

BEST PRACTICES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR BIOMETRIC PHOTOS



Photograph quality

The photographs must be:

- no more than 6-months old
- 35–40mm 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

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



flash reflection on skin

redeye



shadows behind head

shadows across face



wearing a hat

wearing a cap



face covered

shadows across face



shows another person

mouth open and toy too close to face

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.

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.

SOME EXAMPLES OF PHOTO PROBLEMS

Too dark



Contrast too high



Over-exposed



Shadows on face



Shadow on background

