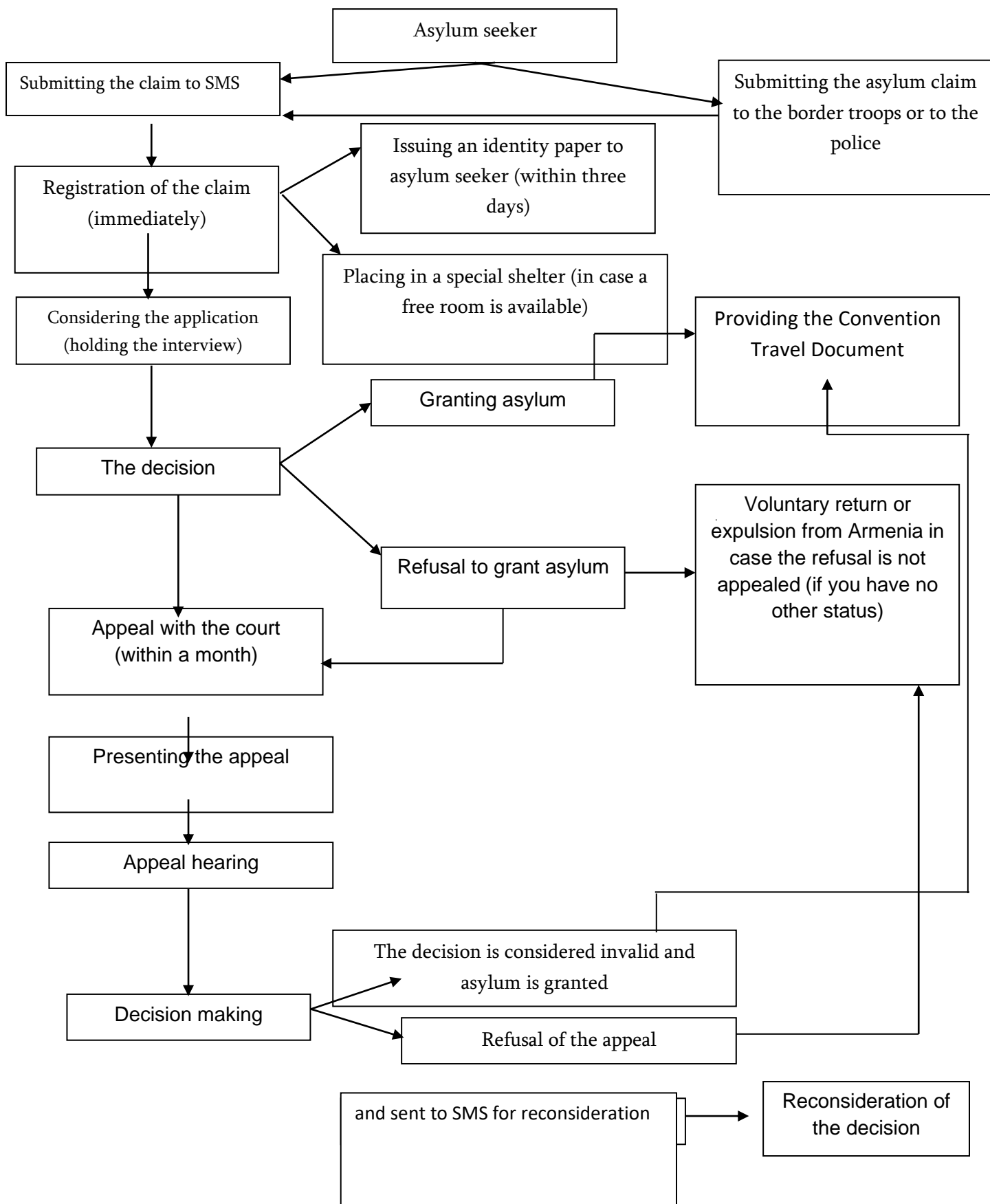
Article 28 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum. Article 329 of the RA Criminal Code

What if I return home?

In case you return home with a view to settle there again, your refugee status may be ceased by the SMS.

Article 10 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

Diagram 2: Procedures for granting asylum in Armenia



What documents are required to present along with asylum application?

1. A copy of the passport and/or other identity document (birth certificate, ID card, driver's license, military record book etc.), if available.
2. Four 35x45 mm colour photos.

Is an asylum seeker provided with shelter?

In case free rooms are available, asylum seekers and their family members are placed in the SMS-administered Temporary Reception Centre for asylum seekers. 40 rooms are available in the center with overall capacity to host about 40-50 persons. To receive accommodation at this Centre, a written request needs to be filed with SMS.

What documents are provided to asylum seekers?

The SMS shall, free of charge, issue an individual identity paper to every asylum seeker and his/her family members (including children), after submitting an asylum claim.

The identity paper of asylum seekers shall be issued for three months, and, until a final decision with regard to the asylum claim is made, the term of validity of such paper shall be extended each time for three months.

The identity paper shall confirm the fact of legal residence of an asylum seeker and shall be valid within the entire territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 29 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

What is the procedure for appealing against decisions adopted with respect to an asylum claim?

- Asylum seekers and refugees shall have the right to appeal - through a judicial procedure - against any negative decision as a result of an asylum procedure instituted with respect to an asylum claim, within 30 days after being informed of such decision. If no appeal is submitted within a period of 30 days, the decision shall become final. The decisions of the SMS may be challenged in three instances – Administrative Court, Administrative Court of Appeals and Cassation Court.
- Missing the time limit for appeal shall be considered to be for valid reasons, if the time limit has been missed for reasons beyond the control of the asylum seeker or refugee.
- After the reason(s) for missing the time limit for appeal ceases to exist, the asylum seeker may lodge an appeal with the court within 15 days, but not later than within 3 months starting from the day he/she was informed of adoption of the decision with respect to the asylum claim.

Article 57 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

What is the Convention Travel Document?

The Convention Travel Document (CTD) is the valid document which certifies the identity and the legal residence in the Republic of Armenia of a refugee and is intended for leaving the Republic of Armenia. It is issued free of charge by the Police of the Republic of Armenia. It shall be valid for two years, following which the document shall be renewed for additional two years each time. Children under 16 years are not issued a separate CTD; their data is included in their parent's CTD.

Article 30 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

What status will family members of a refugee acquire?

The following persons shall be considered a refugee and to have been granted asylum if they reside with a refugee who has been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia and do not enjoy the protection of any other country (different from the refugee's country of citizenship):

- The spouse of a refugee who has been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia;
- The child under 18 years of age of a refugee who has been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia;
- Other relatives or in-laws of a refugee who has been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia, if they are under the care of the refugee;
- Any other dependent of a refugee who has been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia;
- The parents of a child who has been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia, his/her siblings under 18 years of age, as well as siblings who are above 18 years of age and lack legal capacity.

Refugees who have been granted asylum in the Republic of Armenia shall have the right to reunification - in the territory of the Republic of Armenia – with the persons mentioned above.

Article 7 of the RA Law "On Refugees and Asylum"

What are the rights of asylum seekers in case their claims are rejected?

- If the application of an asylum seeker is rejected, and he/she does not appeal the decision of rejection, then he/she shall have the right to continue residing in the Temporary Reception Centre within a period of not more than 30 days.

RA Government decree N 1440-N, adopted on 19.11.09

- If the application of an asylum seeker is rejected, and he/she appeals the decision of rejection in the court, then he/she and his/her family members shall have the right to continue residing in the Temporary Reception Centre for the period until the decision of the Court legally enters into force. The validity of their asylum seeker's ID card will also be extended by SMS until a final decision is taken by the last instance court.

