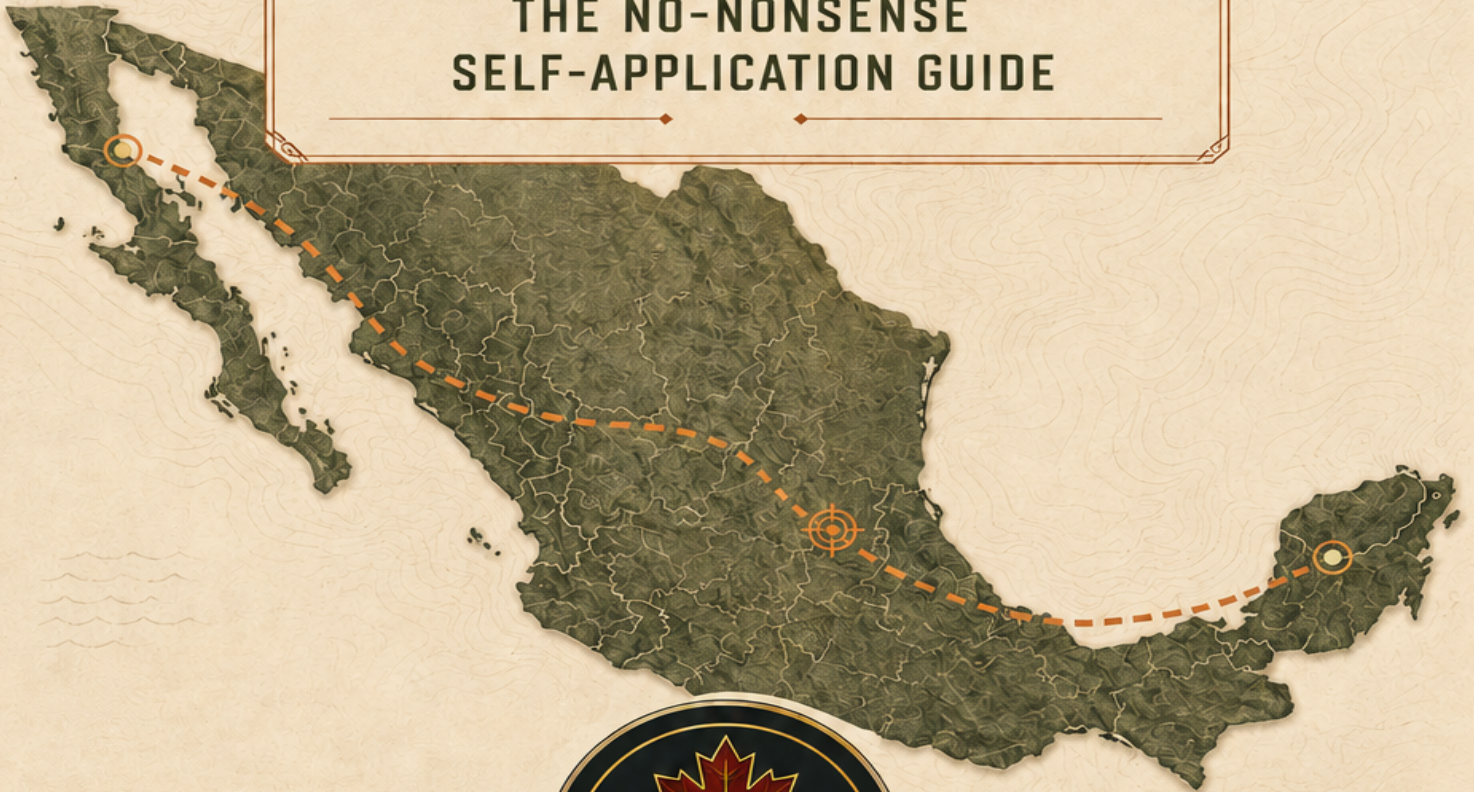


# MEXICO



## TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISA ECONOMIC SOLVENCY ROUTE

THE NO-NONSENSE  
SELF-APPLICATION GUIDE



INTELLIGENCE  
FOR EXPATS



FREEDOM IS  
A STRATEGY

PLANT FLAGS. SECURE FREEDOM.



