



# Ireland Working Holiday 2026



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## *Guidance for Chilean Nationals*

**March, 2026**

Santiago Application Centre VFS GLOBAL

Av. Vitacura 2909, of 204, Santiago, Las Condes, Chile  
Santiago, Chile

[IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM](mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM)

# ABOUT THE WORKING HOLIDAY AGREEMENT

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The first round of the Working Holiday Programme 2026 will open on the **30 of April 2026**. The first round has a limit of 100 applicants and only the applicants who email their **application between 9 and 10am (Chilean time) on the 30 of April 2026** will be considered.

The **Ireland-Chile Working Holiday Agreement** allows up to **200** young Chilean applicants (aged between 18 and 30 , both inclusive) annually to take extended holidays in Ireland for up to a year, and to take employment as an incidental aspect of this stay. The aim of the scheme is to introduce young Chileans to the people, culture and landscape of Ireland and to allow them to work and study English or Irish there. Participants will have one year from date of issue of the authorization to enter Ireland. A similar scheme operates from Ireland to Chile.



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You must follow the below procedures in order to submit your application to a working holiday authorisation:

**1**

Email us your application to the WHA 2026: There are 200 vacancies available for Chileans to participate in two rounds of this programme. **The first round** will be launched for the **WHA 2026 program from 9 to 10 am (Chile time) on the 30 of April 2026.**

In order to ensure all people are given a fair and organized treatment you must send us **just one** email saying that you are interested in participating to the following mailbox:

[IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM](mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM). (Applicants sending multiple emails or their details from several mailboxes will be disqualified) . The **100 candidates from this round, will be picked randomly from the pool of emails received** in the hour time period, and they will be assigned an appointment to apply for the Working Holiday Programme.

**2**

**Attend the assigned appointment date and time:** we will allocate an appointment date and time for your to submit your WH authorization application in our Application Centre. Please save the date/time designated for you.

**3**

**Return of the decision envelope:** The decision envelope with the authorization letter will be returned to you by a secured courier from VFS Office.

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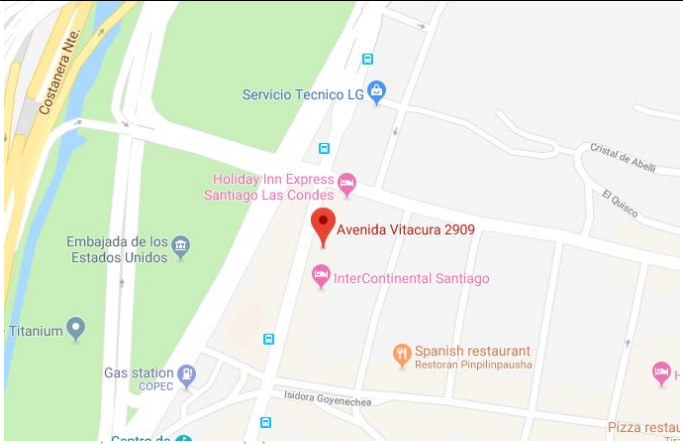
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Below are the list of documents you must present in order to apply for your WH authorization

- **Fully completed application form: this must be completed in English (Please type form or use block capitals).**
- **2 recent photograph passport size:** Passport size, white background, no glasses. No lettering. 5x5cm in size.
- **1 Photocopy of details page of your valid passport.**
- **1 Photocopy of police certificate of good conduct (antecedentes penales) issued within last 3 months of your appointment.**
- **Any of the following listed documents which can be used as proof of residence: residential lease agreement, working contract, utility bill in the applicant's name or travel certificate from PDI.**

The Application Centre is located at:

Address	Map
<p>Av. Vitacura 2909, of 204, Santiago, Las Condes, Chile Edificio Madison Next to Intercontinental Hotel</p>	

- Application submission is made by appointment only.
- You will receive a confirmation with the date and time of your appointment

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## Security Procedures at the Application Centre

- We cannot allow applicant's friends, relatives or other associates into the application centre.
- Applicants who have a disability or who are physically challenged will be able to bring somebody to assist them.
- The following items will not be permitted inside the visa application centre or stored in the premises: All battery operated or electronic gadgets such as cameras, audio/video cassettes, compact discs, MP3's, laptops, or portable music players.
- Sealed packages.
- Weapon or weapon-like objects or explosive material of any kind.

This list is not finite. Other items may be prohibited based on security staff discretion.

