Conditions for third country nationals as student, « researcher in training », researcher and « posted researcher »

1. The third-country national applying to reside in Luxembourg in order to conduct research in view of obtaining a doctoral degree will be granted an authorisation to stay as a student:
   a) either if he is admitted to a higher education institution in Luxembourg (university) and is conducting research projects in order to obtain a doctoral degree, either at the higher education institution, or at a recognized research organism in Luxembourg,
   b) or if he is in possession of an authorisation to stay in another member State of the EU and is conducting research projects at a recognized research organism in Luxembourg in view of obtaining a doctoral degree.

The criterion of granting an authorisation to stay as a ‘student’ is the inscription for a doctorate.

Are notably concerned the persons who conforming to the law of 19 August 2008 on training research qualify as « researcher in training » (= a person registered or not as a student in a higher education institution, conducting research projects as part of the training for the doctorate or post doctorate).

It is possible that the authorisation to stay issued by another EU member State carries a designation different from student.

For the application, the concerned person must present:
- either a work contract called « training in research contract » (including a resolutory clause if needed) concluded with a hosting institution,
- or proof of the allocation of a « training for research scholarship » by the ‘Fonds national de la recherche’ (FNR).

Conforming to article 57(3) of the modified law of 29 August 2008 on the free movement of people and immigration, the limitation of the maximum duration of a salaried activity does not apply to research work conducted in view of obtaining a doctoral degree.

2. Specific provisions apply to the third-country national who is authorised to reside in another EU member State where he/she actually lives and who is conducting research work in view of obtaining a doctoral degree at a recognized research organism in Luxembourg. These provisions are indicated in an explanatory notice on mobility of students.

3. The third-country national applying for an authorisation to stay in Luxembourg to conduct a research project will be issued an authorisation to stay as researcher if he presents a hosting agreement signed with a recognized organism and a financial statement of support.

The persons conducting research work as part of a post-doctoral training are falling under this category.

4. For the third-country national who is a holder of an authorisation to stay and resides in another EU member State but works as a researcher in Luxembourg, the provisions on intra-EU mobility of researchers are applicable (see note on the mobility of researchers).

5. The third-country national posted by a research organism from another EU member State to a research organism based in Luxembourg and who resides in Luxembourg must follow the specific rules for a secondment. For the period of the secondment, the posted persons must have the right to reside and work in the country in which the sending organism is based. They benefit from an authorisation to stay as a « salaried worker for a community service provider », completed by the names and social reason of the provider and the recipient in the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg.