

Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council  
of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code)

TITLE III

**PROCEDURES AND CONDITIONS FOR ISSUING VISAS**

*CHAPTER IV*

***Issuing of the visa***

*Article 26*

**Issuing of an airport transit visa**

1 An airport transit visa shall be valid for transiting through the international transit areas of the airports situated on the territory of Member States.

2 Without prejudice to Article 12(a), the period of validity of the visa shall include an additional ‘period of grace’ of 15 days.

Member States may decide not to grant such a period of grace for reasons of public policy or because of the international relations of any of the Member States.

3 Without prejudice to Article 12(a), multiple airport transit visas may be issued with a period of validity of a maximum six months.

4 The following criteria in particular are relevant for taking the decision to issue multiple airport transit visas:

- a the applicant’s need to transit frequently and/or regularly; and
- b the integrity and reliability of the applicant, in particular the lawful use of previous uniform visas, visas with limited territorial validity or airport transit visas, his economic situation in his country of origin and his genuine intention to pursue his onward journey.

5 If the applicant is required to hold an airport transit visa in accordance with the provisions of Article 3(2), the airport transit visa shall be valid only for transiting through the international transit areas of the airports situated on the territory of the Member State(s) concerned.

6 The data set out in Article 10(1) of the VIS Regulation shall be entered into the VIS when a decision on issuing such a visa has been taken.