

Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes
Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

The process of obtaining a work permit, which is necessary for spouses who wish to work in Norway, can be time consuming and difficult. A special application, accompanied by a medical certificate and Foreign Ministry Identity Card, must be completed prior to commencing work. An application cannot be made until the applicant has actually received a written job offer. It is illegal for the employee to start work while he/she is waiting for the work permit which can take many weeks to be issued. One of the factors which must be considered is whether or not a Norwegian with similar qualifications has applied for the vacant position. If such is the case, the employer is obliged to give the job to the Norwegian.

Once the work permit is obtained, the foreign employee will have the same rights and obligations as a local employee with the exception that he/she will retain diplomatic immunity from any criminal procedure; he/she may be subject, however, to civil suits occurring in connection with the job. The employee will be obliged to pay the normal reduced taxes but no social security contributions.

The local job market for a foreigner is gloomy especially because of the requirement to speak Norwegian in practically every position. This also includes positions at foreign embassies for the most part.

Potential Employers

Norsk Sykepleierforbund
SAS Hotel
Norsk Personal
Frivndervisningen
Aftenskolen
DHL Worldwide Courier Services
ESSO
American Embassy
Kontor Service A/S
AfNorth (NATO)

PORTUGAL (Lisbon)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: No
Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0
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With 8% unemployment in Portugal there is little opportunity for foreigners to obtain employment. A work permit could possibly be obtained should a spouse have specialized training required in Portugal. One of the private schools may possibly provide employment but generally at very low wages.