

**(UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION)**

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**Notification of the Ministry of Labour**

**RE: Prescription of the Prohibited Occupations for Foreigners**

By virtue of the first paragraph of Section 7 of the Emergency Decree on Foreigners' Working Management, B.E.2560 (2017), as amended by the Emergency Decree on Foreigners' Working Management (No. 2) B.E.2561 (2018), the Minister of Labour, with the approval of the Foreigners' Working Management Policy Committee on 11 March 2020, hereby issues the Notification as follows:

Clause 1. This Notification shall come into force after sixty days from the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Clause 2. The occupations as specified in List 1 annexed to this notification or prescribed by law for practitioners to require Thai nationality are strictly prohibited for foreigners in all areas of the Kingdom.

Clause 3. The occupations as specified in List 2 annexed to this notification are prohibited to foreigners in all areas of the Kingdom, with a condition that foreigners are allowed to work in accordance with international agreements or obligations to which Thailand is bound under the provisions of laws.

Clause 4. The occupations as specified in List 3 annexed to this notification are prohibited to foreign workers in all areas of the Kingdom, with a condition that foreigners are allowed to do skilled or semi-skilled work when working for an employer.

Clause 5. The occupations as specified in List 4 annexed to this notification are prohibited to foreign workers in all areas of the Kingdom, with a condition of having employers and permitted to enter Thailand by Immigration Law under MoUs or Agreement between Thai Government and Foreign Government.

Recruiting foreigners to work with employers under the first paragraph of this clause shall be in accordance with the conditions prescribed by the Director-General of the Department of Employment.

Clause 6. In the case where the occupations prescribed by law require a license or a certificate, foreigners shall submit an application for a work permit upon obtaining the license or certificate as prescribed by such law.

Announced on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of April B.E.2563 (2020)  
Minister of Labour

**Lists annexed to Notification of the Ministry of Labour**  
**RE: Prescription of the Prohibited Occupations for Foreigners**

**List 1**

**Occupations that are strictly prohibited for foreigners:**

- (1) Wood carving
- (2) Driving motor vehicles, driving a non-mechanically propelled carrier or driving a domestic mechanically propelled carrier, except for piloting international aircraft or forklift driving
- (3) Auction
- (4) Cutting or polishing diamond or precious stones
- (5) Haircutting, hairdressing or beauty treatment
- (6) Cloth weaving by hand
- (7) Mat weaving or utensil making from reeds, rattan, hemp, straw, bamboo, bamboo pellicle, grass, chicken feather, coconut leaf stick, fiber, wire or other materials
- (8) Mulberry paper making by hand
- (9) Lacquerware making
- (10) Making Thai musical instruments
- (11) Nielloware making
- (12) Gold ornaments, silverware or pink gold making
- (13) Bronze ware making
- (14) Thai dolls making
- (15) Alms bowl making
- (16) Silk products making by hand
- (17) Buddha images making
- (18) Paper or cloth umbrella making
- (19) Brokerage or agency work, except brokerage or agency working in international trade or investment
- (20) Thai massage
- (21) Cigarette rolling by hand
- (22) Tour guide or sightseeing tour operation
- (23) Peddling
- (24) Manual typesetting of Thai characters
- (25) Silk reeling and twisting by hand
- (26) Clerical or secretarial work
- (27) Legal services or services in legal proceedings, except for the following occupations:
  - (A) Performing duties of arbitration
  - (B) Providing assistance or representation in the arbitral proceedings in the event that the law applicable to the dispute being considered by the arbitrators is not Thai law.

## **List 2**

### **Prohibited Occupations for foreigners with a condition that foreigners are allowed to work under international agreements or obligations to which Thailand is bound under the provisions of law**

(1) Controlling, auditing, performing or providing accounting services, except for the following occupations:

(A) Occasional internal audit work;

(B) Work under international agreements or obligations to which Thailand is bound, for which the Professional Association provides a certificate of qualifications.

