

EU BLUE CARD IN CYPRUS



By S. Constantinou & Associates LLC

On July 11, 2024, the Cyprus Parliament passed the EU Blue Card legislation, aligning with Directive (EU) 2021/1883. This initiative opens new doors for non-EU nationals to advance their careers in Cyprus and across the European Union, particularly in high-demand sectors.

Who Can Benefit from the EU Blue Card?

The EU Blue Card is designed for third-country nationals who meet the following criteria:

- **Valid Employment Offer:** Applicants must have a valid job offer or employment contract for at least six months in a highly skilled position.
- **Salary Requirement:** The offered salary must meet the national threshold, which in Cyprus is set between 1 to 1.6 times the national average salary, approximately €20,000 to €32,000 annually.
- **Educational and Professional Qualifications:** Candidates must hold a higher education degree obtained after at least three years of study or have three years of relevant professional experience, particularly in sectors like ICT.
- **Health Insurance:** Applicants are required to have valid health insurance coverage.

Key Benefits of the EU Blue Card

Holders of the EU Blue Card are entitled to numerous benefits that enhance their professional and personal lives:

- **Competitive Employment:** Blue Card holders can work in high-demand professions with salaries comparable to those of EU nationals.
- **Family Relocation:** The Blue Card facilitates the relocation of the cardholder's immediate family, including spouses, partners in civil unions, and minor children, allowing them to reside in Cyprus for the same duration.

- **Equal Rights:** Cardholders enjoy the same working conditions, educational opportunities, social security benefits, and access to public services as citizens of the host country.
- **Pathway to Permanent Residency and Citizenship:** After 33 months, Blue Card holders can apply for long-term residence. Additionally, under certain conditions, such as language proficiency and pension contributions, they may be eligible for citizenship after five years.

How to Apply for the EU Blue Card in Cyprus

The application process for the EU Blue Card in Cyprus involves several key steps:

1. **Document Preparation:** Gather all necessary documents, including a passport, employment contract, proof of qualifications, and health insurance.
2. **Verification:** Submit the employment contract and qualifications to the Department of Labour for verification.
3. **Application Submission:** Once verified, submit the complete Blue Card application along with the required documents to the Civil Migration Department.
4. **Review and Approval:** Authorities will review the application to ensure it meets all legal requirements. If approved, the Blue Card is issued for up to three years, with the possibility of renewal as long as conditions are met.

How SCLAW can assist you:

SCLAW has a specialised team that can provide custom tailored assistance to individuals, by preparing and filing the EU Blue Card application as well as assistance to their family members with regards to their residence permit applications.

If any assistance or further clarifications are needed for this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

For further information or clarifications, please contact S. Constantinou & Associates LLC at info@sclaw.com.cy / [+357 22 421190](tel:+35722421190).