RA Government decree N 1440-N, adopted on 19.11.09

What are the main responsibilities of asylum seekers and refugees who were granted asylum?

- Asylum-seekers must provide comprehensive and accurate information relating to the grounds of their asylum claim to the State Migration Service.

- If an asylum seeker is granted refugee status, he/she must vacate the room he/she occupied in the Temporary Reception Centre, after receiving the decision on granting the refugee status.

RA Government decree N 1440-N, adopted on 19.11.09

- They must abide by the requirements set forth in the Armenian legislation.
- They must pay all taxes, duties and make mandatory payments equal to the citizens of the Republic of Armenia.

For additional information, please refer to the following::

*RA Ministry of Territorial Administration, State Migration Service /SMS/
4, Hrachya Kochar street, Yerevan; telephone: 010 225624, 010 225620, <http://www.smsmta.am/>
Handbook for asylum seekers in Armenia - <http://www.smsmta.am/up/brochure.PDF>*

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

14 Petros Adamyan street, Yerevan; telephone: 010 560212, <http://www.un.am/am/UNHCR>

5. Questions concerning residence status

What are the main consequences of acquiring a residence status in the Republic of Armenia?

- In case of acquiring a residence status you will be granted a series of rights equal to RA citizens, such as the following:
 - right to work,
 - right to basic general education,
 - right to receive medical care,
 - right to social protection,
 - right to be engaged in entrepreneurship.
- In case of acquiring a residence status you will not be provided with a travel document.
- You will not serve in the Armenian Army.
- You will not be able to acquire land as your private property.
- You will not be able to take part in national elections (for President and National Assembly).
- In case of acquiring a residence status the members of your family will also be able to acquire a residence status upon application.

What are residence statuses in the RA?

Residence statuses in the RA are as follows:

1. temporary (issued for a period of up to one year each time with a possibility of extension for one year),
2. permanent (issued for a period of 5 years with a possibility of multiple extensions of the same time period),
3. special (issued for a term of 10 years; it can be issued more than once).

The application for extending the validity period of the temporary and permanent residence cards is to be submitted to the Passport and Visas Department of the RA Police at least 30 days before expiration date.

Article 14, 15 and 16 of the RA Law "On Foreigners"

What are the grounds and terms for granting temporary residence status?

Short-stay residence permit is granted to each foreigner with proof of one of the following reasons justifying his/her stay in the territory of the RA for a period of one year and longer:

1. study,
2. availability of work permit,
3. being the spouse, parent or child of a foreigner having temporary residence status in the RA,
4. being the spouse or close relative (parent, child, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandchild) of a foreigner having permanent or special residence status in the RA,
5. undertaking entrepreneurial activity,
6. being of Armenian origin.

Article 15 of the RA Law "On Foreigners"

What are the grounds and terms for granting permanent residence status?

Permanent residence permit is granted to a foreigner if he/she:

1. Proves that he/she
 - (a) has a spouse or close relatives (parent, child, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandchild) in the RA who is an RA citizen or has a special residence status in Armenia and
 - (b) has an apartment in the RA and means for habitation and
 - (c) he/she has, before applying for permanent residence, resided in the RA for at least three years in accordance with the order prescribed by law,
2. Is of Armenian origin or is undertaking entrepreneurial activity in the RA.

Article 16 of the RA Law "On Foreigners"

Which authority makes a decision on granting or rejecting temporary and permanent residence status and within what period?

The Passport and Visas Department of the RA Police, within 30 days from the date of submitting the application.

Article 17 of the RA Law "On Foreigners"

What documents are required to be submitted for the application of temporary and permanent residence status?

1. application-questionnaire,
2. 3 colour photos of 35 x 45 mm size,
3. passport, passport copy and Armenian translation of the passport validated by the notary,
4. documents justifying the grounds for receiving residence permit (extending the residence permit in the RA,
5. statement on health,
6. payment receipt of state duty.

Government decree N 134-N, adopted on 07.02.08

What are the grounds for granting a special residence status?

Special residence status is granted:

1. to foreigners of Armenian origin,
2. other foreigners that are performing economic or cultural activities in the RA.

Article 18 of the RA Law "On Foreigners"

Which authority makes a decision on granting or rejecting special residence status and within what period?

The decision is taken by the RA President. The decision of the President is final and is not subject to appeal. No time-limit for adopting a decision is set by the RA legislation.

What documents are required to be submitted with the application for special residence status?

1. six colour photos of 35 x 45 mm size,
2. passport, passport copy and Armenian translation of the passport validated by the notary,
3. document certifying the Armenian origin⁸ (required in practice).

Who is exempted from the fees for residence status?

1. Foreign citizens of Armenian descent whose country of origin is in an emergency situation which threatens the life and health of the citizens (the Lebanese Republic, Syrian Arab Republic),
2. Close relatives of RA citizen (spouse, child, father, mother, sister, brother),
3. Persons under the age of 18,
4. Close relatives (spouse, child, father, mother, sister, brother) of a person with refugee status arriving in the RA.

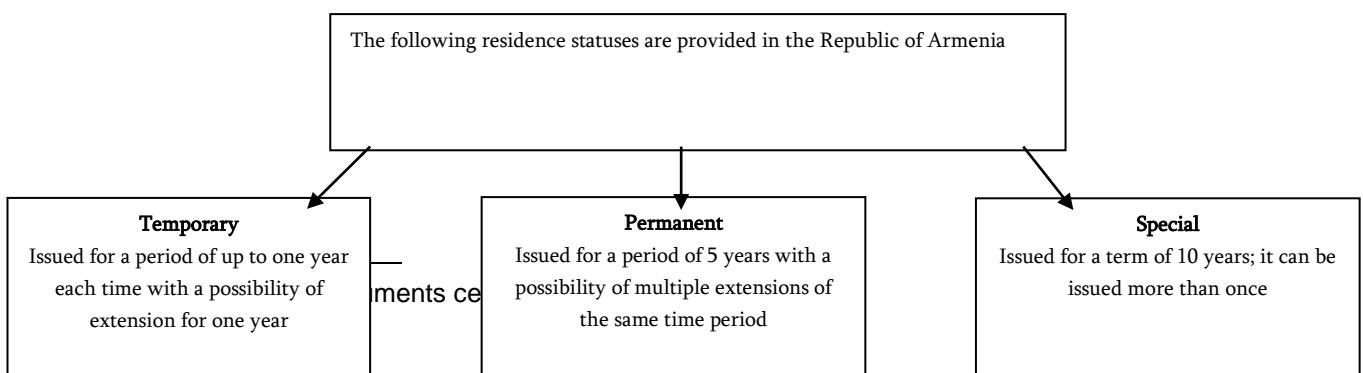
Article 26 of the RA Law "On State Duty"

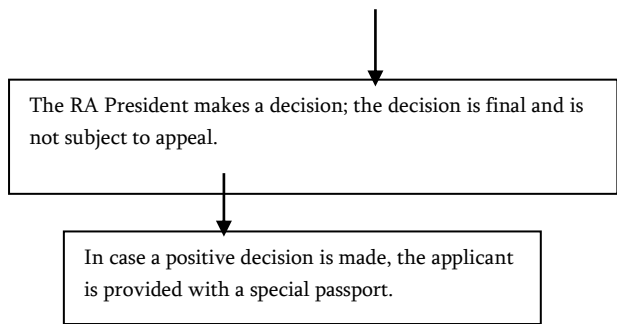
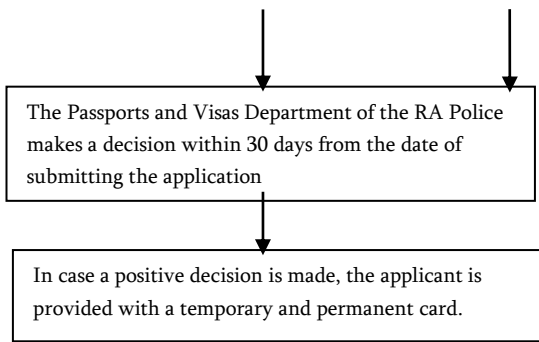
Can I lodge an appeal against refusal of application to acquire residence status

With the exception of special residence status, a foreigner can appeal rejection of application submitted for acquiring or extending a residence status in court. In case the court upholds the decision on rejecting acquisition or extension of residence status the foreigner shall be obliged to leave the territory of the RA within a period of 10 days after the court decision enters into legal force. In case of rejecting granting of residence status the foreigner can re-apply for acquisition of residence status after one year. A note on this is made in the decision on rejection.