**Please note:** The application centre is unable to store prohibited items. Applicants should make other arrangements to store their belongings before they enter the application centre.

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## Customers with disabilities

The application centre has step-free access for wheelchairs. Applicants who have a disability or who have accessibility requirements are encouraged to bring someone to assist them. Lifts are also accessible for use where necessary. Please note that VFS Global staff will be available to assist any applicant with special needs.

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To book an appointment to the Santiago Application Centre you will need:

1. Send an email to [IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM](mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM) **between 9 and 10 am on the 30 of April 2026**
2. 100 emails picked randomly will be shortlisted by VFS.
3. If shortlisted, VFS will assign the appointment date/time for your application submission
4. Show your appointment confirmation email at the Application Centre

If for some reason you are unable to attend the scheduled appointment, please let us know within 48 hours of your appointment date/time. We will assign you another appointment as soon as possible.

If you do not confirm your appointment date/time and do not inform us with 48 hours notice, we will assign your appointment slot to a different applicant and depending on the amount of placements already filled, you may not be able to participate in the Ireland WHA 2026.

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## Are you happy with our service?

VFS Global aims to provide an efficient service to our customers. If you have feedback, we would like to know about it as soon as possible. We will take your complaint seriously and will try to provide a full reply within 2 working days. If we cannot give you a full reply within this time, we will inform you of when to expect an answer.

If you wish to send comments about the service you received from VFS Global, you can email your feedback to: [IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM](mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM)

Please include in your email topic the word “complaint” or “compliment”. This will ensure your email is automatically forwarded to the responsible operations manager who will be dealing with your feedback.

Once your appointment has been scheduled, the following fees must be paid by bank deposit or bank transfer (in two separate payments):

- Application Processing fee: **85 EU = CLP \$ 87.691**
- VISA fee: **60 EU = CLP \$ 61.900**

Proof of bank or wire transfers must be submitted along with the WHA application on the day of the appointment.

Fees are not refundable if your WH authorization is refused or you do not cancel your appointment with 48 hours notice.

Payment details:

Name: VFS Services Chile SPA

Bank: Scotiabank.

Account Number: 97-21460-21.

ID: 76.156.068-9

# Optional Services:

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## Value Added Services

Service	Description	Price
<b>Domestic Courier</b>	Delivery of your working holiday letter to your chosen address in Chile	CLP 22,500.00
	Delivery of your working holiday letter to your chosen address in Regions of Chile	CLP 29,700.00
<b>Photocopy</b>	Photocopy and printing service at the Visa Application Centre (VAC)	CLP 1,500.00
<b>Email Notification</b>	You will be informed of each stage of your application by mail	CLP 2,500.00
<b>Form Filling service</b>	Our Submission Officers will assist all applicants with filling in forms on computer terminals at the VAC	CLP 7,000.00

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After your application submission, your documents will be sent to the Embassy of Ireland in Santiago.

Once a decision has been made, your documents will be delivered by courier to the address provided on the day of the appointment.

Documents can be collected in person at the Application Center at the designated dates and times.



# FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS



ID	Question	Answer
1	Do I have to complete the application form online?	No, you must complete the form provided to you with the email, and bring it to the application centre at the date/time assigned for you. Filled in by computer not by hand.
2	What are the exact measurements of the photographs ?	Passport size, white background, no glasses. No lettering. 5x5cm
3	How long does it take to process my application at the Embassy?	The application process will take approximately 3 months.
4	What documents I need to bring to my application?	You must bring: a fully completed computer application form, 2 recent passport-sized photographs 5x5, a photocopy of the details page of your valid passport, a photocopy of the police certificate of good conduct (antecedentes penales) and your chosen document to proof your residence (as listed before) . To be valid, your passport must have at least 2 years until the expiration date.
5	Do my work authorization letter returns by courier or I need to pick it up at the Visa Application Centre?	Documents can be collected in person at the Application Center at the designated dates and times.

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6	Am I required to provide fingerprints or any biometric information?	No. This is not required.
7	Can I present my application at any date or time?	No, you will be informed by VFS of the appointment date and time you must present at the <b>Santiago Application Centre</b> .
8	Do I need to present an airplane ticket?	No this is not required. To be valid, your passport must have at least 2 years until the expiration date. Make sure your passport is <b>valid</b> for at least 2 years when your passport is being requested. <b>Valid passport accepted only</b>
9	Once I obtain my work authorization, how much time do I have to travel to Ireland?	The WHA is valid for entry to Ireland for 12 months after issue.
10	If I am granted the work authorization, when can I leave Chile?	As soon as you are granted the WH Authorization you are free to travel to Ireland. In addition to your authorization letter, at the port of entry you will need to show proof of travel and liability insurance that covers the 12 month period and proof of your financial situation (you must have €1,500 if you have already booked return flight, or €3,000 without it.)

