

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 1 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

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Procedure for Processing the Grant of Status to a Foreign Spouse Married to a Permanent Resident

A. Procedure Purpose

To determine the method for processing applications for grant of status to foreign spouses married to permanent residents.

B. General

A permanent resident who marries a foreign national may file an application for grant of status in Israel for said spouse.

Upon approval of the application, a B/1 visa will be issued for 27 months, and a temporary residency visa (A/5) for 3 years, followed by permanent residency - in the absence of a preclusion - all as detailed below:

Inasmuch as security agency comments are received at any stage during processing, Security Agency Comments Procedure (5.2.0015) applies and must be followed.

3 processing scenarios:

1. The foreign spouse is not present in Israel and the couple is married:

- 1a. The spouses are abroad and seek to enter the country together after their marriage.
- 1b. The Israeli spouse enters the country alone and sponsors the foreign spouse.

2. The foreign spouse is in Israel and the couple is married:

- 2a. The foreign national is lawfully present in the country
- 2b. The foreign national is unlawfully present in the country

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 2 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

3. The foreign spouse is in the country and the couple seeks to travel abroad in order to get married:

- a. The foreign national is lawfully present in the country
- b. The foreign national is unlawfully present in the country

- * Inasmuch as an application is filed under this procedure for a foreign national who is unlawfully present in Israel, the foreign national shall not be removed pending a decision in the application, unless the sponsored spouse is an Area resident¹, as detailed below.

Attention: In the matter of a foreign national who has a pending application under this procedure and against whom enforcement measures have been launched - the Enforcement and Foreign National Agency will hold an inquiry with the relevant branch office before making a decision on continued enforcement measures against the individual pursuant to Custody Order Issuance Procedure 10.3.0001 and Removal Order Issuance Procedure 10.4.0001)

- ** **The Temporary Order must be followed throughout processing.** Accordingly, the fact that an application has been submitted under this procedure for a sponsored spouse who is an Area resident does not preclude removal from Israel. In addition, applications for status for an Area resident filed after 12 May 2002, will not be approved. Applications filed before this date will be approved according to the procedure. However, the status of an Area resident may not be upgraded, and, the status currently held by the Area resident may be extended at any stage of the procedure.

- *** According to Government Resolution 3598, dated 15 June 2008, "[P]ermits for residency or for temporary stay in Israel given under sections 3 and 3-A(2) of the Law" **may not be granted to "[P]ersons registered in the population registry as residents of the Gaza Strip or to anyone residing in the Gaza Strip despite not being registered in the population registry as a resident of the Gaza Strip"**.

This provision does not apply to individuals already in possession of a residency visa/ stay-permit following a previously approved application. In such cases, the residency visa or stay-permit may be extended as per the provisions of the Law.

C. Required Documents

* Comment – The documents required for each stage of the procedure will be made clear at that stage. Below is the full list of documents required for all processing stages:

1. Original marriage documents (original + photocopy).
2. Photocopy of the Israeli spouse's identity card.

¹ Translator note: According to the Law an "Area resident" is anyone listed in the population registry of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and anyone residing there without being listed in the population registry, with the exception of Israeli residents.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 3 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

3. Photocopy of the sponsored spouse's foreign passport.
4. 3 frontal photos of each of the spouses.
5. Proof of married life (shared photographs, letters from relatives and friends etc.), and a letter from the couple containing explanations regarding their life together, how they met and how long they have known each other.
6. Affidavit regarding the authenticity of the materials presented and acknowledgment of the couple's obligation to notify the Ministry of Interior of any change in circumstances.
7. Declaration of health and declaration that the foreign spouse has no criminal record.

A National Police Headquarters background check must be conducted with respect to the Israeli spouse. If there are any open police cases against the spouse, or if s/he is found to have a significant criminal record with implications for the application, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision.

