



## COVID-19 Global Mobility update

26 August - 02 September 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.

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### 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.

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## New Zealand - Visa extensions announced for Recognised Seasonal Employer workers and family of employer-assisted work visas

### What is the change?

New Zealand has granted extensions for family of employer-assisted work visa holders and Recognised Seasonal Employer workers.

#### Key points:

- **Partners and dependents.** Partners and dependents of a principal visa holder whose visas would have expired during the period Aug. 17 to Dec. 31 will have their visas extended by six months. Immigration New Zealand will send a confirmation email to such visa holders, or their licensed advisors, by Aug. 25. Those who have been granted an interim visa after submitting a new visa application are not eligible for the extension.

Partners and dependents of a principal visa holder whose visas expire during the specified period who have submitted an application for a new visa may

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withdraw it and request a refund. Refunds will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- **Recognised Seasonal Employer Worker visa extension.** Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme visas will be extended by six months for those expiring during the period Aug. 18 to Dec. 31. The [extension](#) is only for RSE workers currently in New Zealand. Those who are outside New Zealand will not be able enter the country until border restrictions are lifted, unless they obtain a travel ban exemption. RSE workers who wish to continue working in New Zealand after the six-month extension for the same purpose will be able to apply to remain in the country longer.

A six-month extension was granted to in-country holders of employer-assisted visas in July.

The extensions will provide relief to Recognised Seasonal Employer workers and family of employer-assisted work visa holders. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to develop.

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## China - Notice on announcement of visa acceptance for Japanese citizens

### What is the change?

With effect from 22 August 2020, Japan citizens with valid residence permits can apply for visas at the China visa centre in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, or at the respective Chinese consulates in regions without visa centres.

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## **China - Notice on announcement of visa acceptance for Singapore citizens**

### **What is the change?**

With effect from 22 August 2020, Singapore citizens with valid residence permits can apply for visas to China at the China embassy. For more information on the procedures for departure, including the requirements for a nucleic acid test, please click below.

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## **China - Notice on announcement of visa acceptance for Indonesia citizens**

### **What is the change?**

With effect from 22 August 2020, Indonesia citizens with valid residence permits can apply for visas at any Chinese embassy or consulate. For more information on the procedures for departure, including the requirements for a nucleic acid test, please click below.

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## **India - Standard operating procedures for inbound and outbound flights**

### **What is the change?**

In line with the 'Vande Bharat' mission to bring stranded Indian nationals home and 'Air Transport Bubble' arrangements to enable limited commercial passenger services on a

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reciprocal basis, the Ministry of Home Affairs has released a set of standard operating procedures for inbound and outbound flights.

For inbound flights, persons who wish to travel to India on 'Vande Bharat' flights will need to register themselves with the Indian missions in the countries where they are stranded or residing. This registration process may not be required on flights operating under 'Air Transport Bubble' arrangements. Priority will be given to compelling cases of distress, including migrant workers who have been laid off, short-term visa holders faced with visa expiry, persons with medical emergencies, pregnant women, elderly persons, students, or those who need to return to India due to the death of a family member.

For outbound flights, persons who are eligible to travel will need to apply to the Ministry of Civil Aviation or an agency/agencies designated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation for this purpose.

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## Nepal - Latest visa updates

### What is the change?

Foreigners with visas valid until 21 March 2020 and who depart within 15 days from the resumption of international flights will have their visa regulated without any charges (visa fee, late fee, penalty) at the immigration offices during the time of their departure. If, however, they were unable to depart within 15 days for various reasons, their visas will have been regulated without any fee until 14 August 2020. From 15 August 2020 onwards, the visas will be regulated with the regular tourist visa fee until 15 December 2020.

Foreign nationals with tourist visas that are valid until 21 March 2020 who wish to convert their visa category will have their visas regulated without any late fees or penalties. To request for the exemption of the late fee and penalty, visa holders are requested to contact the Department of Immigration within 15 days from the resumption of visa services.

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## Singapore - Employers to bear costs of pass holders' COVID-19 test and stay at dedicated Stay-Home Notice (SHN) facilities

### What is the change?

If the request to allow a foreign employee or dependant to enter Singapore is approved, employers are required to make the following payments, even if the pass holder does not enter Singapore as planned:

- Pass holder's COVID-19 test (up to S\$200 including GST) (pass holders who are 12 years old and below are not required to take the COVID-19 test).
- Stay at dedicated SHN facilities (S\$2,000 including GST), if applicable.

No refunds will be given as the Ministry of Manpower would have booked and paid for the facilities required for the pass holder's entry based on the request. For the full

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instructions to request for approval to allow a foreign employee or dependant to enter Singapore, please refer to the link below.

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## Thailand - Visa extension applications and 90-day reports

### What is the change?

The announcement by the Ministry of Interior, 'Permission for Certain Groups of Foreigners to Remain in the Kingdom as a Special Case (3<sup>rd</sup> issuance)', dated 23 July 2020, stipulates that foreigners should submit their visa extension applications and 90-day reports by 26 September 2020.

In line with this, foreigners will need to take the following actions:

- Short-term visa holders and those granted visa exemptions will need to prepare to depart the Kingdom before 26 September 2020, except in the following cases:
  - Illness: Contact a local immigration office with the medical certificate.
  - Other obstacles, such as lack of availability of flights or an outbreak situation: Contact an embassy or consulate to issue a letter of confirmation and request for temporary stay, before contacting a local immigration office.

Each permission shall be granted for no more than 30 days.

