

Brazil Work Permit 2026

Route Chooser, Filing Roadmap & Consultation Prep

A practical client guide for choosing the correct legal work pathway in Brazil and preparing the first filing step without avoidable delays.

Why this revised PDF is worth downloading

- It solves the first decision fast: which route fits your case and what usually has to happen next.
- It reduces friction before filing: deadlines, documents, and route-specific mistakes are shown in a printable format.
- It is stronger for the blog and for conversions because it complements the main article with a compact, action-first asset.

Who this guide is for

- foreign professionals with a Brazilian job offer;
- remote workers deciding between digital nomad vs local-work routes;
- Mercosur nationals and family-reunion applicants;
- HR teams, founders, executives, and technicians who need a compact route map before filing.

60-second answer

What matters first

- In Brazil, legal work status usually combines three layers: residence authorization, a visa if you apply from abroad, and Federal Police registration after arrival.
- If your money comes from a Brazilian employer or a Brazilian local contract, you usually need a local work-authorized path.
- If your income comes only from outside Brazil, digital nomad status or a limited technical-visitor carve-out may fit better, depending on facts and duration.
- The biggest delays usually come from the wrong route, mismatched documents, and a late Federal Police registration.

Scenario	Usually best route	Usually fits if	What to watch
Brazilian job offer / local contract	VITEM V / labor residence authorization	You will be paid by a Brazilian employer or work under a local employment relationship.	Do not assume you can start ordinary paid work before the approval chain and PF registration are in place.
Remote work for a foreign employer	Digital Nomad (VITEM XIV / RN 45)	Income stays foreign-source and you are not being hired by a Brazilian company.	This is not the right route for a Brazilian employer.
Brazilian or resident spouse / parent / child	Family Reunion (VITEM XI or in-country family residence)	Your legal basis is the family relationship, not a local work contract.	This usually gives work rights without a separate work-permit filing.

Scenario	Usually best route	Usually fits if	What to watch
Mercosur nationality	Mercosur residence	Your nationality qualifies and you want a simpler self-petitioned route.	Check document formalities carefully before assuming it is automatic.
Short technical assistance / technology transfer	Short visitor carve-out if facts truly fit; otherwise RN 03 / RN 04	The work is short, fact-specific, and tied to technical assistance rather than standard local employment.	The facts must match the rule very closely; do not stretch the visitor route.
Executive / investment-linked corporate role	RN 11 executive / investor pathway	You are being appointed into a role linked to corporate investment or executive structure.	Corporate documents and investment proof are decisive.

Fast decision rule

- Brazilian-source money usually points toward a local work-authorized path.
- Foreign-source remote income usually points toward digital nomad or a non-employment route.
- When facts are mixed, route selection is a legal-risk decision, not just a convenience decision.

30-day filing roadmap

Window	Main actions	Output you want
Days 1-7	Confirm the route, verify whether filing starts abroad or in Brazil, check hard deadlines, map the document pack, and decide who files.	One route decision and a document map with owners.
Days 8-14	Collect passport scans, police certificates, diplomas, professional references, relationship records if relevant, and contract drafts; start legalizations and translations.	A near-complete pack with the slowest items already moving.
Days 15-21	Quality-check names, dates, signatures, apostilles, translations, and role alignment; prepare fee payments and filing data.	A filing-ready pack that minimizes the risk of exigencia.
Days 22-30	Submit or finalize the filing; prepare the consular step if needed; pre-plan PF registration, CPF, CTPS, banking, and onboarding.	A filed case or a final-ready pack with post-approval next steps.

Core document pack

- Passport that comfortably covers the filing and travel window.
- Police certificates from the right jurisdictions and within a usable validity period.
- Qualification proof: diploma, CV, references, role-specific certificates, professional history.
- Employer documents for employer-sponsored cases: company records, contract, job description, sponsor letters.
- Relationship documents for family routes: marriage or birth records properly formalized.
- Income proof / health insurance for digital nomad cases.
- Translations and apostilles / legalizations where required before filing or the consular stage.

What to prepare before contacting BabyInBrazil

- Your nationality and current country of residence.
- Which route you think might fit and why.
- Who pays you now and who will pay you in Brazil, if anyone.
- Whether you already have documents in hand: passport, police certificate, diploma, marriage/birth records, contract or offer letter.
- Your target move date and whether the filing needs to start inside or outside Brazil.

What creates the most delay

Mistake	Why it causes trouble	How to reduce the risk
Choosing a faster-looking route that does not fit the facts	The case can stall, trigger exigencia, or create a status mismatch later.	Base the route on source of income, legal relationship, and duration - not only speed.
Mismatched names, titles, or job descriptions	Authorities can question identity, qualifications, or route fit.	Standardize names and align role documents before filing.
Missing apostilles, sworn translations, or formalities	A document may become unusable even if the substance is correct.	Build a separate formalization checklist before final submission.

Mistake	Why it causes trouble	How to reduce the risk
Late PF registration after entry or approval	This can add fines, stress, and operational delays.	Pre-plan the PF step before travel or immediately after publication.

Key figures at a glance

Item	Planning figure
Government processing fee referenced in the guide	R\$ 168.13
CRNM card fee referenced in the guide	R\$ 204.77
Official estimate often cited for a complete residence-authorization filing	Up to 30 days
If additional documents are requested	Often longer; build margin into your plan
PF registration after entry on temporary visa	Usually within 90 days
PF registration after in-country approval	Usually within 30 days after publication
Digital nomad benchmark cited in the guide	US\$ 1,500 monthly income or US\$ 18,000 savings

Final go / no-go checklist

- The route matches the true source of income and the real legal relationship.
- Names, dates, and role descriptions are consistent across the whole pack.
- Apostilles / legalizations and translations are planned in the correct order.
- You know whether the filing begins in Brazil or abroad and what that changes.
- You have a plan for the post-approval stage: PF registration, CPF, CTPS, banking, and onboarding.
- You have enough time for slow documents and possible exigencia.

When to contact BabyInBrazil

- Before you choose a route that mixes Brazilian-source work and foreign-source income.
- Before a large move date, when delays would be expensive.
- Before you spend money on translations, apostilles, or a filing pack that may not fit the correct route.
- Before the PF deadline if approval has already happened and you need the next steps clarified.

BabyInBrazil contact

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- Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (BRT)
- Florianopolis, Santa Catarina
- Officially registered company (CNPJ: 60.758.458/0001-36)

Official Brazilian sources worth checking

- Policia Federal - migrant registration and residence routes
- Ministry of Justice / Portal de Imigracao - residence authorization guidance
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs - VITEM categories
- Receita Federal - CPF for foreigners
- Carteira de Trabalho Digital - gov.br

Important: this PDF is a practical planning guide, not legal advice. Rules, deadlines, and fees can change, so the final pre-filing check should always be made against the current official sources and your exact route.