



e-Government

## The application procedure to issue and renew residency and work permits for foreign nationals can now be carried out online

- The new mechanism, available from today, 18 June, for citizens with a digital certificate, will reduce processing times at application offices

18 June 2012. The Ministry of Finance and Public Administrations, in collaboration with the Ministry of Employment and Social Security, is offering citizens a new service via the Electronic Office of the State Secretariat for Public Administrations. This service will enable citizens to file applications online to renew residency and work permits, and applications for long term residency permits.

From today, 18 June, anyone that has a digital certificate will be able to apply for long term residency permits for five years of continuous legal residence, and to renew temporary residency and employee work permits requested by an employer on behalf of a foreign national. The employment relationship can continue once the renewal has been agreed, or once a

temporary residence and self-employed work permit has been renewed, as long as the person continues in the same line of work. This platform will deal with a large number of the permits requested by foreign nationals currently processed by the Ministry of Finance and Public Administrations.

This project will enable procedures for foreign nationals to be included in online administration services, helping to reduce waiting times in Foreign National Application Offices, and will help to speed up the processing of applications, which will eventually improve the efficiency and effectiveness of these procedures.

In addition to public services for enquiries or notifications about the status of an application via the internet and SMS, the online payment of fees, or the chance to get a draft copy of a renewal application via the internet, this project further develops the process of introducing online administration for foreign national-related matters.

This has all been made possible thanks to the inter-ministry electronic administration services, which ensure that the reports needed to process applications (on the status of tax and social security payments obligations, social security registrations, criminal records, exchange of information on visas, etc.) can be transferred electronically between different bodies, without the need for the citizen to provide them. This is a clear example of how the Administration is responding to the needs of foreign nationals, a group that plays such an important role in today's society.

Excellent progress has now been made in the area of foreign nationals paving the way to a fully electronic administration. The elimination of paper in the day to day processing of applications at Foreign National Application Offices is also an important milestone, which has generated clear cost savings.

All these advances help to considerably reduce administrative costs and the amount of time spent by civil servants on these processes and speeding up decisions on applications.

To access the procedure, click on the link to the State Secretariat for Public Administrations website on the Online Renewal of Foreign National Permits:

[https://sede.mpt.gob.es/frontend/portada/seccion/renovacion\\_telematica\\_extranjeria](https://sede.mpt.gob.es/frontend/portada/seccion/renovacion_telematica_extranjeria).

This procedure forms part of the Government's commitment to improving the Administration through the use of technology in order to provide a better service to citizens and to save costs, making the Administration more efficient.