8. A foreign passport valid for at least two years. In addition, an annual re-examination of the validity of the sponsored spouse's passport must be conducted to ensure that it is valid for at least two years, with the exception of Area residents, who will require a valid passport only for the purpose of entering the graduated procedure. Area residents will not require a valid passport in order to extend the graduated procedure.
9. Original police clearance certificate for the foreign spouse (including original names). If the foreign spouse is unable to produce a police clearance certificate for whatever reason, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision, enclosing supporting documents for the applicant's claim.
10. Official documents attesting to foreign spouse's previous marital status.
11. Foreign spouse original birth certificate.
12. When the application includes minors from a previous marriage, the application must enclose:
 - Consent of other parent or a judgment translated and certified by a notary public determining that the sponsored spouse has sole custody of the minor.
 - Birth certificate of accompanying minor (original + translation)
 - **Application for minors up to age 15:** No requirement for proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission. Minor will be granted same status as sponsored parent.

Minors over the age of 15: Proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission is required. If the minor child was not in constant contact with the sponsored parent in the two years preceding the application, the application must be referred to the director of

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 4 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

the PIA for a decision via Foreign Nationals and Visa Department at PIA headquarters, enclosing department recommendation.

- Consent of the other parent to the accompanying minor's permanent residency.

12. [sic] Response of the liaison office with respect to the documents (in cases of citizens of the former USSR and Eastern Europe).

D. Conditions and Requirements:

D1. Foreign spouse is not in the country and the couple is married:

D.1.1. The couple is abroad, seeking to enter the country together after the marriage:

The couple will contact the local Israeli diplomatic mission and file an official application for entry into Israel for the foreign spouse.

Conditions and requirements:

- 1) Filing a visa application with the Israeli consulate.
- 2) Payment of fee.
- 3) **Documents that must be enclosed with application as condition for entry visa approval:**
 - a. Original marriage documents (original + photocopy)
 - b. Photocopy of Israeli spouse's identity card.
 - c. Photocopy of sponsored spouse's foreign passport
 - d. 3 frontal photos of each of the spouses.
 - e. Proof of married life (shared photographs, letters from relatives and friends etc.), and a letter from the couple containing explanations regarding their life together, how they met and how long they have known each other.
 - f. Affidavit regarding the authenticity of the materials presented and acknowledgment of the couple's obligation to notify the Ministry of Interior of any change in circumstances.
 - g. Declaration of health and declaration that the foreign spouse has no criminal record.
 - h. Foreign spouse original birth certificate.
 - i. When the application includes minors from a previous marriage, the application must enclose:
 - Birth certificate of accompanying minor (original + translation)

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 5 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- Consent of other parent or a judgment translated and certified by a notary public determining that the sponsored spouse has sole custody of the minor.
- **Application for minors up to age 15:** No requirement for proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission. Minor will be granted same status as sponsored parent.
Minors over the age of 15: Proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission is required. If the minor child was not in constant contact with the sponsored parent in the two years preceding the application, the application must be referred to the director of the PIA for a decision via Foreign Nationals and Visa Department at PIA headquarters, enclosing department recommendation.
- Consent of the other parent to the accompanying minor's permanent residency.

At this stage, it will be made clear to the applicants that they will be required to produce the following documents as a condition for grant of status application approval:

- j. A foreign passport valid for at least two years. In addition, an annual re-examination of the validity of the sponsored spouse's passport must be conducted to ensure that it is valid for at least two years, with the exception of Area residents, who will require a valid passport only for the purpose of entering the graduated procedure. Area residents will not require a valid passport in order to extend the graduated procedure.
- k. Original police clearance certificate for the foreign spouse (including original names). If the foreign spouse is unable to produce a police clearance certificate for whatever reason, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision, enclosing supporting documents for the applicant's claim.
- l. Official documents attesting to foreign spouse's previous marital status.
- m. Response of the liaison office with respect to the documents (in cases of citizens of the former USSR and Eastern Europe).

Couple should be advised to obtain these documents prior to entering Israel in order to reduce application for grant of status processing time.

