

French VISA tech for founders

- ▶ ADVANTAGES
- ▶ WHO IS ELIGIBLE ?
- ▶ PROCEDURE
- ▶ CASE STUDY
- ▶ QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

Advantages

The French Tech Visa is a simplified, fast-track scheme for non-EU startup employees, founders and investors to obtain a residence permit for France.

- ▶ Valid for 4 years and renewable
- ▶ Accessible for the spouse and minor children
- ▶ Diplomas are not required

Who is eligible

- ▶ For whom: international start-up founders selected by partner incubators and accelerators
- ▶ Eligible criteria:
 1. An innovative business project they want to develop in France.
 2. Recognition of the project by a public-sector body
 3. Sufficient annual financial means corresponding to the statutory national minimum wage (SMIC), i.e. **€19,074** as of October 1, 2021

procedure

- ▶ Step 1: Send Application to one (or several) of the French Tech Visa partner incubators and accelerators
- ▶ Step 2: After being selected by an incubator, the project is sent to the DGE and the ministry of economy for recognition of the innovative nature of the project
- ▶ Step 3: Issuing of an official letter of acknowledgement of the innovative nature of the project. The DI(R)ECCTE gives its opinion within two weeks of receiving the project form
- ▶ Step 4: Enclose the letter with your visa application entitled “Talent passport–innovative economic project” and submitted to French consulate.
- ▶ Step 5: Once in France, present your long-stay visa at your local prefecture (French government administrative office) which will then issue your residence permit allowing you to live and work in France for 4 years, renewable

Case study

- ▶ Ilya Larin, founder of Zabota
- ▶ Applied to CA village (incubator located in Bordeaux partner of French tech) also applied to other incubator, note that each incubator has a different form of application
- ▶ The incubator sent a full details about the program (offered services, fees key steps)
- ▶ a pitch session was held, the pitch was about 5 min, the incubator asked some questions concerning the project.
- ▶ Waiting for the jury decision (1 week)

Questions and clarifications

- ▶ Requirements for projects
- ▶ Where to apply in an incubator/accelerator program?
- ▶ Does the client have to report on activities to the incubator?
- ▶ How many co-founders can there be in a startup, who are eligible to apply?
- ▶ How and when can you hire foreign employees for you startup?
Do they receive a residence permit?