(2) Civil engineer work concerning counselling, project planning, design and calculation, construction supervision or manufacturing, inspection, administration work to organize the system, research and test, except those who are registered as a professional engineer under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) as well as other international agreements related to cross-border engineering services, or licensee of the controlled engineering profession in the field of civil engineering under the Engineering law.

(3) Professional architectural work concerning project study, design, construction management and supervision, inspection or consulting, except for professional architects under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for architectural services as well as other international agreements on cross-border architectural services from the Architect Council of Thailand or licensee of controlled architecture profession under the Architects law.

### **List 3**

#### **Prohibited Occupations for foreigners with a condition that foreign workers are allowed to do skilled or semi-skilled work when working for an employer**

- (1) Agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry or fishery
- (2) Bricklaying, carpentry, or construction works
- (3) Mattress or quilt blanket making
- (4) Knife making
- (5) Shoemaking
- (6) Hat making
- (7) Dressmaking
- (8) Pottery or ceramic ware making

#### **List 4**

**Prohibited occupations which foreign workers are permitted to perform under the condition of having employers and permitted to enter Thailand by Immigration Law under MoUs or Agreement between Thai Government and Foreign Government**

(1) Labour;

(2) Shop front sellers

## Definition of Prohibited Occupations for Foreigners

### List 1

#### Occupations that are strictly prohibited for Foreigners

No.	Occupations	Definition
1	Wood carving	Wood carving or carving decorative patterns on wood, preparation of wood and carving on wood to make decorative patterns on furniture, decorations and other wares, as well as repair and modification.
2	Driving motor vehicles, driving a non-mechanically propelled carrier or driving a domestic mechanically propelled carrier, except for piloting international aircraft or forklift driving	Driving motor vehicles, including trams for transporting goods and passengers by road, water, air, or driving a domestic non-mechanically propelled carrier except for international aircraft or driving a forklift installed with equipment for lifting or moving things.
3	Auction	Work related to valuation and auction of property or goods, including real estate, livestock, and agricultural products.
4	Cutting or polishing diamond or precious stones	All or part of the cutting into shape and polishing diamonds or gemstones or precious stones with machines, as well as repair and modification of diamonds or gemstones or precious stones.
5	Haircutting, hairdressing or beauty treatment	Haircutting, hair perming, hair washing, hair dyeing, hair styling and hair design services for both men and women, makeup, cosmetic work, individual characteristic enhancement, facial massage, manicure and beauty treatment for customers in various types, but not including the following: (1) providing services or supports or assistance in facilitating, such as equipment preparation and cleaning, foot washing, etc; (2) Makeup, hairdressing, or hair design, for which the worker travels from abroad to work in a film production with permission to make a foreign movie in the Kingdom under the Film and Video Act.
6	Cloth weaving by hand	Weaving cloth and carpets with hand loom, as well as spinning cotton or silk yarn with a spinning machine, reeling two or more yarns onto a tube without twisting, reeling yarn from one tube to another, reeling yarn to prepare for weaving, inspecting defects in cloth or fabric, and repairing cloth or fabric

