



COVID-19 Global Mobility update

15 - 19 May 2020

Dear all,

Please find below our most recent Mobility related global updates specifically related to the COVID-19 crisis and current guidance or measures that different countries are putting into place.

If you have any questions on below, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Updates by country:

[Canada](#)

[France](#)

[Ireland](#)

[United Arab Emirates](#)

[United States](#)

Combating COVID-19 with resilience

[Visit our Deloitte COVID-19 webpage](#) to see a collection of Global Deloitte insights to help businesses manage and mitigate the risk associated with COVID-19.

Canada - Temporary worker applications expedited

What is the change?

The Canadian government has implemented expedited processing of work permit applications for temporary foreign workers in Canada who have lost their jobs but found alternative employment.

Key Points:

- The temporary policy will significantly reduce the time it take for temporary foreign workers to start new jobs.
- Under the policy, workers already in Canada who have received a new job offer can get approval to start working while their work permit application is processing. They will also be exempt from the requirement to provide biometrics if the Service Canada location where the applicant lives is temporarily closed. This will reduce what can be a 10-week process to 10 days or less.

It is hoped that the temporary policy will help employers in the critical goods and services sectors such as agriculture, food and health care, who urgently need additional employees.

For the latest country-specific travel restrictions and immigration information in relation to COVID-19, visit [gowork.ges.deloitte](#) to view Deloitte's Digital travel Map.

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France - Change regarding state of emergency

What is the change?

A new law is now in effect as of May 12.

The state of emergency initially planned for two months starting March 24 is now extended until July 10. Several new regulations regarding quarantine and movement of people are included.

In addition, the lockdown is lifted as of May 11 with the result that certificates are no longer needed to prove the purpose of leaving home.

Some kindergarten, primary and middle schools are also reopening. Some shops are also opening, with the exception of restaurants and bars, provided they implement all sanitary requirements.

French government administrations including the prefectures will resume progressively and will review applications in accordance with necessity (right of asylum takes priority).

Borders are still closed until further notice. However, the European Commission requires the travel ban continue until at least June 15.

What does the change include?

- People can move freely within 100 kilometers of their home (in French cities and French overseas territories). Those wishing to exceed this limitation outside their department of residence must complete and sign an attestation stating one of the following reasons for traveling beyond the 100 kilometers:
 - Urgent work.
 - Studies or taking an exam.
 - Medical reasons.
 - Urgent family reasons.
 - Reporting to police/national authorities.
 - Summons to appear before administrative and judicial authorities.
 - Specific tasks imposed by the administrative authorities.

- Government officials can impose a 14-day quarantine on those coming from a third country (not including European Union countries and the U.K.) in the following situations:
 - If they are arriving from an area deemed infected by COVID-19 (according to the Ministry of Health list).
 - Those who are infected by COVID-19 as certified by a certificate from a medical doctor.

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United Arab Emirates - Government offices reopening with reduced hours, staffing

What is the change?

The United Arab Emirates recently announced the reopening of some government service centers.

Key points:

- Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE) service centers have reopened. Hours of operation are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Visitors are required to wear masks and gloves; no children or elderly people are allowed.

Though government offices are reopening to an extent, inbound flights to the UAE remain suspended with the exception of a number of special flights provided by Etihad Airways until May 31. Departures are also restricted and only available for limited outbound repatriation flights.

All visas, entry permits and Emirates IDs that expired on or after March 1 will retain their validity until January 2021. The same is true for expatriate residency visas, whether or not the expatriates are in the country. Visitors who have remained in the UAE and whose visas expired after March 1 will have them extended until January 2021.

The reopening of service centers will make some additional immigration services available, though services will be limited by shortened hours and reduced staffing. Delays should be expected.

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Ireland - Further automatic extension for residence permissions

What is the change?

The Irish government has announced that foreign nationals with valid immigration permission that expires between May 20 and July 20 will be granted a further automatic two-month extension. This follows the previous two-month extension that came into effect on March 20, meaning that some permissions may be extended for a total of four months.

This measure is in response to the temporary closure of the Irish immigration registration offices where foreign nationals are required to register their immigration permission once in Ireland.

Key points:

- **Implementation time frame:** This change is set to take effect of the May 20.
- **Who is affected:** All foreign nationals residing in Ireland with valid immigration permission (based on employment, studies, dependent family, tourism, etc.) that is due to expire between May 20 and July 20.
- Additionally, any permission which was renewed by the March 20 notice and therefore has a new expiry date between May 20 and July 20 is automatically renewed by this notice for a further two months.
- **Next steps:** It is important that employers review their upcoming expirations and update the expiry date by a further two months.

All non-EEA nationals must apply for an employment permit to work. [Certain nationalities](#) must then apply for an entry visa to enter Ireland to commence work. Once in Ireland, all non-EEA nationals must apply for an Irish residence permit to register their permission. Non-EEA nationals must renew this Irish residence permission when appropriate.

The first automatic extension of expiring Irish residence permits came into effect March 20 and confirmed that foreign nationals with valid immigration permission due to expire between March 20 and May 20 would be granted an automatic two-month extension.

The second automatic extension of immigration permission for a further two months is a welcome announcement as it provides certainty to employers and employees whose permission was due to expire. This ensures that employees retain their permission under the same conditions during this time.

While the registration offices have been closed, Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) has implemented several COVID-19 responses to mitigate the impact of the closures. They have permitted non-EEA nationals who are eligible to change their permission to apply

electronically via email, rather than at an in-person appointment. They have further permitted non-EEA students who are eligible to apply to the Third Level Graduate Programme to apply electronically.

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United States - US Embassy in India issues repatriation guidance for US citizens

What is the change?

The U.S. State Department published guidance this week for Americans currently in India who wish to return to the United States.

Key Points:

- U.S. citizens wishing to depart India on a U.S. government-facilitated flight must fill out this [form](#), including those who have previously registered, emailed, or otherwise contacted the U.S. Embassy.
- U.S. citizens are asked not to contact the embassy or consulate regarding flight status, as they will receive an email with flight and seat confirmation if applicable. Only those who receive a flight confirmation from the U.S. Mission will be permitted to board flights.
- Additionally, the U.S. Embassy in India has posted [information](#) for U.S. citizens who wish to return on one of the Air India flights traveling to the United States as part of the Indian repatriation operation. Those interested in returning on an Air India flight must contact the airline directly. Air India flight schedules are available [here](#).

The U.S. Embassy and Consulates are working to arrange additional chartered flights from India for U.S. citizens. The earliest flights are expected to begin next week and will

depart from Mumbai and New Delhi for Atlanta and San Francisco. All adult passengers must sign a promissory note, agreeing to pay for the cost of the flight, before boarding.

The embassy and consulates have thus far successfully repatriated approximately 5,500 travelers from India to the United States.

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