September 2023

VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR CULTURE VISA

(Recording, concert, festivals, lessons)

Each applicant has to present all documents listed below. Note that the originals will not be given back.

	✓	X
1 Visa Application		
One completed Schengen visa application form duly filled in, dated and signed https://www.sem.admin.ch//bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/visumantragsformular.html		
Minors: (under the age of 18) Both parents must sign the visa application forms and add copies of their passports as well as a copy of the child's birth certificate. If there is only one guardian please present proof of custody such as divorce papers, birth or death certificate, custody order, etc. If one parent is unable to sign the forms, he/she must submit a letter of agreement together with a copy of his/her passport bearing the signature of the holder. If the child is travelling with only one parent, the written consent of the other parent is required as well as a copy of the passport of the latter bearing the signature.		
One recent passport-sized colour photograph, in accordance with the guidelines of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), with a white background, not damaged and stapled. https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files_en?file=2016-12/icao_photograph_guidelines_en.pdf		
2 Travel documents		
Original passport valid for further three months after the intended departure from the Schengen area and one copy of all relevant passport pages (data page, pages containing previous Schengen, UK, US or Canadian visas).		
It shall contain at least two blank pages and should have been issued within the previous 10 years. Please also submit all previous passports, either valid or cancelled.		
For foreign nationals residing in Ghana: A photocopy of the valid residence permit. It must be valid for further three months after the intended departure from the Schengen area.		
If the primary destination is not a Schengen country, the visa for that country must be obtained first.		
Photocopy of birth certificate		
A computer printout of the flight reservation / booking including return flight (no ticket).		
Proof of accommodation:		
Proof of travel medical insurance covering the entire period of intended stay, valid for all Schengen States. Original and one copy thereof. Please refer to Embassy's list of accredited local insurance companies: Minimum coverage of EUR 30'000. Repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention, emergency hospital treatment or death during stay. Policy must state policy number, name of ensured applicant, dates of coverage until last day of		
departure from Schengen states, as well as scheduled benefits (please allow for extra days for the embassy to be more flexible with the duration of the visa).		

	✓	X
3 Justification of the stay		
Photocopy of invitation letter from the host company/organization to participate at a cultural event. The invitation must clearly mention name, first name, date of birth (all corresponding according to passport) of all participants, a clear statement which costs are covered and for which duration as well as mention all scheduled performances or events.		
Original introductory letter, musician card and proof of musical activities and performances.		
For recording: • Photocopy of studio contract • Transfer slip for first instalment of studio fees • Proof of payment of first instalment by studio manager in Switzerland		
For festivals or concerts:		
For lessons: • Photocopy of contract stating duration and payment.		
The invitation, duly signed, must be sent by e-mail to accra.visa@eda.admin.ch prior to the appointment date given to the applicant		
4 Proof of sufficient financial means to cover the cost of the trip		
Photocopies of proof of business ties with inviting company; invoices, orders, proof of down payment, if applicable.		
Original introduction letter from the Ghanaian company stating expenses and purpose of the trip, if applicable.		
Photocopy of Ghanaian company's business registration certificates, "Form A", tax clearance certificate and bank statement, if applicable.		
Original of personal and company's current bank statement (if applicable) for the past 3 months showing sufficient means of subsistence (approx. CHF 100 per day) to cover all costs during the trip. The applicants name must appear on the statements. (Neither cash nor bank letters are accepted).		
5 Proof of the applicant's occupational status		
For self-employed / business owners: • Photocopy of business papers, such as business registration certificate • Company's code/ form A, tax clearance certificates • Proof of active business (bills of lading, import declaration form, invoices, etc.)		
For employees: Original and signed letter of employment with indication of annual leave Photocopies of salary slip of the last 3 months or contract.		
For students: Original letter from the university or school with indication of approved period of leave		
6 Visa fee		
Visa fee		
 Please be aware: For all types of Schengen visas, the process time can take up to 15 days During the visa processing time, no passport withdrawal is possible 		

In some individual cases, additional documents may be requested. Presentation of the documents does not automatically lead to the issuance of a visa. Possession of a visa does not confer an automatic right of entry. The ultimate decision regarding admission to the Schengen territory lies with the Border Authorities upon arrival.