- 4) Payment of guarantee - a bank guarantee of ILS 15,000 and an additional guarantee of ILS 5,000 for each accompanying minor shall be deposited at the Israeli spouse's local PIA branch office (may be deposited prior to departure from Israel or subsequent thereto via representative acting on his/her behalf).
- **Application for entry will be approved within 30 days of satisfying the conditions and requirements.**
- **Inasmuch as the position of the security agencies is required – processing will be suspended pending receipt of agencies' response.**

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 6 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- **Inasmuch as the file contains a police objection to approval, the application may be rejected at this stage. However, processing will not be suspended pending receipt of police response to new queries.**

Upon satisfaction of all the aforesaid requirements - a B/2 visa valid for 30 days will be granted.

Application processing will proceed as detailed below in Section 2.

D.1.2. Israelis entering Israel alone and sponsoring a foreign spouse:

Conditions and requirements:

- 1) Israeli spouse must report to branch office in person.
- 2) Submission of application for grant of status for the foreign spouse + application for entry visa.
- 3) Payment of fee for the two applications.
- 4) Documents that must be enclosed with the application as condition for entry visa approval:
 - a. Original marriage documents (original + photocopy)
 - b. Photocopy of Israeli spouse's identity card.
 - c. Photocopy of sponsored spouse's foreign passport
 - d. 3 frontal photos of each of the spouses.
 - e. Proof of married life (shared photographs, letters from relatives and friends etc.), and a letter from the couple containing explanations regarding their life together, how they met and how long they have known each other.
 - f. Affidavit regarding the authenticity of the materials presented and acknowledgment of the couple's obligation to notify the Ministry of Interior of any change in circumstances.
 - g. Declaration of health and declaration that the foreign spouse has no criminal record.
 - h. Foreign spouse original birth certificate.
 - i. When the application includes minors from a previous marriage, the application must enclose:
 - Consent of other parent or judgment translated and certified by notary public determining that the sponsored spouse has sole custody of the minor.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 7 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- Birth certificate of accompanying minor (original + translation)
- **Application for minors up to age 15:** No requirement for proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission. Minor will be granted same status as sponsored parent.

Minors over the age of 15: Proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission is required. If the minor child was not in constant contact with the sponsored parent in the two years preceding the application, the application must be referred to the director of the PIA for a decision via Foreign Nationals and Visa Department at PIA headquarters, enclosing department recommendation.
- Consent of the other parent the accompanying minor's permanent residency.

At this stage, it will be made clear to the applicants that they will be required to produce the following documents as a condition for grant of status application approval:

- i. [sic] A foreign passport valid for at least two years. In addition, an annual re-examination of the validity of the sponsored spouse's passport must be conducted to ensure that it is valid for at least two years, with the exception of Area residents, who will require a valid passport only for the purpose of entering the graduated procedure. Area residents will not require a valid passport in order to extend the graduated procedure.
- j. Original police clearance certificate for the foreign spouse (including original names). If the foreign spouse is unable to produce a police clearance certificate for whatever reason, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision, enclosing supporting documents for the applicant's claim.
- k. Official documents attesting to foreign spouse's previous marital status.
- l. The response of the liaison office with respect to the documents (in cases of citizens of the former USSR and Eastern Europe).

Couple should be advised to obtain these documents prior to the foreign spouse's entry to Israel in order to reduce application for grant of status processing time.

- 5) Inasmuch as the sincerity of the marriage is in question, it is possible to require a bank guarantee of ILS 15,000, plus ILS 5,000 for each accompanying minor, with approval from the branch office manager. The guarantee amount may be raised or lowered in exceptional cases, as per the recommendation of the branch office manager and approval of Population Administration headquarters.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 8 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- **Application for entry will be approved within 30 days of the preliminary examination of the sincerity of the relationship with the Israeli spouse and satisfaction of the conditions and requirements, unless the application raises prima facie suspicions of falsehood.**
- **Inasmuch as the position of the security agencies is required – processing will be suspended pending receipt of agencies' response.**
- **Inasmuch as the file contains a police objection to approval, the application may be rejected at this stage. However, processing will not be suspended pending receipt of police response to new queries.**

Upon satisfaction of all the aforesaid requirements and conditions - a B/2 visa valid for 30 days will be granted.

Application processing will proceed as detailed below in Section 2.