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11	What must I do with my work authorisation letter?	You must present your work authorisation letter to the immigration officer at Ireland's border.
12	How long can I work with one employer? How many employers can I have?	There are no restrictions on the number of employers or time of employment with a single employer once the WHA is issued.
13	How much money do I need to have in my account to present to VAC?	Chilean applicants are not required to present financial evidence at the application centre; however you may be asked to show proof of solvency at your port of entry; €1,500 with return flight, or €3,000 without.
14	I am 30 years old now but in 2 more weeks after my application is sent I will be 31. Can I still apply?	You must be under 30 years of age at date of application.
15	I have a child, will that cause my application to be refused?	Your family will not be a factor in your application; however the WHA is valid for one person only and no exceptions will be made.
16	My passport expires before the end of the visa, can I still apply?	Passports must be valid for the duration of your stay. When your passport is requested You must have a passport that is <b>valid</b> for at least 2 years prior to your application. <b>Mandatory</b>



# FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS

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17	I have a different signature for my passport and for my ID. Could that lead o my application being refused?	The signature on your application form must be the same as the signature your passport
18	When will the program will start in 2025?	Applications to the Ireland WHA 2026 programme will start the first round on the 1st of May. Only emails submitted between 9 and 10 am (Chile time) on that day, will be considered on a randomly picked based on the VFS email platform.
19	How can I present my application to obtain a placement to the WHA programme?	You must send just one email to : <a href="mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM">IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM</a> from 9 to 10 am on the 30 of April 2026, Chile time. We will respond to you with the appointment date/time to present your application.
20	I am a Chilean citizen but I am currently residing overseas, can I apply for to the Working Holiday Programme.	<b>No</b> , the Working Holiday Agreement is issued to <b>Chilean citizens ordinarily residing in Chile. You must be living in Chile at the time of your application.</b> We will ask you to show proof for this requirement. You can pick and present one of the previously listed documents.
21	How will placements to the programme be allocated?	All those interested in participating in the Ireland WHA program should send just one email to <a href="mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM">IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM</a> from 9am to 10 am on the 30 of April 2026. Appointments will be allocated for 100 emails received in the time window to the VFS email platform.

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22	I have a police certificate that was used for a different reason. Can I use the same police certificate for my application?	The certificate must have been issued no longer than 3 months prior to your application submission. In cases where the applicant has a criminal record, they must present a letter explaining the situation. Applications will be assessed on a case by case basis.
23	Can I send my application directly to the Irish Embassy or Consulate?	The applications can only be accepted by personal application at the VFS Application Centre in Santiago
24	Can I bring my wife/husband/partner/children with me to Ireland?	The authorizations are for individuals only. Holders of a working holiday authorization are not allowed to bring any family members.

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25	Is there a limit of Working Holiday Authorisations to be issued?	The scheme is limited to 200 participants per year. These will be granted in 2 rounds of 100. Once the limit has been reached, the Embassy will announce the closure of the programme on its website <a href="#">Embassy Of Ireland, Chile   Ireland.ie   Ireland.ie</a>
26	I have another question about the program that is not included in this FAQ. How can I find the answer?	Applicants with questions not included in this FAQ must any queries via the <a href="#">Embassy's Contact Us Page</a> . We regret to inform that it will not be possible to answer these questions at the Application Centre in regards of this program.
27	For the Health and Liability Insurance , any provider is acceptable ?	Yes, you can purchase any health and liability insurance from any company as long as it complies with the following: you have proof of comprehensive travel insurance valid for at least one year to cover medical emergencies, repatriation and accidental bodily injury or property damage to third parties. The policy must clearly state your name, coverage dates, and confirm it includes full medical and hospital cover for the duration of your intended stay.

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Please read the Frequently Asked Questions from this document to obtain information related to this programme.

Alternatively, you may send an email to [IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM](mailto:IRISHWHCHILE@VFSGLOBAL.COM)

VFS representatives will strive to answer all emails within 2 business days. All emails will be answered after the go-live date. All emails sent before the go-live date will be discarded.





# Thank You for your attention

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