## Read This First

Listen up.

You want a Plan B south of the border without selling your house, buying property you do not understand, or pretending you are an “investor” because some YouTube genius said so.

For many foreign applicants, Mexico’s Temporary Resident Visa via Economic Solvency can be one of the cleanest first flags: steady income or solid savings, consular approval outside Mexico, then a resident card after you enter Mexico and complete the canje process.

This is not a magic form you print and mail in. Mexico does not work that way. This is the practical playbook: what the route is, who it fits, what to verify, where people screw it up, and when to stop guessing and get a personalized Plan of Attack.

**Mounty’s Read: The route is straightforward. The paperwork is not forgiving. “Close enough” is how you donate your day to bureaucracy and go home with nothing but a receipt and a bad attitude.**

## Important Disclaimer

This guide is educational preparation material, not legal advice or immigration consulting. Rules change. Consulates interpret requirements differently. Fees move. Appointment systems break. Officials are human, which means you get variety — unfortunately.

Always verify the current requirements with your specific Mexican consulate and the Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM) before you book travel, pay fees, order documents, or rely on any figure in this guide.

If you want your exact numbers, province, consulate jurisdiction, timeline, risks, and next steps screened, that is what our Watch Commander Personalized Plan of Attack is built for.

---

## Quick Verdict: Is This Route for You?

### Usually yes, if:

- You can apply through a Mexican consulate outside Mexico and meet that consulate’s current nationality, residence, and document requirements.
- You have stable monthly income from outside Mexico, such as remote work, pension, investments, or business income.
- Or you have sufficient savings/investment balances over the required period.
- You want to live in Mexico for more than 180 days and up to four years under temporary residence.
- You are willing to attend a consular appointment outside Mexico.
- You understand that the consular visa is only step one — the resident card is issued in Mexico after canje.
- You can follow exact document instructions without freelancing like a raccoon with a printer.

### Usually no, if:

- You want to work for a Mexican employer. That normally requires a different authorization path.
- You need permanent residence immediately and do not qualify under that route.

- You hate bureaucracy in any language.
  - Your income is unstable, undocumented, cash-heavy, or hard to prove.
  - You have criminal, overstay, or admissibility issues that need professional review.
  - You cannot return to Mexico for renewals when required.
- 

## The Route in Plain English

The Economic Solvency route is Mexico asking one blunt question:

**Can you support yourself without becoming Mexico's problem?**

You normally prove that by showing either:

- 1 enough qualifying monthly income over the required number of months; or
- 2 enough savings/investments over the required number of months.

You do not need both unless your consulate says otherwise.

You apply at a Mexican consulate outside Mexico. If approved, the consulate places a visa sticker in your passport. That sticker allows you to enter Mexico for the purpose of exchanging it for a Temporary Resident Card. That exchange is called canje.

The card is what matters. The sticker is the doorway.

---

## The Two Ways to Qualify

### Option A — Monthly Income

This is usually the path for people with remote work, pension income, investment income, or stable foreign-source income.

As a Canadian example, using public Vancouver consular information circulating in 2026, the approximate figure is:

- CAD \$6,461 per month, tax-free/net, for the past 6 months.

That number is a Canadian/Vancouver benchmark, not gospel. Your consulate may use a different minimum, currency, exchange rate, month count, document format, or income interpretation.

### Option B — Savings / Investments

This is usually the path for people who may not have enough monthly income but can show a strong average balance.

For the same Vancouver reference point, the savings/investment benchmark circulating in 2026 is approximately:

- CAD \$108,894 average monthly balance over the past 12 months.

Same warning: this is a Canadian/Vancouver benchmark, not gospel. Verify the current amount, currency, period, and document rules with the consulate you will actually use.

### Critical field note

Most consulates do not want casual screenshots, downloaded PDFs with no validation, or a pile of app printouts that look like they came from a teenager's crypto wallet.

Many consulates require one or more of the following:

- original bank statements;

- statements stamped by the bank;
- a formal bank letter;
- original signatures;
- specific month ranges;
- proof that amounts are net/tax-free or otherwise acceptable;
- matching name and account ownership.