D2. The foreign spouse is in Israel and the couple is married

2.1. [sic] The couple is married and the foreign spouse is lawfully present in Israel:

- * The aforesaid applies both when the foreign spouse has been in Israel and when s/he enters Israel as per situation 1 above:

Conditions and requirements:

- 1) Both spouses must report in person.
- 2) Submission of application for grant of status for the foreign spouse.
- 3) Payment of fee for the two applications.
- 4) Documents that must be enclosed with the application:
 - a. Original marriage documents (original + photocopy)
 - b. Photocopy of Israeli spouse's identity card.
 - c. Photocopy of sponsored spouse's foreign passport
 - d. 3 frontal photos of each of the spouses.
 - e. Proof of married life (shared photographs, letters from relatives and friends etc.), and a letter from the couple containing explanations regarding their life together, how they met and how long they have known each other.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 9 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- f. Affidavit regarding the authenticity of the materials presented and acknowledgment of the couple's obligation to notify the Ministry of Interior of any change in circumstances.
- g. Foreign spouse original birth certificate.
- h. Declaration of health and declaration that the foreign spouse has no criminal record.
- i. When the application includes minors from a previous marriage, the application must enclose:
 - Consent of other parent or a judgment translated and certified by a notary public determining that the sponsored spouse has sole custody of the minor.
 - Birth certificate of accompanying minor (original + translation)
 - **Application for minors up to age 15:** No requirement for proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission. Minor will be granted same status as sponsored parent.

Minors over the age of 15: Proof that the minor has been in the custody of the sponsored spouse for at least two years prior to application submission is required. If the minor child was not in constant contact with the sponsored parent in the two years preceding the application, the application must be referred to the director of the PIA for a decision via Foreign Nationals and Visa Department at PIA headquarters, enclosing department recommendation.
 - Consent of the other parent to the accompanying minor's permanent residency.
- 5) Preliminary examination of the sincerity of the relationship between the spouses must be conducted at the time of status application submission.
- 6) In cases in which the foreign spouse's date of entry into Israel is not updated in the file, the application must be transferred to the border crossings supervisor at PIA headquarters.
- 7) The positions of the police and the ISA must be obtained. In case security agency positions are delayed, the B/2 visa will be extended after a preliminary examination of the sincerity of the relationship between the spouses.

Upon satisfaction of all the aforesaid requirements, a B/1 visa / DCO permit will be granted for 6 months.

At the time the visa/permit is granted, the couple should be advised that for approval of the grant of status application and as a condition thereto, they must produce:

- 8) A foreign passport valid for at least two years. In addition, an annual re-examination of the validity of the sponsored spouse's passport must be conducted to ensure that it is valid for at least two years, with the exception of Area residents, who will require a valid passport

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 10 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

only for the purpose of entering the graduated procedure. Area residents will not require a valid passport in order to extend the graduated procedure.

- 9) Original police clearance certificate for the foreign spouse (including original names). If the foreign spouse is unable to produce a police clearance certificate for whatever reason, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision, enclosing supporting documents for the applicant's claim.
- 10) Official documents attesting to foreign spouse's previous marital status.
- 10) [sic] Response of the liaison office with respect to the documents (in cases of citizens of the former USSR and Eastern Europe).

The couple will be summoned to proceed processing only after the documents are produced. In addition, the couple should be provided with a referral to the liaison office.

Application processing will proceed as detailed below in Section E.

D.2.2. The couple is married and the foreign spouse is unlawfully present in Israel:

Conditions and requirements:

- 1) Israeli spouse must report in person.
- 2) Submission of application for grant of status in Israel.
- 3) Payment of fee.
- 4) Documents that must be enclosed with the application: See above: Documents required when foreign spouse is lawfully present in the country.
- 5) A foreign spouse who was married in Israel subsequent to the issuance of a removal order against him/her - prima facie suspicion of falsehood must be checked at the time of the hearing to determine the sincerity of the relationship. Where this is the case, it is possible to insist that the foreign spouse leave the country prior to processing of the application. Processing of the application will proceed as detailed in Section 1 above - spouses who are abroad and seek to enter the country together, or an Israeli who enters the country alone and sponsors the foreign spouse.
- 6) After receipt of the application, the spouses will be summoned for a preliminary examination of the sincerity of the relationship between them.
 - a. It is emphasized that if the case involves a foreign spouse regarding whom the position of the security agencies is required, s/he will be summoned to the branch office only after receipt of the agencies' position.
 - b. If the position of the ISA has not yet been received - processing will be suspended.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 11 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- c. **If the position of the ISA has been received, but the position of the police has not yet been received and a preliminary examination of the sincerity of the relationship has been conducted - a B/2 visa / DCO permit will be granted for 3 months, and extended pending receipt of police position. Inasmuch as the position of the police is received while the permit is valid - the couple will be summoned to the branch office to receive a B/1 visa / DCO permit for 6 months, as per procedure.**

Upon satisfaction of all the aforesaid requirements , a B/1 visa / DCO permit will be granted for 6 months.

At the time the visa/permit is granted, the couple should be advised that for approval of the application for grant of status and as a condition thereto, they must produce:

- 7) A foreign passport valid for at least two years. In addition, an annual re-examination of the validity of the sponsored spouse's passport must be conducted to ensure that it is valid for at least two years, with the exception of Area residents, who will require a valid passport only for the purpose of entering the graduated procedure. Area residents will not require a valid passport in order to extend the graduated procedure.
- 8) Foreign spouse original birth certificate.
- 9) Original police clearance certificate for the foreign spouse (including original names). If the foreign spouse is unable to produce a police clearance certificate for whatever reason, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision, enclosing supporting documents for the applicant's claim.
- 10) Official documents attesting to foreign spouse's previous marital status.
- 11) Response of the liaison office with respect to the documents (in cases of citizens of the former USSR and Eastern Europe).

The couple will be summoned to proceed processing only after the documents are produced. In addition, the couple should be provided with a referral to the liaison office

Application processing will proceed as detailed below in Section E.

D3. Foreign spouse is in Israel - couple seeks to travel abroad to get married

Conditions and requirements

The couple has three options:

- a. **If the foreign spouse is lawfully present in Israel, s/he will receive an entry visa prior to leaving the country (see Procedure 5.2.0029).**
- b. The Israeli will return to the country and file an application to sponsor the foreign spouse.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 12 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- c. A couple seeking to enter the country together will contact the local Israeli diplomatic mission and file an application for the foreign spouse to enter the country.

* If the foreign spouse who is in Israel does not have a **travel document**, s/he will be referred to the diplomatic mission of his/her country of citizenship in Israel in order to obtain a travel document. If there is no possibility to obtain a travel document from the country of citizenship, s/he will be issued an Israeli Travel Document for Foreign Nationals in order to leave the country to arrange for documents in his/her country.

E. Review of Status Application

Upon the grant of a B/1 visa / DCO permit for 6 months - the period in which the application is reviewed - the following steps should be taken:

- E1. The intake officer who receives the application forms will verify the information and enclosed forms vis-à-vis the Aviv system, and ascertain whether the applicant meets all the requirements.
- E2. **The intake officer will make sure that all required documents as detailed in the section entitled Required Documents (C) have been produced.**
- E3. The officer will check the validity of the foreign passport of the sponsored person and accompanying minors. The need for a passport that is valid for at least two years, as stated above, will be explained to the applicants in writing at the time of application submission. They will also be advised that for the duration of the B1 visa / DCO permit they have been given, they must make sure that the foreign spouse's passport is valid for at least two years, both with respect to the foreign spouse and the accompanying minors, and with the exception of Area residents, who will require a valid passport only for the purpose of entering the graduated procedure. Area residents will not require a valid passport in order to extend the graduated procedure.
- E4. Check if one of the spouses is under any specific preclusion. If there is such preclusion, follow Procedure on Processing Preclusions No. 1.2.0001.
- E5. Citizens of the former USSR and Eastern Europe must be provided with referrals to the liaison office at the time they are granted a B/1 visa / DCO permit. The B/1 visa will be extended, as needed, until the recommendation of the liaison office is received.
- E6. Upon submission of the application, the Israeli spouse's marital status will be listed as "under review", and a "marital status" preclusion will be entered into the file, indicating the foreign spouse's personal information and the date of marriage.