Article 20 of the RA Law "On Foreigners"

Diagram 3. Types and procedures for granting residence status in the RA





For additional information contact Building 17/10, 4th district, Davitashen, c Yerevan, hot line: (010) 37-02-64.

6. Questions concerning the state registration of birth

Will the birth of children born to persons displaced from Syria in the Republic of Armenia be registered?

All children born in the RA shall have their birth registered irrespective of the status of their parents or the absence thereof.

Which authority performs state registration of child birth?

Civil Status Acts Registration (CSAR) agency registers births. You should apply to the agency of the place of birth of the child (that of community, or administrative region in case of Yerevan city) or the place of residence of the parents (one of the parents).

Article 15 of the RA Law “On Civil Status Acts Registration”

When should a notification on child birth be submitted to a relevant CSAR agency?

Written notification on child birth shall be submitted to CSAR agency not later than within one year after the date of child birth. Belated registration of child birth is also possible in a manner prescribed by law.

Articles 16, 21 of the RA Law “On Civil Status Acts Registration”

What documents are required for state registration of child birth?

Together with notification on child birth the following should be submitted:

- document certifying child birth (see also below),
- identity document of the parents (one of the parents) or the applicant (in case of foreign citizens and stateless persons, notarized Armenian translation of the identity document is also required),
- documents serving as grounds for completing information about the father in the record of child birth act (for instance, marriage certificate, document on recognition of fatherhood).

Articles 7 and 16 of the RA Law “On Civil Status Acts Registration”

Which are the documents certifying child birth?

Grounds for state registration of birth are as follows:

1. Document on birth issued by the medical institution where the birth occurred,
2. Document of defined form on birth issued by the medical institution which provided medical assistance during delivery,

3. Document of defined form on birth issued by the doctor in case of birth outside medical institution,

4. Written notification of defined form on birth given by the person(s) present at birth and a statement on child health issued by a medical institution in case of birth outside medical institution and without medical assistance.

If you are missing any of the above mentioned documents, state registration of birth will only be possible upon a court decision certifying the fact of childbirth.

Article 14 of the RA Law “On Civil Status Acts Registration”

For additional information contact Civil Status Acts Registration agency of the RA Ministry of Justice, address: 41a Halabyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 38-02-24.

7. Questions concerning the state registration of marriage (divorce)

From what age can a marriage be registered in the RA?

For registration of marriage, the mutual voluntary consent of the man and the woman and them being of the age of 18 are necessary.

The person can get married also at the age of 17 if the consent of his/her parents, adopters or trustee is available.

The person can get married also at the age of 16 if the consent of his/her parents, adopters or trustee is available and the other person who is getting married is at least 18 years old.

Which authority performs the state registration of marriage?

The state registration of marriage is performed by:

- The territorial body for Registration of Civil Status Acts of the place of registration (if a relevant reference letter is available, the place of residence) of one of the persons getting married;
- The Ceremonial Registration Board for Marriage and Birth in the system of the RA Ministry of Justice;
- The marriage between foreigners, stateless persons, RA citizens residing in a foreign country or with RA citizens is performed based on the permission of the Head of the Agency for the Registration of Civil Status Acts (RCSA) of the RA Ministry of Justice.

The registration of marriage of citizens living without a permanent registration is performed by the RCSA body of the temporary residence of the citizen getting married. In that case the citizen shall submit a reference letter from the place of temporary residence provided by the authorised bodies.

What documents are submitted for the state registration of marriage?

1. The joint written application of the persons who are getting married,
2. The identification documents of persons who are getting married, in case of foreigners, with a notarized translation;
3. In case of foreigners, a statement about the absence of a marriage provided by the authorized foreign bodies;⁹
4. A document on ceasing the previous marriage, if the person has been married previously (for instance, a divorce certificate, the death certificate of the spouse or a judgment of a court entered into legal force on recognizing the marriage as invalid, a judgment by a foreign court entered into legal force on divorce etc.).

How much is the state rate?

For the registration of marriage a state fee is charged equal to AMD 1000.

What is the time limit for registration of marriage?

The state registration of marriage is performed within 10 days after submitting a joint application to the territorial RCSA body.

Which are the grounds for the state registration of divorce?

1. The joint application of spouses to perform a divorce by the RCSA bodies with the mutual consent of the spouses,
2. The application of one of the spouses, if the other has been recognized by the court as missing or legally incapable or has been convicted to imprisonment for not less than three years,
3. The judgment of the court entered into legal force in case of divorces performed through a court procedure (when the consent of one of the spouses is absent, when one of the spouses, despite the absence of an objection, avoids executing the divorce at the RCSA bodies, or when the spouses want to divorce through court with a mutual consent).

For additional information please refer to the Agency for Registration of Civil Status Acts of the RA Ministry of Justice, Halabyan 41a, Yerevan; tel.: (010) 38-02-24, website:

www.moj.am.

8. Questions concerning state registration of death

Which are the grounds for the state registration of death?

1. The document of the prescribed form certifying the death provided by the medical organization or a doctor;
2. The judgment of the court entered into legal force on the confirmation of the fact of the death of the person or of recognizing the person as dead.

⁹ In case if it is not possible to acquire the statement, please consult with the RCSA in order to find a possible solution.

Which authority performs the state registration of death?

The RCSA body

1. of the last place of residence of the deceased,
2. of the place of the death,
3. of the finding of the corpse of the deceased,
4. of the place of the organization which provided the document on death.

According to the information provided by the RCSA Agency of the RA Ministry of Justice, the registration of death in Yerevan is done by the Territorial Department of Special Service in Yerevan of the RCSA Agency of the RA Ministry of Justice (address: Ayvazoski 14/4, Yerevan, telephone: (+374 10) 704026).

What documents are required for the state registration of death?

For the state registration of death the following should be submitted:

1. Application
2. The document of the prescribed form certifying the death provided by the medical organization or a doctor.
3. The judgment of the court entered into legal force if the fact of the death of the person has been confirmed or if the person has been recognized as dead through a court procedure. The fact of not providing the identification document of the deceased is not an impediment to the registration of death.

What is the time limit for registration of death?

The state registration of death is performed on the day of submitting the application to the RCSA body.

How much is the state fee?

No state fee is charged for the state registration of death.

9. Questions concerning military service

What is military service?

Military service is a special type of state service in armed forces or other troops. There are two types of military service: basic and reserve.

What is basic military service?

Basic military service consists of compulsory military service and contract enlisted service.

1. **Compulsory military service** is the military service of rank and file and officer corps, as well as of students of military educational institutions. It is 24 months for rank and file, and 2-3 years for reserve officers.
2. **Contract enlisted service** is the voluntary military service which is 3-5 years for officer corps and non-commissioned officers, and 2-3 years for rank and file.

