



Immigration News Highlights

2023-26, 27 June 2023



The KPMG team regularly monitors recent developments across the globe in the Immigration space and publishes them as Immigration News Highlights. Please find the key developments that occurred over the last week enumerated below. [Click here](#) to find all issues of the Immigration News Highlights on the GMS Flash Alert: Immigration page.

[Americas](#)

[Asia Pacific](#)

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Americas

United States

[EU Citizens can now apply for a US ESTA through mobile app](#)

The Authorities of United States have announced that the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) is now available through a mobile application for European Union nationals who want to visit the United States. All EU nationals will be allowed to start their ESTA applications using the app, according to the authorities. They may use the app to upload a selfie video to verify their identification, answer eligibility questions, scan and verify their passport, add any necessary personal information, and file an ESTA request.

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United States

[State Department provides further clarification for upcoming India EB-3 retrogression](#)

The U.S. State Department has given more explanations on the impending India Employment-Based Third Preference (EB-3) retrogression. India is now "oversubscribed for immigrant visas in numerically limited immigrant visa categories," according to the State Department. The entire demand for family and employment-based visas for this fiscal year would exceed the 7 percent per-country limit, thus applicants chargeable to India are subject to prorating. The Department anticipates that by 1 July 2023, all prorated EB-3 visas granted to applicants chargeable to India for FY2023 would have been used.

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United States

US set to introduce in-country renewable for H-1B visa

The Government of United States is about to implement in-country renewable H-1B visas, which would enable thousands of Indian experts already residing in the nation to keep working without having to inconvenience themselves by flying outside to renew their work permits. The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that permits US businesses to hire foreign employees in specialized jobs that call for theoretical or technical skills.

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United States

Visa relief: US to open consulates in Bengaluru & Ahmedabad, new Indian mission in Seattle

The Government of United States that two new US consulates will open in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad in preparation for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the US. In return, India will open a mission in Seattle. The arrival of the M comes as a huge relief to visa applicants, particularly students and tech professionals who make up a sizable portion of visitors from India.

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Asia Pacific

Australia

New visa rules, work-hour cap for international students in Australia from July 1

The Government of Australia has announced that Indian graduates from Australian academic institutions will be able to apply to work in Australia for up to eight years starting on 1 July 2023. The new visa policy is the result of a bilateral agreement India and Australia struck last month. The Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early-professionals Scheme (MATES), a scheme that would provide 3,000 seats yearly for young professionals from India to spend two years in Australia without having a sponsor for a visa, is a significant component of this deal.

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New Zealand

Government unveils simplified skilled migrant category resident visa pathways

The Government of New Zealand is launching a significantly streamlined and uncapped skilled migrant visa that will provide highly qualified and compensated workers a quicker road to residency while others will have a clear path after a period of employment. It will be necessary for

immigrants to meet a requirement of six points, which may be earned via a mix of training and experience in their field, qualifications, and income.

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Vietnam

Vietnam lawmakers approve extension of e-visa validity to 3 months

The National Assembly of Vietnam adopted the government proposal to enable repeated entries and increase the duration of tourist e-visas from 30 to 90 days. 470 of the 475 members of the parliamentary body voted in favor of passing the necessary revisions to the Law on Entry, Exit, Transit, and Residence of Foreigners in Vietnam.

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Europe and Africa

Denmark

Certain third-country family members of EU citizens required to replace their residence cards

The Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) has announced that all residence cards given to third-country relatives of EU residents before 1998 will cease to be valid on 3 August 2023. All cards will be affected by this, including those without an expiration date.

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Egypt

Egypt introduces five-year multiple-entry visa for foreigners

The Government of Egypt has announced a new US\$700 (EGP21,630) five-year multiple-entry visa for visitors. The new visa, according to the announcement from the ministry, permits holders to stay in Egypt for a maximum of 90 days in a single trip. Other entrance visa payments that are already levied in Egypt will not alter, according to the ministry.

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Egypt

Egypt to Offer Up to 96-Hours Transit Visa at Cairo International Airport

The Government of Egypt has announced the availability of free transit visas to Egypt for stays of up to 96 hours in EGYPTAIR. The traveler should proceed to the EGYPTAIR Transit Office at Cairo Airport to fill out a data form, under which a free visa is obtained. The visa may be obtained upon arrival at Cairo International Airport.

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Ireland

Supplementary application forms requirement removed for Indian nationals

The Irish government has declared that Indian nationals are no longer required to submit supplemental application papers. Indian nationals applying for visas are no longer required to submit an additional application form as of June. Only the pertinent papers should be submitted by visa applicants, depending on the kind of visa. The online AVATS application for visa applicants must contain all pertinent information.

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Portugal

Portugal modernizing its visa application platform to avoid limited number of appointment slots

The authorities of Portugal have announced that to prevent a low number of applications and lengthy wait periods for a seat, the nation is revamping its online visa application platform. One registration is one of the new elements of the visa system. All users will be able to update their passwords, modify their personal information, complete a questionnaire to establish the type of visa they require, and attach necessary documents after they have registered.

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