

Acceptance

When a family relationship has been confirmed, a favourable decision may be taken.

Following the decision, a visa sticker is fixed to the travel document by the consulate. This enables your family to come to France and to go to the Prefectoral offices to obtain a residence permit.

Rejection

The consulate may reject a visa application:

- if the eligibility conditions for the family reunification procedure have not been met;
- if no family connection has been established;
- if there is a threat to public order;
- if you do not meet the essential principles which, in line with national laws in force, govern family life in France.

Reasons for rejection of the visa will be given.

Appeal

If the visa has been refused, you or members of your family can appeal against the decision within two months from notification of the decision to the:

Commission de Recours contre les Décisions de Refus de Visa d'Entrée en France

BP 83.609

44036 Nantes Cedex 1

Useful contacts

Ministère de l'Intérieur

Direction générale des étrangers
en France

Direction de l'immigration

Sous-direction des visas

Bureau des Familles de Réfugiés

11 Rue de la Maison blanche

44036 Nantes Cedex 1

<http://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr>

Office Français de Protection des Réfugiés et Apatrides (OFPRA)

201 Rue Carnot

94136 Fontenay-sous-Bois Cedex

Tel: 01 58 68 10 10 Fax: 01

58 68 18 99

<http://www.ofpra.gouv.fr>



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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

MINISTÈRE DE L'INTÉRIEUR

**You are a refugee or stateless person,
or benefit from subsidiary protection in France,
you are living legally in France and
you want your family to join you in France.**



*The provisions set out in this leaflet are reserved exclusively
for people covered by the protection of the Office Français de Protection
des Réfugiés et Apatrides (OFPRA).*



People covered

Articles L. 752-1, L. 812-5, R. 752-1 to 3 and R. 812-4 of the Code on the Entry and Residence of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum states that members of your family may be covered by the family reunification procedure. The people that are covered include:

- **your spouse or a partner** to whom you are linked by a civil union. They must be over the age of 18 and the civil union or marriage must have taken place prior to the date upon which you requested protection;
- **your cohabiting partner**. They must be over the age of 18. You must, when you submit your request for protection, be able to demonstrate a sufficiently stable and continuous cohabiting relationship;
- **unmarried children from this relationship**, not over the age of 19;
- **your children or your partner's children from previous relationships**, under the age of 18. This concerns children:
 - whose blood relationship has only been established to yourself or your partner or whose other parent has died or been deprived of their parental rights;
 - who, depending on the case, are entrusted to the parental authority of yourself or your partner, as the result of a decision taken by a foreign court. A copy of this decision must be produced as well as permission from the other parent to allow the minor to come to France;
- **your first-degree relatives in the direct ascending line if you are a minor and unmarried**.

The members of your family must have been declared to OFPRA when you made the request for protection.

No other family member is eligible for family reunification. Partners and children from a union contracted after submission of the request for protection are covered by the common law procedure on family reunification. The procedure must be initiated with the services of the Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration (OFII) in your region.

The procedure

□ Requesting a visa

Members of your family must apply for a long-stay visa from the French consulate closest to their place of residence.

No prior letter to the Bureau des Familles de Réfugiés is required.

□ Documents to be produced

The members of your family must produce:

- one visa application form per person,
- one passport (visas may be issued for a *laissez-passer* in justified cases),
- passport photographs in line with applicable standards,
- evidence of protection granted by OFPRA to the person applying for reunification,
- full copy of the birth certification and/or marriage certificate establishing the family relationship to the protected person, or any other document proving this link,
- the equivalent of €99 per person in local currency.

The application cannot be examined until the complete visa application has been submitted to the consular offices.

□ Timescales

The application is recorded by the consulate and a receipt is issued to the visa applicant(s). The data of the receipt is evidence of the date upon which the visa was submitted in terms of assessing the age of children.

The Bureau des Familles de Réfugiés helps the consulate check the validity of your residence permit and your family composition as you have declared it to OFPRA. You therefore do not need to contact OFPRA for a letter attesting to your family composition.

It takes two months to reach a decision, unless there is a need to verify civil status documents with the local authorities. If this is the case, the consulate will issue the applicant with a notification that civil status documents are being checked. This means the decision may take an additional four months, which can be renewed once.

Any requests about the progress of applications should be addressed to the consulate.