THE REMOTE-WORKER LANE

THAILAND DTV · LANE 1 OF 3 · WORKATION

For people working from Thailand for an employer or clients based outside it. Everything turns on one point: proving the money comes from elsewhere, and that it actually arrives.

WHAT THIS LANE ADDS

Line one changes depending on whether you are employed or freelance. The rest is identical. Everything else is on page two.

DOCUMENT · WHAT THE CONSULATE IS LOOKING FOR	WHAT SINKS THE FILE
Employment contract or employer letter IF EMPLOYED From a non-Thai employer, naming your role and pay, and stating that the work is performed remotely. Authenticated by apostille or by that country's embassy.	TRAP An unauthenticated contract, or a letter that never actually says the work can be done from abroad.
Client contracts and invoices IF FREELANCE Several engagements, ideally several clients, all outside Thailand. On this lane they replace the employment contract entirely.	TRAP One single client, or invoice amounts that match nothing in your bank statements.
Portfolio of remote activity Six to twelve months of evidence: deliverables, a public professional profile, past engagements, a directors' certificate. The consulate is testing whether the income is real, not whether the portfolio is pretty.	TRAP A portfolio built the week of submission, with no history behind it.
Company registration IF YOU OWN IT If the entity paying you is yours: an authenticated copy of its registration in its country of incorporation, apostilled or embassy-stamped.	TRAP Paying yourself through your own company without filing its registration breaks the link between you and the income.
Home-country link Verifiable ties outside Thailand: tax residence, a registered employer, property, a long-standing bank account.	TRAP A documented refusal reason in 2026. A file anchored nowhere makes the post assume you intend to settle.

THE LINE YOU CANNOT CROSS

The DTV carries no work permit. Remote work for a non-Thai employer: allowed. A salary from a Thai entity: not allowed without switching visa class and obtaining a separate permit. The boundary is who pays you, not where the laptop sits.

THE COMMON BASE

Required whichever lane you file under. This is the half of the dossier that sinks most applications.

ELEVEN THINGS EVERY DTV FILE NEEDS

- [ ] **Passport.** Valid at least six months beyond your intended entry date, with two blank visa pages. Scan of the biodata page.
- [ ] **500,000 THB.** Liquid, held across the full three months before submission, in your own name. Foreign-currency equivalent is fine, and the money does not need to sit in Thailand.
- [ ] **Source of funds.** Where the money came from: payslips, employer letter, dividend or investment statements, a sponsor letter naming you, or documented inheritance. The consulate looks at the six months before the statement window.
- [ ] **Minimum age 20.** On the filing date. Under twenty, you can only be added to a parent's file as a dependent.
- [ ] **Nationality.** Open to most nationalities. Some are restricted to filing from their country of citizenship, and several posts apply extra scrutiny, so check the mission that covers you before booking travel.
- [ ] **Dependents, if any.** Spouse and children under twenty file on linked applications: marriage certificate, birth or adoption certificate, certified translation where required, and a notarised consent letter for a minor travelling without both parents. You must meet the financial test on their behalf.
- [ ] **Photograph.** Passport-style, taken within the last six months, plain background, neutral expression, no headwear unless religious. The portal rejects casual selfies.
- [ ] **Bank statement.** Official document covering the whole window, with dates, account number and holder name legible on every page.
- [ ] **Current address.** Documentation for where you live now, in the country you are filing from.
- [ ] **Where you file from.** You must be outside Thailand when you submit. Most posts also prioritise applicants legally resident in their jurisdiction and ask for proof, so the consulate is not a free choice.
- [ ] **Clean immigration record.** Significant prior overstay in Thailand is disqualifying. A single late departure settled with a fine is usually survivable; repeat overstays are not.

ALSO WORTH KNOWING

Crypto does not count. Digital assets are not accepted as the 500,000 THB proof. Liquidate into fiat and hold the balance in a regulated bank account across the whole window.

Government fee. The official fee is 10,000 THB. Posts charge the local equivalent, commonly 10,000 to 14,000 THB, so roughly USD 280 to 400. Wellington is the outlier at NZD 2,000. Non-refundable whatever the outcome.

What the visa gives you. Five years, multiple entry, 180 days per entry, extendable once by another 180 days at a Thai immigration office for about 1,900 THB. Most files are decided in five to fifteen business days.

Health insurance. Not a DTV requirement at issue, unlike other Thai visa classes. Strongly advised anyway: public healthcare is not open to DTV holders.

Investment income, carefully. Dividends and coupons can explain where the money came from, but the 500,000 THB itself has to sit as cash in a bank account. Portfolios and crypto are not accepted as the proof.

NOT SURE WHICH LANE FITS?

Seven questions, three minutes, no payment details. You get a green, amber or red verdict within 24 hours, and the concrete next step. Free.

dtv-thailand.com/eligibility

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Reply within 24 hours