



Malawi – Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 11 April 2018

Information on law as to acquisition of right of residence in Malawi. Information on any differences in the law between September 1988 and the present day.

A document published on the website of the Department of Immigration of the Republic of Malawi, in a paragraph headed “Who may apply?”, refers to the requirements for a permanent Residence Permit as follows:

“A foreign national who wish to reside in Malawi permanently, foreign wives of Malawians, elderly people who would wishes to spend their life after retirement in Malawi, (people of assured income) over aged dependants of Permanent Resident Permit Holder, any person who has been ordinarily resident in Malawi for a period not less than five years.” (Republic of Malawi: Department of Immigration (undated) *Permanent Residence Permit*)

See also document from this website which refers to the requirements for a Temporary Residence Permit as follows:

“A visitor with a valid Visitors/Business Visit Permit who has resided in Malawi for the maximum of 90 days but has legitimate and justifiable reasons for continued residence. A foreign national who would like to enter Malawi for short term consultancy or other work related activity.” (Republic of Malawi: Department of Immigration (undated) *Temporary Residence Permit*)

A document titled “Immigration Regulations of 1968 as amended in 1988”, in “Part II - Immigration Procedure” (paragraph 7. “Evidence by persons wishing to enter Malawi”), states:

In order to satisfy an immigration officer that he is not a prohibited immigrant under section 4 (1) (c) of the Act a person may he required to produce evidence of any or all of the following:

- (a)that he is on a temporary visit to Malawi for a stated period;
- (b)that he is permanently resident elsewhere and intends to return thereto;
- (c)that he will be re-admitted into his country of domicile, or country of last permanent residence at the expiration of his visit to Malawi;
- (d)that he has in his possession for his own use such sum of money as is sufficient to support himself and his dependents whilst in Malawi, or that he has such sum of money immediately available in Malawi, or that he has friends or relatives in Malawi able and willing to support him and his dependants.” (Republic of Malawi (1968) *Malawi: Immigration Regulations of 1968 as amended in 1988*)

No reference to immigration regulations dated after 1988 was found among sources available to the Refugee Documentation Centre.

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research and Information Unit within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

References:

Republic of Malawi: Department of Immigration (undated) *Permanent Residence Permit*
<http://www.immigration.gov.mw/permanent-residence-permit.html>
(Accessed 11 April 2018)

Republic of Malawi: Department of Immigration (undated) *Temporary Residence Permit*
<http://www.immigration.gov.mw/temporary-residence-permit.html>
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Republic of Malawi (1968) *Malawi: Immigration Regulations of 1968 as amended in 1988*
<http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b4f6c.html>
(Accessed 11 April 2018)

Sources Consulted:

Electronic Immigration Network
European Country of Origin Information Network
Google
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Lexis Nexis
Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database
UNHCR Refworld