**Hard rule: Before your appointment, confirm exactly what your consulate accepts. This single mistake has ended more applications than bad Spanish ever has.**

## Decision Tree: Income, Savings, or Stop

Use this before spending money.

### Start here

1. Do you clearly meet the income benchmark for your consulate?

- Yes → Income route may be your first path.
- No → Go to question 2.
- Not sure → Verify net/gross treatment and acceptable income types before booking.

2. Do you clearly meet the savings/investment benchmark for your consulate?

- Yes → Savings route may be your first path.
- No → Do not force the application. Look at other routes or wait until you qualify.
- Not sure → Confirm whether the consulate uses average monthly balance, ending balance, investment statements, or another calculation.

3. Can you get the proof in the exact format required?

- Yes → Continue.
- No → Fix document format first.
- Not sure → Ask the consulate or bank before appointment day.

4. Are there red flags?

Examples: prior visa issues, criminal history, dependent children, custody documents, mismatched names, unstable employment, unclear source of funds, expired passport.

- No → Self-application may be reasonable.
- Yes → Get professional help or a personalized screening before filing.

## Official Verification Checklist

Before you apply, verify the current rules from official sources. Do not rely on Facebook, old blog posts, or “my buddy did it in 2021.” Your buddy is not an immigration authority. He may also be an idiot.

Check and save PDFs/screenshots from:

- Your Mexican consulate’s Temporary Resident Visa page.
- Your consulate’s fee schedule.

- The official appointment portal: <https://citas.sre.gob.mx/>
- MiConsulado information portal: <https://www.miconsulado.sre.gob.mx/>
- INM canje guidance and FAQ: <https://www.gob.mx/inm/>
- INM online appointment/trámite information, if required by your local INM office.

### **Confirm these exact items**

- Which consulate has jurisdiction over your province or residence.
- Whether that consulate accepts your income type.
- Whether income must be net, gross, tax-free, after-tax, pension-only, employment-only, or broader.
- Required income/savings amount.
- Required number of months.
- Whether electronic statements are accepted.
- Whether bank stamps or official bank letters are required.
- Photo size and format.
- Visa fee amount and payment method.
- Appointment booking procedure.
- Canje deadline and local INM appointment procedure after arrival in Mexico.

### **Save proof**

Create a folder called:

Mexico Temporary Resident Visa — Verification — YYYY-MM-DD

Save:

- screenshots;
- PDFs;
- URLs;
- consulate email replies;
- fee page;
- appointment confirmation;
- document checklist.

This is not paranoia. This is how grownups deal with moving-target bureaucracy.

---

## **Step-by-Step Self-Application Process**

### **Step 1 — Confirm Your Consulate Jurisdiction**

Find the Mexican consulate that serves your country, region, state, province, or legal residence.

Do not assume the nearest or most convenient Mexican consulate will accept your application. In Canada, for example, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, and Ottawa may each have jurisdiction rules. Other countries have their own consular boundaries and appointment systems. Wrong consulate can mean wasted travel, wasted appointment, and the special kind of rage only government lineups provide.

## Action

- Find your consulate's official site.
  - Confirm jurisdiction.
  - Save the jurisdiction page.
  - If unclear, email the consulate before booking.
- 

## Step 2 — Verify the Current Economic Solvency Numbers

Use the figures in this guide only as working examples.

### Action

Write down:

- income requirement;
- savings/investment requirement;
- number of months required;
- accepted document formats;
- whether net/gross income matters;
- fee amount;
- payment method;
- appointment method.

If your numbers are close to the line, do not wing it. Close cases are exactly where a personalized review earns its keep.

---

## Step 3 — Book the Appointment

Use the official Mexican appointment system when required:

<https://citas.sre.gob.mx/>

Slots can disappear fast. Book when available, but do not treat the appointment as a substitute for preparation. It is a deadline, not a miracle.

### Bring your appointment proof

Print or save:

- appointment confirmation;
  - consulate address;
  - required arrival time;
  - ID instructions;
  - any consulate-specific email instructions.
- 

## Step 4 — Prepare Your Document Package

Your consulate's checklist controls. Usually expect some version of:

- completed visa application form;

- valid passport, original and photocopy of data page;
- passport-style photo in the exact size/background required;
- proof of economic solvency;
- proof of legal status in the country where you are applying, if you are not a citizen there;
- visa fee payment in the accepted method;
- appointment confirmation.