The "under review" entry will be in effect for no more than 6 months!

File status will normally be changed from "under review" to "married" at the time the application is approved and the B/1 visa / DCO permit is issued as part of the graduated procedure. However, if a delay occurs for whatever reason, status will be changed from "under review" to "married" no later than 6 months after the application is received.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 13 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

If the marriage is proven to be false at the end of this period, marital status will be changed to "married", with a file annotation that the marriage is false.

- E7. The branch officer will open a new application file in the application directory and update all phases of application processing therein.
- E8. The officer will make sure that queries are sent to the various agencies and that responses are received:
- 1) Police National Headquarters: citizenship/permanent residency - for the general population.
 - 2) ISA - Minorities², risk countries, Judea and Samaria Area, Gaza Strip.
 - 3) DCO - residents of the Judea and Samaria Area and Gaza Strip.

Security agency evaluations will be conducted with respect to sponsoring spouse, sponsored spouse and children aged 14 and over.

- E9. The officer will send out queries to the National Insurance Institute and the Ministry of Education as part of the center-of-life review.
- E10. Inasmuch as security agency comments are received, the material will be transferred to the appropriate desk for examination.
- E11. In cases in which the sponsored spouse is a citizen of a risk country, the director of the PIA will consider the grant of status in Israel in consultation with security officials, according to the circumstances at the time.
- E12. The decision to approve the application and the couple's entry into the graduated procedure will be made following an exhaustive examination, including a personal interview, according to interview procedures, with respect to the following elements:
- a. The sincerity and continuation of the couple's marriage.
 - b. Examination of their center-of-life in Israel.
 - c. In the absence of a security or criminal preclusion for application approval (inasmuch as the responses of the agencies are still valid (valid for a year) there is no need to make new queries).
- E13. Inasmuch as the application is denied either at the outset or during processing for security or criminal reasons, a new application may be filed **no earlier** than a year from the date on which the most recent decision in the application was given (branch office rejection/appeal dismissal/court petition dismissal).

² Translator note: The term minority is used in Israel to refer to Arab residents and citizens of the country.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 14 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

*** It is emphasized that all the aforesaid examinations will be conducted prior to visa extension at each and every stage. Inasmuch as the application is not approved - a rejection notice listing the reasons will be sent.**

- 6) [sic] Commencement of the graduated procedure will not be approved without a police clearance certificate. Where the graduated procedure has already begun, an extension will be granted and the applicant will be asked to produce a police clearance certificate at the next extension phase. An original police clearance certificate for the foreign spouse (including original names). If the foreign spouse is unable to produce a police clearance certificate for whatever reason, the application will be transferred to PIA headquarters for a decision, enclosing supporting documents for the applicant's claim.

Upon satisfaction of all the aforesaid requirements and production of all required documents (whether or not 6 months have passed since the grant of a B/1 visa / DCO permit) the application to enter the graduated procedure will be approved and a B/1 visa / DCO permit will be granted for 15 months.

F. The Graduated Procedure

- F1. Upon approval of the application, a B/1 visa / DCO permit, will be granted for 15 months, and extended for an additional year subject to meeting procedure requirements. Upon termination of a 27-month period with a B/1 visa / DCO permit **as part of the graduated procedure**, a temporary residency visa (A/5) will be granted. The temporary residency visa will be granted for a period of one year at a time, for a total period of three years.
- F2. Upon approval of an A/5 visa, the applicant's personal information will be entered into a new personal file and the applicant will be issued a temporary identity card. The files must be linked.
- F3. Upon approval of an A/5 visa for Area residents, the Beit El / Erez DCO must be notified, but the foreign spouse will keep his/her Palestinian identity card.
- F4. A/5 visas should not be affixed to the passports of Jordanian citizens. Temporary identity cards should be issued only, noting the validity period of the visa and the file must be updated.
- F5. Every extension must be entered into the foreign spouses' file, application file and personal file – "other" tab.
- F6. Applicants must be notified that they must contact the branch office three months prior to the expiry date of each visa in order to file an application to extend the visa, and that they must notify the office of any change in their circumstances, with respect to information previously provided by them, even if the visa has not yet expired.
- F7. During the graduated procedure, prior to the yearly extension of the visa, a renewed examination of the sincerity and continuation of the marriage must be conducted. The

