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The GCC Visa Checklist

(2026)

A practical, step-by-step
preparation guide for expats






Who Is This Guide For?

- ✓ First-time expats
- ✓ Moving to UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar or Oman
- ✓ Job seekers with new GCC contracts
- ✓ Families relocating
- ✓ Freelancers and remote workers



Universal GCC Visa Documents

- ✓ Passport valid for at least 6 months
- ✓ Passport-sized photos (4.5 x 3.5 cm, white background)
- ✓ Attested educational certificates (degree, diploma)
- ✓ Proof of accommodation
(rental contract, hotel booking, family sponsorship)
- ✓ Police clearance certificate
(for select nationalities)
- ✓ Additional requirements by country
(medicals, Emirates ID, sponsor documents)

 Recommended:
5-8 copies of each





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Country-Specific Notes



UAE

- ✓ Medicals (Emirates ID after sponsor)
- ✓ Passport-sized photos



Saudi Arabia

- ✓ Employment contract (duties, salary)
- ✓ Attested educational certificates
- ✓ Kafael role and responsibilities



Qatar

- ✓ Confirmed sponsorship
- ✓ Attested educational certificates
- ✓ Medical check after arrival



Oman

- ✓ Work with the sponsor; spouse or the embassy initiates process

i Tip: Requirements can change without notice. Verify latest info before applying.



Avoid These Mistakes

From missing attestations to application delays.

Common mistakes you can't afford to make:

- ✓ Applying for the wrong type of visa
- ✓ Assuming your employer will handle everything
- ✓ Not obtaining required attestations in advance
- ✓ Overlooking medical clearance requirements



Qatar

- ✓ Confirmed sponsorship
- ✓ Attested educational certificates
- ✓ Medical check after arrival



Bahrain

- ✓ Police clearance required
- ✓ Proof of address for dependents



Mistakes can lead to rejections,
extra costs, and stress.

Double-check documents and timelines.





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Timeline Expectations

Every case is different — here's a realistic look.

☒ Best-Case Scenario

- ✓ Quick process: all documents are ready

☒ Normal Timeline

- ✓ Some attestations required. Expect delays

☐ Delayed Timeline

- ✓ Slow sponsor or unexpected bureaucracy



Start early. Plan for the normal timeline.



Consult an expert for faster processing.





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When You Should Get Help

Every case is different — here's a realistic look.

Common mistakes you can't afford to make:

☒ **Best-Case Scenario** 4-6 weeks

- ✓ Quick process; all documents are ready

☒ **Normal Timeline** 8-10 weeks

- ✓ Some attestations required. Expect delays.

☐ **Delayed Timeline** 12+ weeks

- ✓ Slow sponsor or unexpected bureaucracy



A consultation now often prevents costly mistakes later.

Get Free Consultation