

# THE BAHAMAS EXTENDED ACCESS TRAVEL STAY PROGRAM FACT SHEET

The Islands of The Bahamas offers a new one-year residency program giving visitors the ability to work or study from paradise. **The Bahamas Extended Access Travel Stay (BEATS)** program is a one-year residency permit designed to allow professionals and students to pack their laptop and their swimwear as they march to the island rhythm of their own drum, remotely, from The Bahamas.

BEATS applies to those whose workplaces and classrooms have shifted from face-to- face to virtual as COVID-19 has brought unprecedented flexibility to the traditional work from home environment. With 16 islands to choose from and plenty of breathtaking views, visitors can forget about daydreaming about a tropical vacation and start living it.

Not only will visitors be encouraged to enjoy the white sand beaches, incredible blue-hued waters and delicious cuisine, but BEATS will also serve as an opportunity to explore and dive deep into the culture of The Bahamas in ways they have not experienced before.

## **How To Apply**

Living the island life for up to a year is as simple as filling out an **online BEATS application** for review by Bahamas Immigration. Approval can take up to 5 days at which point, applicants will receive an email for payment. Once your payment is processed, you will receive a confirmation QR Code to show upon entry into The Bahamas. That's it.

### What to Know Before You Go

- The BEATS permit is valid up to 12 months from the date of issue. The total cost for individual professionals to apply for and obtain a BEATS permit is \$1,025, while college students wishing to apply will be required to pay \$525, inclusive of the application and permit fee.
- All applicants must have a valid passport. Professionals are required to submit a job letter from their current employer or proof
  of self-employment. Students must have proof of enrollment in an accredited learning institution as well as proof of sufficient
  funds to cover living expenses and return travel expense
- All incoming visitors must follow all current COVID-19 government protocols in place to ensure the safety of visitors and residents of The Bahamas. Know before you go and visit Bahamas.com/travel updates for the most up-to-date information. For more frequently asked guestions, visit BahamasBeats.com/FAQ.

# Extra-Curricular Activities and "Overtime" Offerings

Remote workers can "backpack" their way through the country, island-hopping throughout the length of their stay. More time allows guests to become fully immersed in the beautiful Bahamian culture as they experience the destination in a much deeper way.

- <u>Learn new skills</u>: Head to Long Island, home of Dean's Blue Hole, the second deepest blue hole in the world, where the learning extends far beyond the classroom at diving school.
- Outdoor Physical Education: Master the art of bonefishing across the flats of Andros; hike to the top of Cat Island's Mount
  Alvernia, which is the highest point in The Bahamas, or snorkel through the shipwrecks of Bimini.
- <u>Lunch break:</u> Your remote "cafeteria" gets a serious upgrade on New Providence, where the local Fish Fry at Arawak Cay or Potter's Cay serves the best seafood in town.
- Sip Sip at Happy Hour: Clock out and clock into happy hour with any of the Bahamian staples, from the Bahama Mama and Goombay Smash cocktails to a refreshing Kalik or Sands beer.
- Make new friends at "recess": The swimming pigs, iguanas and nurse sharks on Exuma or the flamingos on Inagua can't wait to meet you.

### **ABOUT THE BAHAMAS**

With over 700 islands and cays, and 16 unique island destinations, The Bahamas lies just 50 miles off the coast of Florida, offering an easy fly away escape that transports travellers away from their everyday. The Islands of The Bahamas have world-class fishing, diving, boating and thousands of miles of the earth's most spectacular water and beaches waiting for families, couples and adventurers. Explore all the islands have to offer at **www.bahamas.com** or on **Facebook**, **YouTube** or **Instagram** to see why It's Better in The Bahamas.