



**Jamaica
Customs
Agency**
'Country Above Self'

RETURNING RESIDENTS

A GUIDE FOR RETURNING RESIDENTS



Who is Eligible?

In order to be considered a Returning Resident, and to benefit from the concession afforded to Returning Residents, you must satisfy one of the following conditions:

Be a Jamaican national who has attained the age of 18 years, and who

- has been residing overseas for the last 3 consecutive years,
- and is returning to Jamaica to reside permanently.

Be a Jamaican student who has attained the age of 18 years and who has studied abroad for more than one year but fewer than 3 consecutive years

Be a Jamaican student who has attained the age of 18 years and who has studied abroad for more than one year but fewer than 3 consecutive years.

Be a Non-Jamaican whose spouse is a Jamaican Returning Resident.

A Deportee who has been residing overseas for the last 3 consecutive years

Note: A couple - husband and wife- will be counted as one family if returned together, and will only get one concession. Spouses not returning together, but within three years of each other, are treated as one family and will also get only one concession.

Documents Required

Returning Residents must visit the Jamaica Customs Agency Returning Residents Unit and submit the following:

- Valid Jamaican Passport or foreign passport that is endorsed with the unconditional landing stamp
- Validated Bill of Lading or Airway Bill
- Taxpayers Registration Number (TRN)
- Documentary evidence that will substantiate residency outside of Jamaica for 3 or more consecutive years.
- Returning Students should present a transcript, student's I-20, confirmation letter of attendance from last institution of study and identification card issued by the institution
- Deportees should present their Deportation Order and case file.

Entitlement

- A specified amount of personal and household effects can be imported free of customs duty.
- Returning Residents may import their tools of trade free of customs duty
- Returning Students are entitled to import reasonable quantity of used household effects, musical instruments, and one of each type of electronic equipment (new or used)
- Deported persons will receive entitlement similar to that of returning residents.

How to apply Online ?

Log on to Jamaica Customs website www.jacustoms.gov.jm

Scroll to Returning Residents and select Application & Booking Portal.

Click Online bookings

Complete and submit the registration form. A request for conformation will be sent to your email. Upon confirmation, a username and password will be generated and sent to your email within 2 hours.

Complete the application form upload supporting documents and then submit.

The application will be reviewed for approval by the Returning Residents Unit and a response sent.

An Exemption notice will be generated by the Returning Residents Unit for the Customs Broker to prepare the Goods Declaration in ASYCUDA.

Motor vehicle

The motor vehicle import policy is administered primary by the Trade Board Limited, which is responsible for granting permits for motor vehicle importation.

Pets

Importation of pets or other animals will require an Import permit from the Veterinary Services Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries prior to importation.

Plants

Importation of plants will require an Import Permit from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



Head Office

Myers' Wharf, Newport East, Kingston 15
Tel: (876) 922-5140-8 || (876) 618-0361

Corporate Office

2-4 King Street, Kingston
Tel: (876) 948-5151

Online

@www.jacustoms.gov.jm | ✉ public.relations@jca.gov.jm



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