

**1- Please provide us with a copy of any ministerial decrees or decisions adopted to facilitate legal residency for noncitizen children or spouses of Lebanese women.**

The [legal] texts governing the procedure for issuing residency permits are:

- The law issued on July 10, 1962 (Regulating entry to, residence in, and exit from Lebanon).
- Decree 1-188 issued on July 28, 1962 (executive decree for the law mentioned above).
- Order number 59419 by the Director General of General Security, dated December 13, 2017 (directives number 5/2017).

**2- What are the procedures and requirements for noncitizen children and spouses of Lebanese women to obtain legal residency in Lebanon?**

Included is a copy of directives number 5 on the required conditions and documents

**a. What documents and fees are required for legal residency in Lebanon?**

Included is a copy of directives number 5, which include the conditions and documents required to obtain residency permits for children and spouses of Lebanese women.

**b. How long does the process take?**

The period required to obtain residency permits for the mentioned categories is approximately 20 days. Concerned individuals can check with the Department of Public Relations at the General Directorate in order to expedite procedures in return for a service fee.

**c. What is the validity period of a residency permit for the noncitizen child or spouse of a woman with Lebanese nationality?**

The offered residency permits are valid for one or three years depending on the validity [date] of the passport.

**d. Is there any procedure for noncitizen children and spouses of Lebanese women to obtain permanent residency in Lebanon, and if not, why not?**

It should be clarified that the term “permanent residency” refers to a three-year residency permit, and thus, as we have made clear above, concerned individuals can obtain such permits if their passports are yet valid for a period of at least three years.

**e. Our understanding is that six months’ continuous residency abroad invalidates residency permits. Are there any exceptions to allow students studying abroad to maintain their residency? If so please describe these procedures.**

This condition is set by law, and any amendment requires an amendment of the law. In all cases, urgent cases are presented to the Director General, and it should be clarified that students holding permanent residency permits as part of this category [i.e. children and spouses of Lebanese women] can stay outside Lebanon for a up to 18 months.

**3- How many noncitizen children and spouses of Lebanese women have obtained legal residency in Lebanon in 2017?**

21,796 persons

**4- What is the number of Lebanese women married to foreign nationals in Lebanon?**

No statistics available.

**5- What is the number of children born to Lebanese women and foreign fathers who do not have Lebanese nationality?**

**a. What is the number of children currently under 18 years of age?**

No statistics available.