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 15 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

couple will be required to provide proof of their shared life in Israel for an additional year, and an exhaustive examination will be carried out, according to hearing procedures, to verify the information included in the application and its correspondence to the requirements of the procedure. To make a determination on center-of-life in Israel (see Procedure 1.13.0001), consult border control records. In cases of potential residency in the territory of the Palestinian Authority, the couple must produce evidence of residency in Israel (For Palestinian Authority residents – check entries and exits from the Judea and Samaria Area, Gaza Strip). When border control records are incomplete, passports will be produced to supplement data.

- F8. Security agency evaluation with respect to the sponsored spouse and his/her minor children age 14 and over must be repeated every year.
- F9. Inasmuch as the relationship between the spouses has been severed, follow Procedure on the Cessation of the Graduated Procedure.

G. Procedure Termination – Permanent Residency

*** Note that according to the Temporary Order, status held by an Area resident cannot be upgraded, and current status must be extended.**

- G1. When the couple contact the branch office upon termination of 27 months with a B/1 visa / DCO permit and three years with an A/5 visa (3 months before visa expiry as detailed above), another examination of the presence and sincerity of the marriage must be conducted, as well as center-of-life in Israel and current agency evaluations.
- G2. A case file summary, including assessments of the sincerity of the marriage, center-of-life in Israel and future plans for permanent residency in Israel, will be prepared and verification that all documents have been produced and all examinations conducted will be made.
- G3. Inasmuch as some of the conditions for citizenship remain unsatisfied, or when there is doubt regarding center-of-life in Israel or marriage sincerity, the section chief may approve an additional 12-month extension of the A/5 temporary residency status. The application will be reconsidered at the end of this period.
- G4. The application will be approved by the branch office manager, after the branch office committee convenes.
 - 1. Application approved – the couple will receive a written summons to receive a permanent residency visa.
 - 2. Application not approved – rejection indicating reasons will be sent out.
- G5. File citizenship code will be changed to permanent residency according to population code (21, 20, 59, 26, etc.). Minors will receive the same status as their parents. Accompanying minors who reach adulthood during the procedure, will receive the same code as their parents.
- G6. Permanent resident identity card will be issued.

[emblem of Population and Immigration Authority]	Field: Visas
	Subject: Status for Foreign National Married to Permanent Resident

Procedure No: 5.2.0011
Page 16 of 16
Last revised: 7.10.2013

- G7. For Area residents – the Beit El and Erez DCOs will be notified of the receipt of permanent residency for the purpose of removal from the Judea and Samaria / Gaza Strip population registry, and the Palestinian identity card will be delivered to the DCOs.
- G8. All materials will be filed in the personal files of the resident and accompanying individuals.
- G9. Upon termination of processing, the files will be archived and the two applications will be closed in the Aviv system.

H. The Law and Relevant Sections

- 1. Citizenship Law 5712-1952
- 2. Entry into Israel Law 5712-1952

I. Annexes

Annex Affidavit A

- 1. Letter of request for grant of status in Israel to a foreign spouse married in an Israeli (AS/6, page 1)
- 2. Application for grant of status in Israel to a foreign spouse married to an Israeli (AS/6, page 2)
- 3. Continued application for grant of status in Israel to a foreign spouse married to an Israeli (AS/6, page 3)
- 4. Declaration of the sponsoring spouse (AS/6, page 4)
- 5. Declaration of the sponsored spouse (AS/6, page 5)
- 6. Affidavit regarding rental agreement (AS/6, page 6)
- 7. Template for local authority letter regarding center-of-life (AS/6, page 7)
- 8. Summary, file record (AS/6, page 8)
- 9. Permanent residency file summary – graduated procedure, part A (AS/7, page 1)
- 10. Naturalization file summary, per Section 7, Citizenship Law, straight graduated procedure (AS/7, page 2)