### **Application form warning**

Some consulates require the form printed on one page, double-sided, completed and signed. If the page says double-sided, do not show up with three stapled pages and a hopeful smile.

### **Passport warning**

Check passport validity. If your passport expires soon, fix that before you build your residency plan on a rotten foundation.

---

## **Bank Statements and Bank Letters: Do Not Get Cute**

This deserves its own section because it is where people step on a rake.

### **A strong bank letter usually includes:**

- bank name and branch;
- client name exactly matching passport, or explainable variation;
- account numbers partially masked, if bank policy requires;
- account opening date;
- current balance;
- average balance for the required period, if needed;
- currency;
- bank officer name/title;
- signature;
- branch stamp or official letterhead;
- date issued.

### **For stamped statements:**

- get all required months;
- make sure every page is legible;
- make sure the name appears clearly;
- ask the bank to stamp/sign each statement or provide a covering letter if the consulate wants that;
- do not redact so much that the document becomes useless.

### **Ask your bank early**

Some branches act like a bank stamp is nuclear launch equipment. Do not discover this the day before your appointment.

---

## Step 5 — Attend the Interview

The interview is usually basic, but that does not mean casual.

They may ask:

- why you want temporary residence;
- where you plan to live;
- whether you will work in Mexico;
- how you support yourself;
- whether you understand the process after entry;
- whether you have family accompanying you.

### Keep answers clean

Good answer:

**“I have foreign-source income and want to reside temporarily in Mexico. I understand this does not authorize me to work for a Mexican employer unless I obtain proper permission.”**

Bad answer:

**“I’m moving down to get a job and figure it out.”**

That sound you hear is your application catching fire.

---

## Step 6 — Receive the Visa Sticker

If approved, the consulate normally places a visa sticker in your passport.

Important:

- check the visa type before leaving;
- check name/passport details;
- confirm validity window;
- confirm whether it is single-entry;
- ask what happens next if the consulate provides instructions.

The sticker is not the resident card. It is permission to enter Mexico and complete canje.

---

## Step 7 — Enter Mexico Correctly

When entering Mexico, make sure you enter under the correct status connected to your resident visa. If an electronic FMM or entry record is involved, preserve it.

Do not stroll through like a tourist and forget that the whole point is to trigger canje. Keep copies of:

- passport ID page;
- visa sticker;
- entry stamp or digital entry record;
- airline ticket/boarding pass if useful;
- local address in Mexico.

---

## Step 8 — Canje: The Part Everyone Forgets

After entering Mexico with the visa, you must exchange it for the actual Temporary Resident Card at INM.

This is the canje process.

### The deadline

Common rule: within 30 calendar days of entering Mexico.

Verify current INM rules and local office procedure before arrival. Calendar days means weekends count. Bureaucracy loves deadlines. It does not love your excuses.

### Typical canje documents may include:

- passport;
- visa sticker;
- entry record/FMM, if issued;
- INM application form;
- photos in the required Mexican format;
- proof of fee payment;
- local address/contact details;
- copies of key pages/documents.

### Fee benchmark

A working 2026 benchmark for a one-year card is roughly:

- MXN \$11,141 for a one-year Temporary Resident Card.

Verify the current fee with INM before paying. Mexican government fees can change and the payment workflow may vary.

### Canje field advice

- Book any required INM appointment early.
- Bring extra copies.
- Bring a black pen.
- Bring cash/card as appropriate for incidental costs, though official fees are often paid through bank/payment forms.
- Dress like you respect the process.
- Do not surrender original documents unless required and you understand whether they are returned.
- If you do not speak Spanish, consider a local helper or translator.

**Mounty's Read: The consulate gets you through the door. INM gives you the card. Do not celebrate at halftime like a rookie.**

## Renewal and Low-Presence Strategy

The first Temporary Resident Card is often issued for one year. Renewals can usually extend temporary residence up to a total of four years.

If your goal is a low-presence Plan B, the renewal calendar matters.

