

SUPER PRIORITY VISA SERVICE (SPV) IN NIGERIA

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the Super Priority Visa (SPV) service?

A: A fast track service for customers applying for either a visit visa or a Tier 4 student visa, where decisions are made within 24 hours and the passport is returned on the next working day.

Q: Does using SPV guarantee that my visa will be issued?

A: No, using SPV does not, in any way, imply or guarantee that an application will be successful. SPV applicants must still meet the requirements of the relevant UK Immigration Rules and, if you do not meet those requirements, your application will be refused. We strongly recommend that if you have **any** form of adverse immigration or criminal history, you **do not use this service**.

Q: Why has UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) introduced SPV?

A: We've already successfully introduced SPV in a number of countries including China, India and South Africa. Because customers have been so positive, we are now extending SPV to other countries, including Nigeria. It provides greater flexibility and is aimed at those who need to travel very urgently. The service is offered in addition to the standard (15 working days) and Priority Visa (5-7 working days) services.

Q: How do I apply for SPV?

A: If you are applying for a visit visa, please use the new Access UK online application service, and pay the SPV fee at the same time as your visa application fee. If you are applying for a Tier 4 student visa, please complete your visa application, and pay the visa application fee, on Visa4UK and then pay the SPV fee to our Commercial Partner, TLScontact, online. You will need to register on their website to make this payment.

Q: How much does SPV cost?

A: SPV costs £750 (GBP) in addition to the standard visa fee.

Q: Why is SPV so expensive?

A: Operating this service requires additional resource, and the fee covers this cost. It is an optional premium service, available for those who want or need to travel urgently.

Q: Who is eligible to purchase SPV?

A: You can use this service if you are applying for either a:

 <u>Visit visa</u> (all short stay visa categories, including those travelling for business and tourists) • Points Based System Tier 4 visa (applicants must be legally resident in Nigeria)

Q: Where can I apply?

A: If you are eligible (see above) to use the service, you can apply at the Visa Application Centres in **Abuja** or **Lagos Victoria Island**. SPV is not currently available at the Visa Application Centre in Ikeja. You <u>must</u> book an SPV appointment in advance - these appointments are available from 08.30 to 10.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 08.30 to 09.00 on Fridays.

Q: Why can't I apply for SPV at the VAC in Lagos Ikeja?

A: Unfortunately, a 24-hour turnaround is not currently logistically possible. If you want to use the Super Priority Visa service, you should apply at either the Visa Application Centre in Abuja, or Lagos Victoria Island.

Q: Do I need to be resident in Nigeria to purchase SPV?

A: If you are applying for a visit visa, you do not need to be resident in Nigeria to use the SPV service.

If you are applying for a Tier 4 student visa, you **must** be legally resident in Nigeria to use the SPV service.

Q: If I live in another country in Africa, can I travel to Nigeria to make use of the SPV service?

A: Yes, as long as you are applying for a visit visa. You should **select Nigeria** as your location on Visa4UK when completing your online application, regardless of where you actually live. You must have the necessary permission to enter Nigeria, and have correctly selected a Super Priority Visa service appointment at either the Abuja or Lagos Victoria Island Visa Application Centres. And you must have paid the fee for the service (£750) using either the Access UK online application service or on the TLScontact website before attending your appointment.

Q: Can I pick any appointment time during the day, or can I just turn up at the Visa Application Centre in Abuja or Lagos Victoria Island?

A: You must book an SPV appointment at the same time as you make your <u>online application</u> and pay the visa fee. These appointments are available from 08.30 to 10.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 08.30 to 09.00 on Fridays. You will not be admitted to the Visa Application Centre without an appointment.

Q: Can I pay the SPV service fee at the UK Visa Application Centre?

A: No, you must pay your visa application fee and the fee for the Super Priority Visa service online before you attend your appointment.

Q: When will my passport be ready for collection?

A: Once you have attended your appointment, your documents will be ready for collection from the same VAC from 10.00 the next working day.

Q: Will I get a refund if my application is refused?

A: No. The Super Priority Visa service fee will not be refunded if the visa is refused or, in exceptional circumstances, takes longer to process than advertised.

Q: Will I get a refund if I don't receive my decision within 24 hours?

A: If we are unable to process your application within 24 hours we will let you know when you can expect your decision and whether your Super Priority Visa service fee can be refunded.

Q: Do you think people will make use of this service given the cost?

A: We have introduced this service because customers who need to obtain visas at very short notice have asked for it, and the fee charged reflects the additional resources required. We want to make sure that customers are able to choose the service that suits them best, whether that is a standard service - 15 working days for their applications to be processed - or a Priority Visa service, charged at £150, for a fast-track service of 5 – 7 working days.