Article 4 of the RA Law “On active service”

Will I be conscripted if I have dual citizenship?

1. Citizens of another country who have naturalized in the Republic of Armenia shall be exempt from compulsory military service if prior to naturalization in the RA he has served not less than 12 months in the armed forces of another state or has served alternative military service not less than 18 months in another state.
2. RA citizens who subsequently naturalize in another country shall not be exempt from compulsory military service regardless of the fact whether he has served in another country or not.
3. Dual citizen shall not be exempt from mobilization and drill meetings.

Article 3¹ of the RA Law “On conscription”

What is the age of conscription in the RA?

The age of conscription in Armenia is 18-27 years.

Article 11 of the RA Law “On conscription”

Who can be exempt from compulsory military service?

1. The citizen recognized by the national call-up commission as unfit for military service due to health condition (by being removed from military register), or the citizen recognized as unfit for military service in peaceful time (by registering in the reserve),
2. The citizen, whose father (mother) or brother (sister) lost his (her) life (deceased) during the defence of the Republic of Armenia or during performance of their military duties in the armed forces or other troops, and he is the only male child of the family,
3. Citizen who are exempt from service in specific circumstances upon the decree of the Government of Armenia,
4. The citizen who had served the compulsory military service in the armed forces of foreign states prior to admitting the RA citizenship,
5. The citizen holding an academic degree (Candidate of Science or Doctor of Sciences) in case he is engaged in professional, scientific or pedagogical activity.

Article 12 of the RA Law “On conscription”

For additional information contact the RA Ministry of Defence, address: Bagrevand 5, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 294699.

10. Questions concerning social rights

10.1. Questions concerning the right to education

Who has the right to education in the RA and what is the school age?

Each person has the right to education in the RA. Basic general education is mandatory for all children.

Secondary education in state educational establishments is free of charge.

Each citizen has the right to receive education free of charge, on a competitive basis, in higher and other vocational state educational establishments.

In the RA general education commences from the age of six and is carried out in three-level secondary general education schools with a total duration of 12 years, with the following successive levels:

1. primary school (1st-4th grades),
2. middle school (5th-9th grades),
3. high school (10th-12th grades).

What documents should be submitted for the admission to a general education school?

1. Application letter,
2. 2 photos,
3. Copy of the child's birth certificate,
4. Medical certificate on the child's health (from the health care facility of the catchment area),
5. Statement on the student's transfer from one school to another approved by the director of the school concerned (for admission to grades higher than the first one),
6. Student's personal file approved by the director of the school concerned (for admission to grades higher than the first one).

If you are missing any of these documents, please seek advice from the children's rights protection units under the Municipality of Yerevan (marzpetarans in marzes) or from organisations listed in Annex 2 of this brochure.

What higher educational establishments are there in the RA?

- university,
- institute,
- academy,
- conservatory.

What qualification levels are there in the RA?

- bachelor's degree,
- specialist's degree with diploma,
- master's degree.

How much should be paid for the conduction of examinations in higher educational establishments in the RA?

For the organization and conduction of examinations each applicant shall pay AMD 1500 per examination. The amount paid shall not be refunded regardless of the participation and result of the examination.

Who is exempt from the examination fee of higher educational establishments in the RA?

- Those demobilized from mandatory military service,
- Disabled persons of the 1st and 2nd groups and those under the age of 18 with childhood disabilities,
- Children of military servicemen who lost their lives (deceased) during the defence of the RA,
- Citizens who became disabled during performance of their duties of basic military service,
- Persons under the age of 23 without parental care.

What privileges are in place for Syrian Armenian applicants entering higher educational establishments in the RA?

Every year diasporan Armenians may apply to be admitted to the preparatory department of any faculty of the Armenian higher educational establishments. To do this, he/she should submit documents either to the RA Ministry of Education and Science or diplomatic missions of the RA in foreign countries between the period of July 01 and October 31, with the purpose of studying the Armenian language and professional subjects, and at the end of the academic year upon successful completion of the examinations they can either continue their studies or, by passing an interview on the subjects foreseen for admission and displaying satisfactory knowledge, immediately be admitted to the first year of the relevant faculty.

What documents should you submit?

1. Application letter addressed to the RA Minister of Education and Science with a mention of the chosen higher educational establishment and profession,
2. Copy of the passport,
3. Copy of the birth certificate with its Armenian (Russian) translation validated by the notary,
4. Copy of the certificate of education with its Armenian (Russian) translation validated by the notary, and the list of subjects studied and examinations passed,
5. Statement on general health condition,
6. Statement on AIDS,
7. Six photos (4x5cm).

Is admission of Syrian Armenian applicants to higher educational establishments of the RA possible on a free of charge basis?

As all diasporan Armenians, a Syrian Armenian applicant can be admitted by state order (free of charge):

- If at the admissions exam, he/she receives high scores,
- If the admissions commission makes a state order within the framework of the admission procedures for foreigners.

For additional information contact the RA Ministry of Education and Science, address: Government Building #3, Republic Square, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 52-06-32, hot line: (010) 52-73-43.

10.2. Questions concerning job selection

Each person has the freedom of job selection in the RA.

The ability of having employment rights and bearing responsibilities is equally recognized for all the citizens of the Republic of Armenia. Foreign citizens, stateless persons have the same right to employment in the RA as the citizens of the Republic of Armenia do.

What is “State Employment Service” agency?

It is a separated sub-division of the RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs whose task is to organize the following free of charge:

- recruitment,
- professional training courses,
- job fair.

Who can apply to the State Employment Service and what documents are required for registration?

Each job seeker can apply by presenting the following documents:

1. passport or another identity document,
2. public services number or a statement on not having it,
3. those who have acquired education – the document on education.

What documents are required for granting a status of unemployed to a person registered in the State Employment Service?

1. Statement on not receiving pension (from the territorial body of social service),
2. Document verifying the length of social insurance,
3. Military ID (persons who served in the military service),
4. Document on education (those who have acquired education),
5. Statement on the actual place of residence (from the Condominium),
6. Statement on the length of making mandatory social insurance payments or receiving salary,
7. Statement on the absence of agricultural land ownership or rental right in the name of the job seeker (from the State Committee of Cadastre for the Real Estate).

For additional information contact “State Employment Service” Agency of the RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, address: 68 K. Ulnetsi street, 5th floor, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 280619, hot line: 0800-01020.

10.3. Questions concerning medical assistance

Who has the right to medical assistance in the RA?

Each person has the right to receive medical care and service by the means prescribed by law.

Each person, including a foreigner, is entitled to receive free basic health care services. The list of services and procedure of provision are prescribed by Order N 71-N¹⁰ of the Minister of Health dated 18.11.13 which governs the relations related to the provision of inpatient medical assistance and service in the framework of free health care and service guaranteed by the state for the population of 18 years of age and older.

For additional information contact the RA Ministry of Health, address: Government Building #3, Republic Square, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 54-40-27, (010) 54-40-28, hot line: (010) 52-88-72.

10.4. Questions concerning benefits

Who is entitled to state benefits?

1. RA citizens,
2. Foreign citizens residing in Armenia and having residence permit (residency status),
3. Stateless persons residing in the RA,
4. Persons with refugee status in the RA.

Article 2 of the RA Law “On State Benefits”

What are the types of state benefits?

1. Family benefit,
2. Social benefit,
3. Temporary disability benefit,
4. Disability benefit,
5. Lump-sum child birth benefit,
6. Child care allowance for children under two years of age.

Article 5 of the RA Law “On State Benefits”

Who is eligible for family benefit?