### Track:

- card issue date;
- card expiry date;
- renewal window;
- whether you must be physically in Mexico to renew;
- local INM office appointment rules;
- fee schedule;
- whether a multi-year renewal is available.

Set calendar reminders 120, 90, 60, and 30 days before expiry.

Miss the window and you may turn a simple renewal into a bureaucratic goat rodeo. Avoid goat rodeos.

---

## Common Ways People Screw This Up

Print this page and tape it to your file folder.

- Submitting unstamped electronic bank statements when the consulate wants originals, stamps, or a bank letter.
  - Assuming your consulate uses the same rules, thresholds, currency, or document format as another consulate.
  - Thinking the visa lets you work for Mexican companies.
  - Missing the 30-day canje deadline.
  - Showing gross income when the consulate wants net/tax-free proof.
  - Booking the appointment before knowing the document format.
  - Using old numbers from blogs, YouTube, or expat groups.
  - Failing to prove legal status in the country where you are applying, if you are not a citizen there.
  - Bringing the wrong photo size.
  - Forgetting photocopies.
  - Letting your passport get too close to expiry.
  - Not saving screenshots/PDFs of official rules checked on a specific date.
  - Treating a close-call application as if optimism were evidence.
- 

## Realistic Costs and Timeline

### Typical cost buckets

- Consular visa fee: commonly around US\$56 equivalent, but verify your consulate's fee schedule and local currency/payment method.

- INM card/canje fee: verify current amount; working 2026 one-year benchmark is about MXN \$11,141.
- Bank stamps/letters: usually low-cost or free, but branch-dependent.
- Photos/printing/copies: small but annoying.
- Travel to consulate: variable.
- Travel and stay in Mexico for canje: variable.
- Local helper/translator, if needed: variable.

### **Working estimate**

As a Canadian example, a straightforward applicant's year-one government and preparation costs may land roughly in the CAD \$800-\$1,000+ zone before travel variables. If you need flights, hotels, translators, or repeat appointments, the number climbs.

### **Timeline**

A realistic smooth-case timeline might be 4-8 weeks from appointment booking to card in hand.

But "smooth" is not guaranteed. Appointment scarcity, document issues, bank delays, consulate interpretation, and INM office load can all stretch the process.

## **Appointment-Day Checklist**

Bring:

- Passport — original.
- Passport data-page photocopy.
- Completed visa application form.
- Appointment confirmation.
- Passport photo in exact required size.
- Economic solvency proof in exact required format.
- Bank letter/stamped statements, if applicable.
- Proof of legal status in the country where you are applying, if applicable.
- Visa fee in the accepted payment method.
- Printed copy of the consulate checklist.
- Pen.
- Extra photocopies.
- Folder/envelope system.
- Calm adult attitude.

Do not bring drama. They already have enough.

## **Canje Checklist for Mexico**

Before flying:

- Confirm visa validity window.

- Confirm canje deadline.
- Research the INM office nearest your Mexico address.
- Check whether the office requires appointments.
- Check current fees and payment process.
- Prepare required photos.
- Save digital and paper copies.

After entering Mexico:

- Confirm entry record/status.
  - Start canje immediately; do not wait until day 29 like a clown in a cape.
  - Pay fees according to current INM instructions.
  - Attend INM appointment with originals and copies.
  - Keep receipt/proof of trámite.
  - Do not leave Mexico while the process is pending unless you understand the permission/exit rules.
- 

## Sample Email to a Consulate

This Canadian example can be adapted to your own citizenship, residence, and consulate jurisdiction.

Subject: Temporary Resident Visa — Economic Solvency Requirements

Hello,

I am a Canadian citizen residing in [province]. I am considering applying for a Mexico Temporary Resident Visa through economic solvency.

Could you please confirm the current requirements for:

- 1 monthly income amount and number of months required;
- 2 savings/investment balance amount and number of months required;
- 3 whether income must be net/tax-free or gross;
- 4 whether electronic bank statements are accepted, or whether stamped statements / an official bank letter are required;
- 5 current visa fee and accepted payment method;
- 6 whether my province falls under your consular jurisdiction.

