## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION**







# **Tech Visa Program Overview**

#### **For Whom**

Companies operating in the global market with headquarters or permanent establishment in Portuguese territory, seeking to expand their international footprint

## **Purpose**

Attract highly qualified professionals from outside the European Union to fill critical technical roles and drive innovation

## **Key Advantage**

Simplified visa and residence permit procedures

MEI.

# **Tech Visa Application Process**

The Tech Visa program features a structured, multi-step procedure designed for efficiency while maintaining compliance and quality standards



#### **Tech Visa company certification**

Companies apply for Tech Visa certification and must comply with program requirements



#### **Worker identification**

Certified companies select candidates with the required education and experience for technical roles and issue a declaration of responsibility via the Tech Visa Platform



#### **Tech Visa application**

Once in possession of the responsibility term, the candidate may submit the visa application at the consular service



#### **Tech Visa residence permit**

After entering Portugal a residence permit is issued, and the candidate can start working for the certified company



# **Tech Visa Company Requirements**

To ensure program integrity and protect workers' rights, companies must meet comprehensive eligibility criteria before certification

## Legal Standing

Must be legally established in Portugal with proper business registration and operational presence in the country

### Financial Compliance

Must be free of social security and tax debts, with no back wages owed to employees, and not under restructuring proceedings

### Technical Alignment

Must identify with technical qualification areas designated for Tech Visa according to the National Qualifications
Catalogue

## Global Operations

Must provide goods and/or services internationally, demonstrating market potential or clear orientation toward external markets

# **Tech Visa Worker Eligibility**

Candidates must meet specific qualifications to ensure they bring valuable expertise to Portugal's economy, and the recruitment process must meet some criteria



### Geographic Origin

Must be from a third country outside the Schengen Area



### **Employment Contract**

Must secure a work or service provider contract with minimum 12-month duration, ensuring commitment and stability



### **Educational Background**

Minimum bachelor's degree (ISCED Level 5) with at least 5 years of experience in specialized technical functions



## Minimum Pay Level

Mandatory minimum wage equal to or greater than 2.5 times the indexed social welfare support value - ≥ 1304€



#### **Professional Authorization**

For regulated professions, prior authorization is required before beginning work activities in Portugal





## Tech Visa Triumphs: Fueling Portugal's Digital Future

The Tech Visa has rapidly become a preferred pathway for technology companies seeking international expertise, with strong adoption across the IT sector

911

**Certification requests** 

**571** 

**Certified companies** 

8808

**Responsibility declarations** 

Parcerias para o Crescimento

#### **Program Focus Areas**

**Primary Economic Activity:** Information Technology dominates the program, reflecting Portugal's growing tech sector.

**Top Academic Background:** Computer Sciences represents the most common qualification among Tech Visa holders.

# **Tech Visa Certified Companies**

Leading global technology companies and innovative startups leverage the Tech Visa program to build world-class teams in Portugal





































These companies represent diverse sectors including software development, fintech, e-commerce, consulting, and emerging technologies, creating a vibrant ecosystem of innovation

# Online Information www.iapmei.pt

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 Em que podemos ajudar?
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#### **TECH VISA**

Tech Visa is an accreditation program focused on providing Portuguese companies with a fast track to hire and retain highly qualified non Schengen professionals.

IAPMEI is responsible for assessing and accrediting **companies** under the Tech Visa program. So if you are a highly qualified **worker** and plan to work in Portugal, find **here** the list of Tech Visa certified companies.

In order to apply for a visa or residence permit under the program, companies must ensure their candidates comply with all **highly qualified workers requirements**<sup>1</sup>, namely:

- Only third country nationals not permanently residing in European Union territory can be accepted
- · all tax obligations must be fulfilled, when applicable
- · Candidates must have no criminal record
- · Candidates must be at least 18 years old
- Candidates must have successfully completed a Bachelor's degree <sup>2</sup> or equivalent with 5 year
  experience in specialized technical functions
- Candidates should be proficient in Portuguese, English, French or Spanish and master a language level suitable to the functions/duties to be performed.



## **Thank You!**

We're here to support your entrepreneurial journey in Portugal. Connect with us for guidance on Startup Visa and Tech Visa programs.

**Tech Visa Support** 

techvisa@iapmei.pt

**Official Website** 

www.iapmei.pt