A family registered in the family poverty assessment system (Paros) and having a member under the age of 18 shall be entitled to receive a family benefit. The monthly base rate of family benefit amounts to AMD 16000.

Article 13 of the RA Law “On State Benefits”, Government decree N 65-N of 30.01.14

Who is eligible for social benefit?

A family registered in the family poverty assessment system and not having a member under the age of 18 shall be entitled to receive social benefits. The monthly base rate of social benefit amounts to AMD 16000.

Article 16 of the RA Law “On State Benefits”, Government decree N 65-N of 30.01.14

What are the types of temporary disability benefits?

Types of temporary disability benefit are:

1. Sickness (injury) benefit,
2. Benefit in connection with prosthetic repair,
3. Benefit due to the need of sanatorium therapy,

¹⁰ See Order N 71-N of the Minister of Health, <http://www.arlis.am/documentview.aspx?docID=87826>

4. Pregnancy and labour allowance,
5. Attendance allowance for the sick member of the family.

Who is eligible for disability benefits?

Disability benefit shall be granted to a person with disability who is not entitled to pension, as well as to the person recognized as “a child with disability”. Disability benefit is granted for the entire period of the disability.

What are the rates of disability social benefit?

The monthly rates of disability social benefit are:

- For the person belonging to the first group of disability - AMD 19600,
- For the person belonging to the second group of disability - AMD 16800,
- For the person belonging to the third group of disability - AMD 14000.

Article 30 of the RA Law “On State Benefits”, Government decree N 1489-N of 26.12.13

What are the rates of lump-sum child birth benefits?

The rate of lump-sum child birth benefit amounts to AMD 50.000 for the first, second and third child born in the family. For each subsequent child, the amount is AMD 430.000.

Government decree N 65-N of 30.01.14

Who is eligible for child care allowance?

One of the two parents or single parent or adopter or guardian who takes child care leave in accordance with the Labour Code of RA shall be entitled to child care allowance for children under two years of age until the child turns two.

The monthly rate of child care allowance for children under two years of age amounts to AMD 18000.

Article 23 of the RA Law “On State Benefits”, Government decree N 65-N of 30.01.14

10.5. Questions concerning disability

Is the definition of disability given previously in Syria recognized in the RA?

Based on the fact that the disability group is defined differently in different countries, the citizen of Syria must be given a disability category in the RA.

What is required to receive 1st, 2nd, 3rd group of disability:

1. Get a discharge summary as a result of outpatient treatment (also called ‘epicrisis’).
2. Apply to the polyclinic¹¹ of the place of actual residence and receive a referral for medical-social expert examination (persons without registration can undergo medical-social expert examination by submitting a statement from the place of actual residence). The referral must contain detailed information about the diagnosis of the disease, treatment results and the degree of malfunction of the body system.
3. Based on the referral received from the polyclinic you should turn to the commission conducting medical-social expert examination of the catchment area of actual residence.

¹¹ To be able to apply to the polyclinic, you have to have your address of residence registered.

4. During the expert examination the members of the commission examine the person, formulate the expert diagnosis and assess the level of limitations of their body function. After discussion of the results the commission makes an expert decision and depending on the level of the person's incapacity to work, they determine the disability group.

What period is disability granted for?

Disability of the 1st group – for a period of two years,
Disability of the 2nd and 3rd groups – for a period of one year,
Status of “a child with disability” – for a period of two years or until the age of 18.

What are the grounds for recognition in a disability group?

The following are the grounds for being recognized in a disability group:

1. Childhood disease,
2. Systemic disease (congenital, acquired),
3. Occupational trauma or injury,
4. Occupational disease (arisen due to professional activity),
5. Natural, man-made and other disasters, as well as the disease, trauma or injury acquired during the efforts towards elimination of their consequences,
6. The disease, trauma or injury acquired during the efforts towards elimination of the consequences of Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident and other radiation disasters,
7. The disease, trauma or injury acquired during the World War II and military actions in other countries,
8. The disease, trauma or injury acquired during the defense of the RA,
9. The disease, trauma or injury acquired during military service,
10. The disease, trauma or injury acquired during performance of their military duties,
11. Other cases prescribed by law.

Article 6 of the RA Law “On social protection of people with disabilities in the Republic of Armenia”

What privileges do people with disabilities have?

- Persons with disabilities of the 1st and 2nd groups and persons with the status of “a child with disability” who have gathered positive scores at the higher education entry exams shall be admitted to the free of charge system of state higher and secondary-vocational educational institutions in case they gather at least passing scores for the fee-based system.
- Tuition fees of persons with disabilities of the 1st and 2nd groups and persons with the status of “a child with disability” who have been admitted to state higher and secondary-vocational educational institutions shall be covered from the State budget. Persons with disabilities receiving daytime education shall, in case of gathering positive scores at the term exams and tests, be paid a stipend regardless of the benefit or pension received.

Article 14 of the RA Law “On social protection of people with disabilities in the Republic of Armenia”

- For persons with disabilities of the 1st and 2nd groups a reduced length of working hours of not more than 36 hours per week shall be defined.

- No probation period shall be set for hiring persons with disabilities. During reduction of the number of employees or positions in case of equal work productivity and similar qualification the disabled persons shall enjoy the advantage of preserving their job.

Article 19 of the RA Law “On social protection of people with disabilities in the Republic of Armenia”

- Persons with disabilities with disorders of musculoskeletal system shall be granted the right to build a garage near their place of residence.

Article 32 of the RA Law “On social protection of people with disabilities in the Republic of Armenia”

For additional information contact the RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, address: Government Building #3, Republic Square, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 52-08-30. You may also contact the social protection units in marzpetarans¹² or the regional centres for complex social services if available in your community (check availability from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

10.6. Questions concerning the public services number

What is a public services number?

It is a combination of ten-digit characters provided to each RA citizen, foreign citizen legally residing in Armenia, stateless person permanently residing in the RA, and refugees. It is issued in place of social security card issued formerly. The number is formed on the basis of the personal data – sex, day, month and year of birth, entered into the state register of population as prescribed by law, which includes also a subsequent additional three-digit number and one verifying digit.

Article 2 of the RA Law “On public services number”

When is a public services number needed?

1. Payment of salary and other similar income, granting and payment of life pension, benefit, compensation prescribed by state programmes of social security,
2. Calculation and payment of taxes, duties, mandatory fees,
3. Opening of a bank account,
4. Management of information databases of state and local self-governmental bodies, public and community-based organizations,
5. Other cases prescribed by law.

Article 3 of the RA Law “On public services number”

In cases when a person has refused to acquire a public services number, this refusal can neither serve as a basis for restriction of any rights nor hinder execution of the person’s rights. In case of refusal, you should receive a statement from the territorial passport office on the absence of a public services number.

Article 6 of the RA Law “On public services number”

How to receive a public service number?

In order to receive a public services number one should apply to the Passports and Visa Department of the RA Police or the territorial passport service of the place of residence of the citizen. The number is provided free of charge.

¹² You may find the contacts of social protection units in Yerevan following this link:
http://www.mlsa.am/home/index.php?code_id=368&menu_id=362

11. Questions concerning the registration at the address of permanent residence

How to register at the address of permanent residence?

For the registration in the state register of population, an RA resident shall provide the address of his/her permanent residence (dwelling) to the passport division of his/her place of residence by submitting a defined application form, identity and other documents certifying the right to reside in the place concerned.

Non-citizens of the RA shall also submit a document certifying their right of residence (residence status, status of asylum seeker or refugee) in the territory of the RA. Along with the identification document, foreigners shall submit a notarized copy of the document or the Apostille provided by the relevant body.