Thank you,

[Name]

---

## Sample Bank Letter Request

Hello,

I need a bank letter for a Mexican Temporary Resident Visa application.

Could the letter please be issued on bank letterhead and include:

- my full name;
- account type(s);

- account opening date;
- current balance;
- average monthly balance over the past [6/12] months;
- currency;
- bank officer name/title/signature;
- branch stamp, if available.

Please also let me know whether you can stamp monthly statements for the same period.

Thank you,

[Name]

---

## Final MOUNTY Advice

This route can work for a lot of foreign applicants. It is straightforward if you treat it like an operation:

- 1 verify the current requirements;
- 2 prepare the exact document package;
- 3 execute the consular appointment;
- 4 complete canje;
- 5 track renewal.

The consulate is not your friend, but it is also not your enemy. It is a bureaucracy that runs on exact paperwork.

Do it right the first time and you can end up with a legitimate Mexican resident card and another flag planted before the exits close.

Until then: stay frosty, double-check everything, and do not trust any guide — including this one — more than you trust the official consulate and INM pages on the day you apply.

Plant the flag wisely.

— Exiled MOUNTY

---

## Next Steps from Exiled MOUNTY

You now have the Mexico residency basics. If Mexico is only one piece of your broader Plan B, or if you want this route applied to your own facts, these are the next two tools.

### Watch Commander — Personalized Plan of Attack

If you want your citizenship, province or consulate jurisdiction, income or savings route, timeline, family situation, and risk flags turned into a practical planning brief, use Watch Commander.

It is built to help you organize your file, identify weak points, prepare better questions, and decide what you may be able to handle yourself before paying for professional help.

Build Your Personalized Plan of Attack → from \$49 USD

<https://exiledmounty.com/watch-commander.html>

## The Canada Exit Guide

If you are Canadian and Mexico is part of a larger exit plan, The Canada Exit Guide gives you the broader framework: documents, timing, residency strategy, banking, tax exposure, scouting trips, family planning, and building options before pressure forces the decision.

Use this free Mexico guide for the route. Use The Canada Exit Guide for the bigger Plan B file.

Get The Canada Exit Guide → \$19 CAD launch offer

<https://exiledmouny.com/canada-exit-guide.html>

---

## Official Links to Verify

Use these as starting points. Always confirm you are on the official page and that it applies to your consulate/local INM office.

### General Mexico links

- Mexican consulate appointment portal: <https://citas.sre.gob.mx/>
- MiConsulado: <https://www.miconsulado.sre.gob.mx/>
- INM main site: <https://www.gob.mx/inm/>
- INM canje FAQ: <https://www.gob.mx/inm/es/documentos/preguntas-frecuentes-para-expedicion-de-documento-migratorio-por-canje>

### Canadian example — Vancouver consulate

These Vancouver links are useful Canadian reference points, but they are not universal. Applicants in other countries, provinces, states, or regions must verify with the Mexican consulate that actually has jurisdiction over their residence.

- Consulate General of Mexico in Vancouver — Temporary Resident Visa: <https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/vancouver/index.php/es/temporary-resident-visa>
- Consulate General of Mexico in Vancouver — Fees: <https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/vancouver/index.php/es/tarifas-y-derechos>

### American examples — selected Mexican consulates in the U.S.

These U.S. links are reference points only. American applicants must verify the current requirements, fees, appointment rules, and jurisdiction with the Mexican consulate that serves their state or legal residence.

- Consulate General of Mexico in San Diego — Temporary Resident Visa: <https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/sandiego/index.php/visas?id=460>
  - Consulate General of Mexico in Boston — Visas: <https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/boston/index.php/visas-english>
  - Consulate General of Mexico in Washington, D.C. — Visas: <https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/washington/index.php/servicios-para-extranjeros-visas?id=182>
  - Consulate General of Mexico in Denver — Visas for foreign persons: <https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/denver/index.php/visasparapersonasextranjas>
- 

## Copyright & Disclaimer

© 2026 Exiled Mouny. All rights reserved.

This guide is educational information only. It is not legal, tax, immigration, financial, investment, real estate, accounting, security, medical, or other professional advice.

Verify important decisions with official government sources and qualified professionals before acting.