

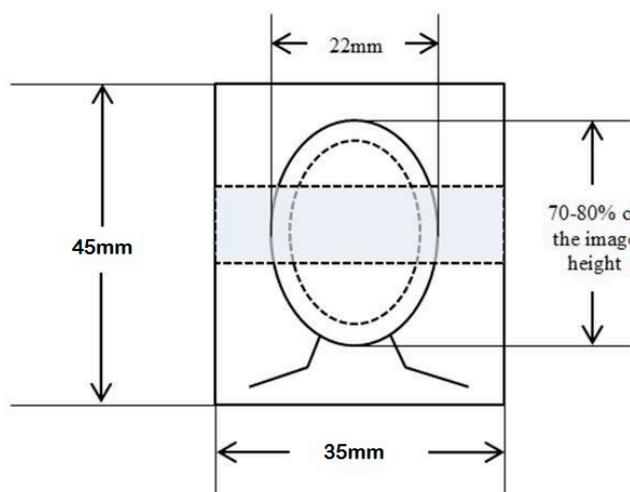
## PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENTS

**Please note** that if any of the photographs provided fail to meet any of the mandatory format requirements they will be rejected as invalid. If that happens, you will have to reapply with the correct photograph otherwise, the application will be refused.

Examples of acceptable and unacceptable photographs can be found below.

### **Size and format**

In order for the photographs with a size of 35 mm wide by 45 mm high. The photograph must be taken no earlier than 6 months before the documents are submitted.



- **In colour, not black and white**
- **Size 35x45 mm (WxH)**

### **Posture**

Photograph must be taken in full-face view directly facing the camera (the head and shoulders must be visible), with a neutral expression with the mouth closed. It shall be in sharp focus and clear, with no spots, such as paint traces or creases. Eyes shall be open, no hair across the eyes.

People who normally wear spectacles may be shown wearing spectacles in the photograph, as long as the spectacles do not have tinted lenses. The spectacles must be clean and transparent (with no marks), and the eyes must be clearly visible. The frames of the spectacles must not cover any part of the eyes. There should be no flash reflection off the glasses.

No veil, hair, head coverings or facial jewelry that obstruct the face are permitted. Head coverings, not hiding the facial contours, worn for religious reasons are allowed provided that a person is photographed likewise in the passport.

Bandages covering the eyes are permitted for medical reasons only, if the person is shown with the bandage in the photograph in his / her passport.

The background must be a single light colour. Up to 10% grey or light blue is recommended for the background colour. Yellow, red lighting or other colours are not permitted. Other people or objects must not be visible in the photograph. The colour image must not be edited to improve the appearance.

### **Lighting**

The face should be evenly lit. Light must not cast any shadows or reflections on the face or background. Face and eyes must be clearly visible, free from shadows. The photograph must not have any bright spots. The photograph must be free from "redeye". It must have appropriate brightness and contrast. If a photograph is made in colour, the lighting should not obstruct the natural colour of the skin.



too close



too far away



## Photograph quality

### The photographs must be:

- no more than 6-months old
- 35–45 mm in width
- close up of your head and top of your shoulders so that your face takes up 70–80% of the photograph
- in sharp focus and clear
- of high quality with no ink marks or creases



blurred



ink marked/creased



looking away



unnatural skin tones



### The photographs must:

- show you looking directly at the camera
- show your skin tones naturally
- have appropriate brightness and contrast



too dark



too light



washed out colour



pixelated





hair across eyes



eyes closed



portrait style



eyes tilted



busy background



not centred



flash reflection on skin



redeye



shadows behind head



shadows across face



## Style and lighting

### The photographs must:

- be colour neutral
- show your eyes open and clearly visible—no hair across your eyes
- show you facing square on to the camera, not looking over one shoulder (portrait style) or tilted, and showing both edges of your face clearly
- be taken with a plain light-coloured background
- be taken with uniform lighting and not show shadows or flash reflections on your face and no red eye



dark tinted lenses



flash reflection on lenses



## Glasses and head covers

### If you wear glasses:

- the photograph must show your eyes clearly with no flash reflection off the glasses, and no tinted lenses (if possible, avoid heavy frames—wear lighter framed glasses if you have them)
- make sure that the frames do not cover any part of your eyes.



frames too heavy



frames covering eyes



wearing a hat



wearing a cap



### Head coverings:

- are not permitted except for religious reasons, but your facial features from bottom of chin to top of forehead and both edges of your face must be clearly shown.



face covered



shadows across face



## Expression and frame

### Your photographs must:

- show you alone (no chair backs, toys or other people visible), looking at the camera with a neutral expression and your mouth closed.



shows another person



mouth open and toy too close to face