No.	Occupations	Definition
7	Mat weaving or utensil making from reeds, rattan, hemp, straw, bamboo, bamboo pellicle, grass, chicken feather, coconut leaf stick, fiber, wire or other materials	Weaving mats or making utensil from reeds, rattan, hemp, straw, bamboo, bamboo pellicle, grass, chicken feather, coconut leaf stick, fiber, wire or other materials by hand or using a loom or a weaver that is not a machine, as well as repair and modification works
8	Mulberry paper making by hand	Processing mulberry barks through various steps until it results in sheets of paper as thick or thin as needed to make umbrellas, to be used as wrapping paper and for other uses
9	Lacquerware making	Weaving bamboo strips into containers or other wares, then coating with a type of traditional lacquer to make them solid and the surface smooth, then polishing, and carving and decorating them with patterns and colours through various techniques
10	Making Thai musical instruments	Making Thai traditional musical instruments, including strings, drums, winds and others, from materials by hand or machine, as well as decoration, repair and modification works
11	Nielloware making	Making metal products, and decorating the surface using lead enamel to create patterns
12	Gold ornaments, silverware or pink gold making	Making wares or ornaments by bending, hammering or cutting gold, silver, copper alloy or other precious metals into various shapes, as well as soldering or welding to piece several parts together and carving patterns onto the surface, and polishing up
13	Bronze ware making	Cutting, hammering, bending or pressing metals, mostly brass and copper, into wares or ornaments, then polishing with stone by hand or machine, as well as decoration, repair and modification
14	Thai dolls making	Making Thai dolls, cast or stuffed by hand or machine, as well as decoration, repair and modification
15	Alms bowl making	Shaping metal sheets, mostly cast iron, by bending, hammering, polishing into an alms bowl or making alms bowls by casting metals into molds, and then coating or smoking and polishing, as well as repair work
16	Silk products making by hand	Creating product from silk or using silk with other materials in making clothes, costumes, hats, various things and ornaments, by hand or machine

No.	Occupations	Definition
17	Buddha images making	Making Buddha images by casting, welding, sculpting, carving, reprinting, pressing, and other methods, as well as surface decoration and repair of Buddha images
18	Paper or cloth umbrella making	Making umbrellas using paper or cloth by hand, as well as repair and modification
19	Brokerage or agency work, except brokerage or agency working in international trade or investment	Working as an intermediary or contact between two parties to make deals on insurance, trading commodities, trading or renting and letting property, or trading or participating in business services, and receiving a commission in return, except for the work related to international trade or investment
20	Thai massage	Examination, diagnosis, treatment, healing, prevention of diseases, nourishing and restoring health using knowledge of the arts of Thai massage following Thai traditional medical practice according to the law on Thai traditional medicine profession
21	Cigarette rolling by hand	Cigarette rolling work starting from cutting or slicing tobacco leaves, then rolling into the leaf sheets, dry banana leaf or rolling papers, and packing tightly, then cutting both ends of the cigarette evenly
22	Tour guide or sightseeing tour operation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tour guide work means to bring tourists, whether individually or in groups, to travel to various locations, and provide advice and information for tourists;</li> <li>2. Sightseeing tour operation means to bring tourists to travel for sightseeing or for other purposes, and provide one or more services or facilities, i.e., accommodation, food, guide or any other services</li> </ol>
23	Peddling	Bringing goods to sell at various locations by carrying or bearing on the shoulder or loading in trolleys, bicycles, motorcycles or motor vehicles, or in paddling or rowing boats or motor boats.



No.	Occupations	Definition
24	Manual typesetting of Thai characters	Bringing Thai characters of various sizes to arrange on a stick to form texts with spaces and lengths of lines exactly matching the original, then sliding it down the loading rails to send it to the proof paper printer; changing cases when there are mistakes. When printing is finished, separate the letters and put them into each corresponding slot in the storage.
25	Silk reeling and twisting by hand	Using hands to pull and twist two or more silk yarns out of silk worms; connecting silk yarns that are broken during pulling and twisting; keeping silk yarns that have been pulled and twisted in a basket or a container; then reeling silk yarns on a reeler made of bamboo or reeling them into skeins.
26	Clerical or secretarial work	<p>1. Clerical work means work involving shorthand writing, typing, teletyping, punching cards, tape punching, receiving-paying money, collecting money, calculation of production costs, calculation of wages and working hours, factotum, dispatch carrier, answering phone calls, taking in or sending out things, overseeing stock of goods, warehouse inventory, weighing, letter correspondence, accounting, general administration, receiving and sending documents, personnel, insurance, public relations, reception, booking travel tickets, library, filing documents, statistics, survey, enumeration, editing and coding, proofreading, printing, photocopying, copying documents, addressing documents, and other jobs In the role of clerks or staff in the clerical level as determined by the establishment</p> <p>2. Secretarial work means work involving recording of statements, reports or accounts with shorthand, typing accounts from notes written in shorthand or from a dictation recorder, making appointments for the superior and reminding the superior when an appointment is due, welcoming those who come to meet the superior, inquiring, answering questions and making contact via telephone, presenting personal and important letters and mails as well as letters and</p>

