ELECTIVE RESIDENCY

1. **Application form** (provided by the Visa Office) completely filled out.

2. **Recent passport-size photo** (1.2"x1.5" or 4x4 cm) on white background (NOTE: scanned or photocopied photos will NOT be accepted).

3. **Valid passport** plus 1 copy of the page with photograph and expiration date**.** The passport or travel document must be valid at least three months after the visa expiration date. Please make sure the passport is no older than 10 years and has at least two blank pages to affix the visa.

4. **Original plus 1 copy of Driver's License or State ID** as proof of residence in the jurisdiction of this Embassy of Italy. If you recently moved and have not updated your ID, you must submit another proof of current address (e.g., utility bills, bank statements, etc.).

5. **Marriage certificate** for the spouse (plus 1 copy of each certificate), when families apply.

6. **Proof of financial means:** documented and detailed guarantee of **substantial and steady** economic resources deriving from private income (pension or annuity), properties, stable economic and commercial activities.

   Please provide official letters from banks, financial consultants, financial institutions, U.S. Social Security institutes, etc.

   Please note that this visa **DOES NOT ALLOW ANY WORK ACTIVITIES IN ITALY**. Therefore, you CANNOT finance your residence in Italy through any type of work.
   The substantiation of financial means for residency must be directly in the applicant's name and cannot be derived from **ANY FORM OF EMPLOYMENT.**

7. **Proof of lodging**: contract of purchase/lease of a house or an apartment in Italy for the entire period requested. Please note that:
   - the lease, rental contract, or deed must be in the applicant's name, must be **REGISTERED** before the local authorities (Agenzia delle Entrate) and must be presented in original.
   - if renting or leasing, the applicant must present an original copy of a "Contratto di Locazione ad Uso Abitativo", complete with proof your landlord has registered it with the Agenzia delle Entrate (the Italian Tax Authorities).

8. **Visa fee** (NON REFUNDABLE). Money Orders or Cashier's checks ONLY, made out to "Embassy of Italy - Washington D.C.". Personal checks and credit cards **will not be accepted**.
   Check the visa fee at the following link:
   https://ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/en/servizi-consolari-e-visti/servizi-per-il-cittadino-straniero/visti/tariffe-visti-e-domande-frequenti/

IMPORTANT NOTES:

At the time of your visa interview, you must be able to provide a written hard-copy proof that your lease has been duly registered with the Agenzia delle Entrate.

The requirements for the "elective residency" visa are strictly enforced and subject to extensive scrutiny. Consular Officers have full authority to evaluate and request additional documentation, if deemed necessary, in addition to what is submitted.

The process can take up to 90 days. Rush processing is NOT possible. Since this matter is regulated by law, the applicants are therefore required not to discuss or try to negotiate the date of issuance of the visa.

Furthermore, the applicant is hereby informed that submitting all required documentation **does NOT guarantee** the issuance of any particular visa.

Please be aware that the Elective Residency Visa is **NOT** an extended tourist visa. It is specifically for applicants intending to **move** to Italy and establish their primary residency there.
This visa **does not allow any subordinate work.**
Money must come from substantial and steady economic resources, with guaranteed continuity in the future. Such resources may come from important incomes, **except subordinate work**.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE
The foreigner holding an "Italian Elective Residence" visa **is not allowed** to work or seek employment under ANY CONDITIONS.
Within 8 working days of arrival in Italy, the holder of the "elective residency visa" MUST go to the **"Questura"** (Police Station) in the province where the applicant intends to reside in order to apply for the **"permesso di soggiorno per residenza elettiva"** (elective residency permit) which is the only legal document that legitimizes your stay in the country.
You must keep a copy of all documents that have been submitted with the visa application in order to apply for the permesso di soggiorno.

We kindly remind you that the Visa Office does not provide consultation on visa applications.
For further information, please visit the website: http://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/home/en.