

# TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN TO SOUTH AFRICA

*The requirements for children travelling to or from the Republic of South Africa are aimed at giving effect to the Children's Act, 2005.*

## 1. APPLICATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS Effective November 2019

- 1.1. The documents listed under paragraph 2 must on request be produced at a port of entry by South African children entering and leaving the Republic, as well as by unaccompanied minors, regardless of their nationalities.
- 1.2. Foreign children who apply for a South African visa at any mission or VFS service point must submit, as part of the applications, the documents required under paragraph 2 prior to such visa being issued.

## 2. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR TRAVELLING THROUGH A PORT OF ENTRY OF THE REPUBLIC

CATEGORY	SOUTH AFRICAN CHILD	FOREIGN VISA EXEMPT CHILD
CHILD ACCOMPANIED BY BOTH PARENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• valid passport</li><li>• copy of a birth certificate / equivalent document or passport containing the details of the parent or parents of the child</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• valid passport</li></ul>
CHILD ACCOMPANIED BY ONE PARENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• valid passport</li><li>• copy of a birth certificate/equivalent document</li><li>• parental consent letter</li><li>• copy of the passport / identity document of the absent parent</li><li>• contact details of the absent parent</li><li>• <i>where applicable-</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ copy of a court order granting full parental responsibilities and rights or legal guardianship in respect of the child.</li><li>○ copy of a death certificate of the deceased parent</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• valid passport</li></ul>
CHILD TRAVELLING WITH PERSON WHO IS NOT HIS / HER BIOLOGICAL PARENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• valid passport</li><li>• copy of a birth certificate/equivalent document</li><li>• parental consent letter(s)</li><li>• copy of the passport(s)/ identity document(s) of the parent(s)/legal guardian(s)</li><li>• contact details of the</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• valid passport</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>parent(s)/legal guardian(s)</li> <li>• <i>where applicable-</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ copy of a death certificate</li> <li>○ copy of an adoption order</li> <li>○ copy of a court order granting full parental responsibilities and rights / legal guardianship in respect of the child.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>UN-ACCOMPANIED CHILD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• copy of his /her birth certificate</li> <li>• parental consent letters</li> <li>• copy of the passport(s)/identity document(s) of the parent(s) / legal guardian(s)</li> <li>• contact details of the parent(s)/ legal guardian(s)</li> <li>• letter from the person who is to receive the child in the Republic, containing his / her residential address and contact details in the Republic where the child will reside</li> <li>• copy of the identity document / valid passport and visa or permanent residence permit of the person who is to receive the child in the Republic</li> <li>• <i>where applicable-</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ copy of an adoption order</li> <li>○ copy of a death certificate of the deceased parent/ parents or legal guardian;</li> <li>○ copy of a court order granting full parental responsibilities and rights or legal guardianship in respect of the child</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>CHILD IN ALTERNATIVE CARE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• valid passport</li> <li>• letter from the Provincial Head of the Department of Social Development where the child resides authorising his or her departure from the Republic as contemplated in section 169 of the Children's Act (Act No. 38 of 2005).</li> </ul>	