No.	Occupations	Definition
		documents from various departments sent to the superior, drafting correspondence letters, filing documents, as well as supervising staff and other tasks as assigned by the superior
27	Legal services or services in legal proceedings, except for the following works: (A) Performing duties of arbitration; (B) Providing assistance or representation in the arbitral proceedings in the event that the law applicable to the dispute being considered by the arbitrator is not Thai law.	Providing services in legal counselling, litigation and others such as representing as a lawyer in all types of cases, acting on behalf of clients in legal matters, drafting contracts or making legal documents, etc. Except for the following works: (A) Performing duties of an arbitrator in an arbitration case; (B) Any work performed for the Arbitral Tribunal or the parties to the dispute in order to assist or facilitate the arbitral proceedings to be completed successfully or the work to either defend or to act on behalf of either party in the event that the law applicable to the dispute being considered by the arbitrator is not Thai law, and shall include the following works: 1. Liaison for cases, research, compile, and provide opinion on facts and legal issues to the arbitral tribunal or the parties; 2. Notetaking during the hearing using shorthand or other techniques in the same manner; 3. Presentation of opinions as an expert 4. Works involving special technology used in recording sound, images and evidence produced in the hearing

## List 2

Prohibited Occupations for foreigners with a condition that foreigners are allowed to work under international agreements or obligations to which Thailand is bound under the provisions of law

No.	Occupations	Definition
1	<p>Controlling, auditing, performing or providing accounting services, except for the following works:</p> <p>(A) Occasional internal audit work</p> <p>(B) Work under international agreements or obligations to which Thailand is bound, for which the Professional Association provides a certificate of qualifications.</p>	<p>Providing accounting services for individuals, juristic persons, groups of persons, foundations, associations, enterprises, private agencies, state enterprises, or government agencies, as the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All or partial accounting work;</li> <li>2. Audit, internal audit, due diligence/cash monitoring;</li> <li>3. Keeping financial records on behalf of an organization, management of financial matters for an organization or customers;</li> <li>4. Reception, exchange, and payment of money in banks and offices;</li> <li>5. Use of computer, various electronic devices, programs, software, for calculation, recording and processing of accounting and financial data;</li> <li>6. Other services related to accounting in various branches, such as bookkeeping, auditing, administrative accounting, setting an accounting system, tax accounting, and education and accounting technology, as well as consultancy, development and training;</li> <li>7. Supervision of works in 1 – 6;</li> </ol> <p>This shall include the performance of duties in one or more of the following positions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Independent service provider;</li> <li>(2) Owners, executives, employees, or staff at all levels of the accounting service agency or an organization, whether being individual or juristic persons, groups of persons, enterprises, private agencies, state enterprises, or government agencies;</li> </ol> <p>Except for the following works:</p> <p>(A) Occasional internal audit;</p> <p>(B) Work under international agreements or obligations to which Thailand is bound, for which the Accounting Professional Council provides a certificate of qualifications.</p>