When a non-registered person or the person to be registered in connection with changing the place of residence cannot submit a document certifying his/her right of residing in the area concerned (for instance, he/she rents the property), the fact of the person residing at the address stated in the application shall be verified by the police not later than within 5 working days upon receipt of the application. After verifying the fact of the person residing at the specified address the police shall send a statement certifying or denying the fact of actual residence to the passport service of the place of residence the same working day but not later than 10:00 o'clock of the next working day.

Registration of the persons concerned shall be carried out within 3 working days upon receipt of the statement certifying the fact of actual residence by the passport service. **Such registration does not require the consent of the owner of the house where you live.**

Upon receipt of a statement denying the fact of actual residence the passport service shall reject the applicant in writing within 3 working days.

Registration shall not give rise to the right of ownership, as well as use of the residential area.

Government decree N 1231-N, 14.07.05

For additional information contact Passports and Visa Department of the RA Police, address: Building 17/10, 4th district, Davtashen, Yerevan city, hot line: (010) 37-02-64.

12. Questions concerning driver's license

Can I use my Syrian driver's license in Armenia?

The driver's licenses of Syrian Armenians shall be exchanged without passing any tests. A national driver's license of the RA shall be issued for a period of one year provided that they pass tests within that time frame.

The RA national driver's license shall be granted on the basis of the Syrian driver's license which must be translated and validated by the notary. In order to obtain a national license, the passport

and a statement from the place of residence (in case of absence of registration of address) must also be submitted.

Government decrees: N1205-N of 31.10.2013; N1106-N of 23.08.2013; N334-N of 04.04.2013.

What tests must be taken for a driver's license?

1. theoretical,
2. practical.

Theoretical and practical tests can be taken multiple times by paying the stipulated state duty each time. The positive score of the theoretical exam is valid for one year during which practical driving test can be taken. Upon failure of the practical test re-taking of the theoretical exam is not required.

What fees are stipulated for the tests:

For the theoretical exam – AMD 3,000,

For the practical exam – AMD 13,000.

A state duty amounting to AMD 12,000 is stipulated for the RA national driver's license.

For additional information please contact the Registration and examination division (of the RA Road Police) in Yerevan, address: 76 Gajegortsneri street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 43-03-91, or visit the following website: www.varord.am.

13. Questions concerning name changes

A person aged 16 years or above shall have the right to change his/her name. This includes the name, patronymic and last name.

Which agency conducts state registration of name change?

State registration of name change shall be done by the consent of the RA Ministry of Justice at the Civil Status Acts Registration agency located in the place of state registration of the person's permanent residence or birth place.

Which documents are required for state registration of name change?

1. Applicant's identity document,
2. Birth certificate of the person who wishes to change his/her name, if changes shall be done therein,
3. Applicant's marriage certificate if the applicant is married,
4. Divorce certificate if the applicant wishes to restore the premarital last name,
5. Birth certificate of each underage child of the applicant,
6. Consent of the person's parents or legal representatives on name change in case the person is 16-18 years old,
7. Statement on military service from military unit (military management agency) in case of military servicemen,
8. 2 photos of 3 x 4 cm size,
9. Other necessary documents.

*Article 59 of the RA Law "On Civil Status Acts";
Government decree N941-N of 23.06.05*

The territorial agency of CSAR shall examine the application on name change within two months from receiving the application.

Refusal of registration of name change can be appealed in the court.

When is the name change of children under 16 years of age possible?

Registration of change of name, patronymic and last name of children under 16 years of age shall be permitted when one of the following valid reasons is presented:

1. Sound of the name, last name,
2. Difficulty of pronunciation of the name or last name,
3. Wish to bear the last name of the other parent by the parents' consent,
4. When recording the birth the child was given a name or last name without taking the parents' wish into consideration,
5. Considering the child's best interests, when the child actually bears a name different from the name stated in his/her birth record,
6. When the child's incomplete name (hypocoristic, shortened, diminutive) is stated in his/her birth record.

When is the name change of persons above 16 years of age possible?

Registration of change of name, patronymic and last name of persons above 16 years of age shall be permitted when one of the following valid reasons is presented:

1. Sound of the name, patronymic, last name,
2. Difficulty of pronunciation of the name, patronymic, last name,
3. One spouse's wish of sharing one common last name with the other spouse,
4. Wish to bear the premarital last name,
5. Wish to share a common last name with the children if the husband died and the applicant was bearing the premarital last name,
6. Applicant's wish to bear the patronymic and last name of the person who raised him/her,
7. Applicant's wish to bear a last name and name corresponding to his/her nationality,
8. Applicant's wish to bear his/her ancestral last name,
9. When the person actually bears a name different from the name stated in his/her birth record.

Government decree N 941-N of 23.06.05

What is the fee for registration of a change in name?

A fee of AMD 5000 shall be levied for change of name, patronymic and last name. If the person wishes to obtain the opinion of the RA Ministry of Justice on the change of name, patronymic, last name faster than the two month time-frame, then the person should pay as follows:

- within three working days – AMD 50000,
- within five working days – AMD 30000,
- within ten working days – AMD 20000.

For additional information contact the RA Ministry of Justice, address: 41a Halabyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 35-83-99, hot line: (010) 35-83-99.

14. Questions concerning the right to vote

Who has the right to vote in national and local elections of RA?

Non-citizens of the RA have the right to vote only at the elections of local self-governmental bodies in case of having at least six months' registration prior to the date of election in the population register of the community where the election takes place. Those individuals who are 18 as of the election day shall have the right to vote.

That is, non-citizens of the RA cannot participate in the presidential and parliamentary (National Assembly) elections of the RA. They can elect a community council and community mayor.

Article 2 of the RA Electoral Code

For additional information contact the Central election commission of the RA, address: Building 21a, Gevorg Kochar street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 54-35-23.

15. Questions concerning the customs legislation

Persons arriving in the Republic of Armenia for permanent residence can import their personal use property without payment of customs duty.

RA Customs Code, Article 105

What is considered to be 'personal property' of the persons arriving in the RA for permanent residence?

- Used items of personal use of the person,
- Vehicle for personal use,
- Used household furniture.

They must not have factory packing and label and must be purchased by the person prior to the arrival in the RA.

Moreover, the vehicle of personal use must be last deregistered in the country where the person arriving in the RA has last resided permanently prior to registering as a permanent resident of the RA.

RA Customs Code, Article 2

Who may be considered as a person arriving in the RA for permanent residence?

- RA citizens who left the territory of the RA for another state for permanent residence while deregistering from permanent residency of the RA,
- RA citizens who had no place of permanent residence in the RA in the past,
- Foreign citizens and stateless persons.

The above-mentioned persons shall register in the RA as permanent residents and submit the customs agency a document certifying the fact of their permanent residence in the RA – a passport with a note of the person's place of permanent residence (or another document in place of that).

RA Customs Code, Article 105

For additional information contact the RA Customs service, address: 3 Movses Khorenatsi street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 59-43-11, hot line: 060 54-44-44.

16. Questions concerning entrepreneurial activities

Are there any loan privileges granted to Syrian Armenians?

Since March 2013 the Small and Medium Entrepreneurship Development National Center (SME DNC) with the sponsorship of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Armenia has initiated “Start-up business support programme for Syrian Armenians” free of charge, the aim of which is to help Syrian Armenians to realize their business ideas.

The duration of the training is one month, which involves components of training, business consulting and provision of information. By participating in the programmes entrepreneurs will acquire knowledge on business planning, marketing, management, production and finance planning, will learn about the legislative aspects, as well as under the guidance of experienced professionals will develop their own business plans.

In which cases will loans be lent and under what conditions?

The realistic business plans that were part of the programme and received the highest estimation shall be lent loans under the following conditions:

- maximum 5 million AMD,
- annual interest rate – 4%,
- up to 5 years of repayment period,
- (100%) guarantee without collateral provided by the SME DNC of Armenia.

For additional information contact SME DNC of Armenia, address: Building 5a, Mher Mkrtchyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 58-32-61, also Building 49/3, 7th floor, Komitas ave., c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 23-71-02 (106).

URL: <http://www.smednc.am/hy>

How can a person engage in entrepreneurship in the RA?

- By registering as a individual entrepreneur,
- By establishing a commercial legal person.

Who is individual entrepreneur (IE)?

IE is the person who is entitled to carry out an activity without forming a legal entity, independently, on his/her behalf and at his/her risk, the main aim of which is to generate profit (income) from the use of property, sale of goods, performance of works and provision of services.

Who can be individual entrepreneurs?

- RA citizens,
- Refugees,
- Foreign citizens,
- Stateless persons.

Article 1 of the RA Law “On individual entrepreneur”

An individual entrepreneur must possess property with the right of ownership and shall be liable for his/her obligations with that property.

On his/her behalf he/she can acquire and exercise property and personal non-property rights, bear responsibilities, appear in court as plaintiff or respondent.

Article 6 of the RA Law "On individual entrepreneur"

What documents are required to register as an IE?

1. Copy of passport (in case of a foreigner – the copy of the passport should be translated and validated by notary),
2. Fee of AMD 3000.

It is possible to register as an IE also via the electronic register of the RA Government following this link: <https://www.e-register.am/>.

What documents are required to deregister IE?

1. Application letter,
2. Certificate of registration of individual entrepreneur.

Who is a commercial legal person?

- Limited liability companies,
- Joint-stock companies.

What is a limited liability company?

It is a company founded by one or several persons, the authorised capital of which is divided into shares at rates prescribed by the by-laws of the company.

The company as an ownership has separate property and is liable for its obligations with that property. It can acquire and exercise property and personal non-property rights on its behalf, bear responsibilities and appear in court as plaintiff or respondent.

Article 3 of the RA Law "On Limited Liability Companies"

What are joint-stock companies?

- Open joint-stock company,
- Closed joint-stock company.

What is an open joint-stock company?

A company is considered open when its shareholders have the right to alienate (sell, donate etc.) the shares belonging to them without the consent of the other shareholders.

The number of shareholders of open joint-stock companies is not limited.

What is a closed joint-stock company?

A company is considered closed when the shares of the company are only distributed among its shareholders (including the founders) or between other pre-determined persons.

A closed joint-stock company shall have not more than 49 shareholders. When the number of shareholders exceeds 49 the company shall restructure within a period of one year or shall subsequently reduce the number of its shareholders. Otherwise it shall be liquidated by court.

Article 8 of the RA Law "On Joint-Stock Companies"

Which documents are required for the start-up registration of commercial legal persons?

For an LLC only the copy (copies) of the passport(s) of the founder(s) is(are) required.

It is possible to register an LLC also via the electronic register of the RA Government following this link: <https://www.e-register.am/>.

For the registration of an open or closed joint-stock company, the following is needed:

1. application,
2. minutes of the founders' meeting on founding of a legal entity. When a legal entity is founded by one person the written decision of the founder and the passport copy of the head of the executive body are submitted.

No fees are stipulated for the start-up registration of commercial legal entities.

For additional information contact the State Register Agency of Legal Entities of the RA, address: Building 49/3, Komitas ave., c. Yerevan, tel.: (010) 20-14-45, (010) 20-14-49.

17. Questions concerning taxes

What is 'Income Tax'?

Income tax is a direct tax paid to the State budget of the RA which is levied from natural persons from the taxable income of the reporting period.

Who are income tax payers?

- RA citizen,
- Refugee,
- Foreign citizen,
- Stateless person,
- Individual entrepreneur,
- Notary.

Article 3 of the RA Law "On income tax"

What is taxable income?

Taxable income is the positive difference between the natural person's gross income for the reporting period and the deductions as prescribed by the RA Law "On income tax".

Article 4 of the RA Law "On income tax"

What are the duties of tax payers?

Natural persons, individual entrepreneurs, notaries shall file annual income calculations with the tax office electronically no later than April 15 of the year following the reporting year and shall pay the amount of the income tax to the State budget no later than May 1 of the year following the tax year in question.

Articles 22 and 23 of the RA Law "On income tax"

What is 'Profit Tax'?

Profit tax is a direct tax paid by taxpayers to the State budget in the procedure and amount prescribed by the RA Law “On profit tax”.

Article 2 of the RA Law “On profit tax”

Who are profit tax payers?

- Resident organizations of the RA,
- Non-resident organizations of the RA.

Resident organizations are the ones established in the RA (having state registration).

Non-resident organizations are the ones established in foreign countries, as well as international organizations and the organizations established by them outside the Republic of Armenia.

Article 4 of the RA Law “On profit tax”

What is the object of taxation by profit tax?

For residents the object of taxation is the taxable profit received within and outside the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

For non-residents the object of taxation is the taxable profit received from Armenian sources.

Article 54 of the RA Law “On profit tax”

What is taxable profit?

Taxable profit is the positive difference between taxpayer’s gross income (total earnings of the taxpayer received in the reporting year, irrespective of the source) and deductions defined by law. Moreover, the amount of the same deductions shall be deducted from gross income only once.

$$\text{Taxable profit} = \text{gross income} - \text{deductions} > 0$$

Article 6 of the RA Law “On profit tax”

What is value added tax (VAT)?

VAT is an indirect tax which shall be levied for imported goods for the supply of goods and provision of services by the supplier and is recovered by the buyer at all stages of the trade chain until the end consumer.

Article 1 of the RA Law “On value added tax”

Who are VAT payers?

Any person (individual entrepreneur, legal entity, etc.) who carries out economic activity and whose taxable turnover of implemented transactions in the previous calendar year exceeds 58.35 million Armenian drams (VAT threshold) shall be deemed a VAT payer.

In the current year a person shall be deemed a VAT payer if in the current year the taxable turnover of transactions implemented at any time exceeds the VAT threshold. In this case VAT shall be calculated for the portion that has exceeded the VAT threshold.

Which transactions are subject to VAT taxation?

- Supply of goods (including free and partially free supply),
- Rendering of services (including free and partially free provision),
- Import of goods.

Which transactions are considered to be supply of goods?

- alienation of buildings and lands of public and production use,
- alienation of similar type of property for the second or more times in one calendar year, if the property alienated the second or more times has been acquired within one year.

Article 6 of the RA Law "On value added tax"

Which transactions are not subject to VAT taxation?

- Alienation of private property and residential building of persons, except for the cases prescribed by law which are not deemed to be supply of goods,
- the goods which are included in the list approved by law and imported by organizations and individual entrepreneurs for the import of which the rate of customs duty is 0 per cent and which are not subject to excise tax,
- any goods or services which are rendered freely as part of a warranty or warranty agreement,
- gratuitous provision of goods and services if it is carried out pursuant to the RA Government decrees or by non-governmental (including charitable) and religious organizations in a legal manner,
- delivery of those goods and provision of those services that are VAT exempt.

Article 7 of the RA Law "On value added tax"

What is the property tax?

Property tax is a direct tax on the property considered a taxable object and owned by taxpayers by property right which does not depend on the outcomes of the taxpayers' economic activity.

Article 2 of the RA Law "On property tax"

Who are property tax payers?

Organizations set up in the Republic of Armenia and foreign countries, international organizations and organizations established by them outside the Republic of Armenia, RA citizens, foreign citizens as well as those stateless persons who possess property in the territory of the Republic of Armenia that is considered a taxable object, are deemed payers of property tax except the RA state bodies, the RA Central Bank, the RA local governments and institutions.

