Biometric Data Collection Requirements

Applicants' fingerprints and photo are commonly referred to as biometric data.

Applicants need to appear in person for the collection of the biometric data: ten fingerprints and a photograph are collected from persons applying for a visa.

Before the capturing of the photo, applicants may be asked to remove glasses or adjust head coverings if they hide facial features.

Certain categories of applicants are exempt from the requirement to give fingerprints, including:

- Children under the age of 12
- Persons for whom fingerprinting is physically impossible
- Heads of State and members of national governments, and members of their official delegations when invited for an official purpose.
- Sovereigns and other senior members of a royal family, when they are invited by Member States' governments or by international organisations for an official purpose.

The introduction of biometric data is part of the Schengen Visa Information System (VIS). For more information about VIS, fingerprints, data protection and legal background, please click here.

Data Handling Policy

I am aware of, and consent to, that the data given in this application form being entered into will be stored in the Visa Information System (VIS) for a maximum period of five years. During this time it will be accessible to the visa authorities and the authorities competent to carry out checks on visas at external borders and within the Schengen Member States, for the purpose of verifying whether the conditions for the legal entry into and stay on the territory of the Member States are fulfilled.

The collection of the data is mandatory for the examination of the application. Under certain conditions the data will also be available to designated authorities of the Member States and to Europol for the purpose of the prevention, detection and investigation of terrorist offences and of other serious criminal offences. The authority of the Member State responsible for processing the data is: Directorate of Immigration, Dalvegi 18, 201 Kópavogi, Iceland, www.utl.is.

Iceland has implemented Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data. Please note that all physical documents submitted by applicants, will be scanned and uploaded by VFS Global to the Icelandic visa application database and stored for five years. The authority of the Member State responsible for storing and processing the data is: Directorate of Immigration, Dalvegi 18, 201 Kópavogi, Iceland, www.utl.is. VFS Global then submits the physical application data to the Embassy of Iceland. The Embassy of Iceland then stores all physical documents except the applicant’s passport, for a maximum of five years.

I am aware that I have the right to obtain in any of the Member States notification of the data relating to me recorded in the VIS and of the Member State which transmitted the data, and to request that data relating to me which are inaccurate be corrected and that data relating to me processing unlawfully be deleted. At my express request, the authority examining my application will inform me of the manner in which I may exercise my right to check the personal data concerning me and have them corrected or deleted, including the related remedies according to the national law of the State concerned.
The national supervisory authority of that Member State – Data Protection Authority, Rauðarárstíg 10, 105 Reykjavik, Iceland, www.personuvernd.is – will hear claims concerning the protection of personal data.