No.	Occupations	Definition
2	Civil engineer work concerning counselling, project planning, design and calculation, construction supervision or manufacturing, inspection, administration work to organize the system, research and test, except those who are registered as a professional engineer under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) as well as other international agreements related to cross-border engineering services, or licensee of the controlled engineering profession in the field of civil engineering under the Engineering law	Civil engineer work concerning counselling, project planning, design and calculation, construction supervision or manufacturing, inspection, administration work to organize the system, research and test, except those who are registered as a professional engineer under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) as well as other international agreements related to cross-border engineering services or licensee of the controlled engineering profession in the field of civil engineering under the Engineering law, who are allowed to work under specified conditions.
3	Professional architectural work concerning project study, design, construction management and supervision, inspection or consulting, except for professional architects under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for architectural services as well as other international agreements on cross-border architectural services from the Architect Council of Thailand or licensee of controlled architecture profession under the Architects law	Professional architectural work concerning project study, design, construction management and supervision, inspection or consulting, except for professional architects under the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for architectural services as well as other international agreements on cross-border architectural services from the Architect Council of Thailand or licensee of controlled architecture profession under the Architects law, who are allowed to work under the conditions prescribed by the Architect Council of Thailand.

### List 3

Prohibited Occupations for foreigners with a condition that foreign workers are allowed to do skilled or semi-skilled work when working for an employer

No.	Occupations	Definition
1	Agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry or fishery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agriculture means work that requires knowledge or skills in cultivation of grains, vegetables, horticulture, perennials, shrubs and others</li> <li>2. Animal husbandry means work that requires knowledge or skills in animal breeding, animal conservation, taking care of animals, and catching animals to obtain meat, milk, fur, leather, fiber, silk, honey, etc.</li> <li>3. Forestry means work that requires knowledge or skills in cultivating seeds, planting trees, forest conservation, exploitation of forests, and processing wood into charcoal, or extracting crude oil from wood, or others</li> <li>4. Fishery means work that requires knowledge or skills in fishing, aquaculture, taking care of aquatic animals, processing aquatic animals, as well as any actions that support fisheries.</li> </ol>
2	Bricklaying, carpentry, or construction work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bricklaying means work that requires knowledge or skills in constructing, assembling, installing and repairing a base of foundation post, walls and other structures with bricks, stones or similar materials</li> <li>2. Carpentry means work that requires knowledge or skills in cutting, shaping, assembling, installing, maintaining, and repairing structures and structural components made of wood, measuring, assembling and modifying components of buildings, both interior and exterior, such as walls, doors, door and window frames, ceiling and wall panels</li> <li>3. Building construction means work that requires knowledge or skills in building, installing, maintaining and repairing buildings and other structures, for example, making concrete model, pouring concrete, retouching the concrete surface, making metal reinforcement, erecting concrete structures supplemented with various materials, roofing, terrazzo flooring, flooring and walling with tiles</li> </ol>

No.	Occupations	Definition
		or mosaics, plastering on walls and ceilings, installing insulating materials on walls, floors and ceilings, cutting and assembling glass panes into windows or doors, painting, installing drain and water pipe systems, installing sanitary ware, electrical wiring inside buildings or other structures
3	Mattress or quilt blanket making	Work that requires knowledge or skills in making mattress or quilt blanket from various materials by hand or machine as well as repair and modification
4	Knife making	Work that requires knowledge or skills in making all types of knives from metal using hand-controlled tools, as well as repair and modification of knives
5	Shoemaking	Work that requires knowledge or skills in making all types of shoes from various materials, as well as repair and modification of shoes
6	Hat making	Work that requires knowledge or skills in making hats for men, women, and children from all kinds of materials, as well as repair and modification of hats
7	Dressmaking	Work that requires knowledge or skills in designing and sewing men's and women's clothes from start to finish, or other works related to costume designing, as well as alteration, modification or clothes fixing
8	Pottery or ceramic ware making	Work that requires knowledge or skills in making pottery, starting from preparing clay and molds, sculpting and compacting clay into molds, coating, drawing decorative patterns, drying and burning, either whole or part of this work

#### List 4

Prohibited occupations which foreign workers are permitted to perform under the condition of having employers and permitted to enter Thailand by Immigration Law under MoUs or Agreement between Thai Government and Foreign Government

No.	Occupations	Definition
1	Labour	Manual work and usually simple work which requires physical strength
2	Shop front sales	Selling goods at a wholesale or retail establishment as well as selling goods at stalls or shops located in markets or roadside