Article 3 of the RA Law "On property tax"

What are the objects of taxation by property tax?

- buildings and constructions,
- private residential house,
- apartment,
- garden-house (dacha),
- multi-flat residential building,
- non-residential area of residential building,
- garage,
- construction of public use,

- construction of production use,
- incomplete (semi-built) construction unit,
- constructions that are newly built, purchased, registered and assessed by the authorized body maintaining the real property cadastre in compliance with the RA laws, which have not yet received state registration.
- buildings and constructions built illegally on the land plot by persons possessing the right of ownership or land use (including illegally built constructions in multi-flat buildings or adjacent to buildings),
- vehicles – motor vehicle, watercraft, snowmobile, off-road vehicle (quadricycle) and motorcycle.

Article 4 of the RA Law “On property tax”

What are your rights as tax payers?

The tax payer may:

- Prohibit inspection as well as provision of documents to tax inspectors by notifying the tax inspection authority thereon the same day, if the inspectors have violated the procedure and time frames of conducting inspections,
- Acquaint yourself with the inspection acts,
- Give explanations, clarifications, put motions, appeal the actions of the persons conducting inspection as prescribed by law,
- Demand compensation for the damage caused due to illegal actions of tax inspectors,
- Not comply with demands beyond the competences of tax inspectors as well as inspection purposes,
- Ensure participation of specialists, experts, auditors, advocates in any stage with the purpose of protection of the interests of the legal entity under inspection.

What are your responsibilities as tax payers?

The tax payer shall:

- Not hinder the progress of inspections and comply with the legal demands of the tax inspector,
- Upon the tax inspector’s request produce required documents and data, submit their scanned copies (scanning expenses shall be covered by the inspection authority), copies and other information,
- Create necessary conditions for the activities of tax inspector,
- Eliminate the drawbacks and breaches stated in the act of inspection results by notifying the inspection authority thereon in writing.

What are the rights of tax inspectors?

Tax inspectors shall:

- Have unimpeded access to subdivisions of the legal entity with the participation of the legal entity’s representative,
- Request documents, data and other information, explanations, references, which are directly related to the purposes stated in the order or recommendation,

- By the consent of the legal entity's director or his/her substitute deal only with the specialists of the legal entity during inspection where necessary,
- Set deadlines for the elimination of the detected drawbacks and breaches which do not incur criminal or administrative liability,
- Take documents, copies, scanned copies, items, samples and other necessary materials which are directly related to the inspection purposes and do not hinder the normal operation of the legal entity.

What are the responsibilities of tax inspectors?

Tax inspectors shall:

- Comply with the requirements related to the RA laws and other legal acts,
- Not disclose information about the legal entity's operations, any project or development of their activity, invention, useful model, industrial sample and any other related information revealed to them during inspection without written consent of the executive of the legal entity,
- Protect the rights and interests of the legal entity prescribed by laws and other legal acts,
- Not hinder the normal operation of the legal entity,
- Make the executives of the legal entity familiar with their rights and responsibilities,
- During inspection exclusively rely on the laws and other legal acts published in the RA Official Journal and RA official journal of normative-administrative acts when such a requirement is prescribed at the time of their entry into force,
- Reply to any written inquiry of the head of the legal entity or his/her substitute during inspection directly related to the inspection of the period of time under inspection of the legal entity.

What is the procedure for appealing against the actions of tax inspectors?

- Unless otherwise prescribed by law, the actions of the persons conducting inspection as well as the act filed during inspection can be appealed within two months to the state authority to whom the inspecting person(s) is (are) directly subordinated or to court,
- Complaints shall be investigated by the supervisor and decisions thereon shall be taken not later than within 30 calendar days from the date of receiving the complaint. If no response is provided within the specified period the presented arguments shall be deemed accepted. Calculation of the period of time specified in this point shall commence on the first working day following the day the written complaint was registered with the corresponding authority,
- When disagreeing with the decision taken the head of the legal entity or his/her deputy person shall have the right to appeal it in court.

For additional information contact the RA Customs service, address: 7 Movses Khorenatsi street, c. Yerevan, tel.: (060) 54-46-57, hot line: 060 54-44-44.

Annex 1

Office of the Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia

Address: Yerevan, 56a Pushkin street; tel.: 010 53 76 51; Hot line: 116; webpage: www.ombuds.am; email: ombuds@ombuds.am. Please contact the Human Rights Defender, if

your rights have been violated by state authorities or state officials. The Human Rights Defender does not examine cases which are or should be in court.

Organizations providing free advice

Public Defender's Office, address: 5 Zakyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 60 07 12

Center for Coordination of Syrian-Armenians' Issues, address: 9 Alek Manukyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 51 22 53, 010 51 22 58

Mission Armenia, address: 42 G. Nezhdeh street, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 44 47 92, 010 44 47 93

Armenian Relief Society, address: 116/24, Nalbandyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 567 513

AD Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Center, address: 1 Sarmen street, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 54 29 63, 010 58 78 64

“Aleppo” Compatriotic Charitable Non-Governmental Organization*, address: 11 Northern avenue, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 54 53 69

Armenian Red Cross Society*, address: 21/1 Paronyan street, c. Yerevan, tel.: 010 58 36 30

**The last two organisations marked with asterisk do not have a lawyer, but you still can contact them for advice and referrals for appropriate agencies/organisations*

Annex 2

List of legal acts relating to Syrian-Armenians prepared by the Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia and adopted by the RA Government

1. RA Law on Making an Addition to the RA Law on State Fee dated 1 November, 2012,
2. Decision of the RA Government N 950-N dated 26 July 2012 on making an addition to the decision of the RA Government N 821-N dated 25 December 1998,
3. Decision of the RA Government N 951-N dated 26 July 2012 on the approval of the list of those countries citizens of which can be provided with a passport of the citizen of the Republic of Armenia in Diplomatic Representations or Consular Offices of the Republic of Armenia in foreign countries in case of acquiring citizenship of the Republic of Armenia for the first time,
4. Decision of the RA Government N 1106-N dated 23 August 2012 on the exchange of driver's licences of citizens of the Syrian Arab Republic of Armenian origin,

5. Decision of the RA Government N 1469 –N dated 22 November 2012 on establishing a privilege regarding a state duty,
6. Decision of the RA Government N 983-N dated 2 August 2012 on making additions to the Decision of the RA Government N 1290-N dated 1 November 2007
7. Decision of the Prime Minister N 9–A dated 14 January 2011 on establishing an interdepartmental committee coordinating the problems of Syrian-Armenians,
8. Decision of the RA Government N 334-N dated 4 April 2013 on exchanging the driver's licences of citizens of the Syrian Arab Republic of Armenian origin
9. Decision of the RA Government N 656-N dated 6 June 2013 on supporting the construction of the district New Aleppo in the town of Ashtarak,
10. Decision of the RA Government N 1099 dated 8 August 2013 on making changes to the decision of the RA Government N 951-Ն dated 26 July 2012,
11. Decision of the RA Government N 1199-N dated 31 October 2013 on permitting the prolongation of the customs regime “Temporary import” applied to the products imported to the Republic of Armenia by the customs regime “Temporary import” by the citizens of the Syrian Arab Republic of Armenian origin
12. Decision of the RA Government N 1205-N dated 31 October 2013 on making changes to the Decision of the RA Government N 334-N dated 4 April 2013
13. Decision of the RA Government N 1433-N dated 12 December 2013 on making a change and an addition to the Decision of the RA Government N 1183-N dated 10 October 2013.