- Long-term visa holders will need to submit an application for extension in accordance with the reason of necessity for each visa type. Applications can be submitted until 26 September 2020, with all visa extensions valid from 27 September 2020 onwards.
- All 90-day reports with due dates between 26 March 2020 and 31 July 2020 must be made between 1 August 2020 and 31 August 2020 through the specified channels.

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## Togo - Flights resume, travel requirements announced

### What is the change?

Togo has announced the resumption of international and domestic flights and new travel requirements.

#### Key points:

- International and domestic flights resumed Aug. 1.
- Effective Aug. 10, all travelers entering Lomé Airport must present a negative test result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than five days before boarding their flights. Travelers arriving at the airport are subject to a second PCR test at the terminal. They must complete the online traveler [declaration form](#) and pay for the second test before departing for Togo. The declaration form must be completed at least 24 hours before departing.
- When inbound travelers are boarding, airlines will verify they have their negative COVID-19 PCR test results and proof of payment for the second test at Lomé Airport. Passengers who do not meet these requirements will not be allowed to board their flights.
- All inbound travelers are required to install the contact tracing mobile application [TOGO SAFE](#), when they arrive at Lomé Airport. They must also make sure it remains activated during their stay or for at least 30 days from their time of arrival. Travelers who do not install it will be quarantined in a state-provided containment facility for at least 14 days. Quarantine costs will be paid by the quarantined traveler. Quarantined travelers are required to follow quarantine rules and have the TOGO SAFE app installed and active while they wait for their COVID-19 test results.

Passengers departing from Lomé Airport are required to obtain a COVID-19 PCR test 72 hours before boarding their flights. Departing passengers must also fill out the health declaration form before their departures. All travelers to Lomé, Togo's largest city and capital, have been recommended by the Togo government to obtain medical or travel insurance before they arrive.

**The resumption of international and domestic flights makes it possible for employers to**

send their employees to Togo.

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## Ireland - Passenger Locator Form moved online, required for entry to Ireland

### What is the change?

Ireland has moved its [Passenger Locator Form](#) online. Anyone traveling to Ireland, with limited exceptions, must fill out the form prior to arrival in the country.

- **Implementation time frame:** The change takes effect today Aug. 26.
- **Who is affected:** Anyone who is travelling to Ireland from another country, including EEA and Irish nationals.
- **Next steps:** Employers are encouraged make their employees aware of the requirement. Employers should consider that employees will need to know their residential address for the first 14 days spent in Ireland, and may have to restrict their movements under [Ireland's COVID-19 policies](#).

Under a previous requirement, anyone entering Ireland (non-EEA, EEA and Irish nationals) had to complete Passenger Locator Form before arrival. The form has now been moved online and will be used to help with contact tracing in relation to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19. Travelers considered to be essential supply chain worker (e.g., air and ship crew and haulers) or accredited diplomats do not need to fill out the form. Anyone traveling from the Republic of Ireland to Northern Ireland will also have to fill out a portion of the form.

The Irish government has made this decision as part of their efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

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## Singapore - COVID-19 for Singapore travellers to China

### What is the change?

From 28 August 2020, Singapore travellers to China will have to take a COVID-19 test within the five days immediately before their flight to the country. They must also declare that, in the last 14 days, they have not had a fever at or above 37.3 degree Celsius, or respiratory symptoms, and have not been in contact with patients with a fever or respiratory symptoms, among other things.

For the COVID-19 test, the Chinese Embassy said that at this stage, it does not designate specific institutions to carry out the test. Passengers can choose any hospital or clinic listed on the Singapore Ministry of Health (MOH)'s website. After they have tested negative for COVID-19, passengers must e-mail their test result together with a scanned copy of a signed health declaration form and a photocopy of the bio page of their passport to the Chinese Embassy. It will take at least one working day to verify the documents. More details can be found on the [embassy's website](#).

MOH also advised travellers that they should ensure they have enough time to arrange for the test and get the test results in time for their flights to China. The test results can take up to 48 hours to process.

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## Vietnam - Ho Chi Minh City announces health monitoring for individuals returning from Hanoi, Hai Duong, Bac Giang, Da Nang, Quang Nam, and Quang Ngai

### What is the change?

On 18 August 2020, Ho Chi Minh City announced that it will categorise all individuals who recently returned from Hanoi, Hai Duong, Bac Giang, Da Nang, Quang Nam, and Quang Ngai into four groups and apply different levels of health monitoring for each group for at least 14 days, including COVID-19 testing, self-quarantine, or centralised quarantine:

- Group 1—Individuals who had close contact with confirmed COVID-19 patients:  
Requires centralised quarantine and COVID-19 testing

- Group 2—Individuals who departed an area where strict social distancing requirements were in place: Requires centralised quarantine and COVID-19 testing
- Group 3—Individuals who have been to venues determined by the Vietnamese Ministry of Health as high-risk: Requires self-quarantine at home; COVID-19 testing may be required if an individual has COVID-19 symptoms
- Group 4—All others: Self-monitor health condition; COVID-19 testing may be required if an individual has COVID-19 symptoms.

Individuals who receive a notification from local authorities that they are required to undergo COVID-19 testing, should use a private vehicle to travel to the designated hospital and wear a face covering throughout the trip.

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## Canada - COVID-19: Under temporary policy, visitors may apply for work permits without leaving

### What is the change?

Canada has implemented a [temporary policy](#) that allows certain visitors to apply for an employer-specific work permit without having to leave the country.

#### Key points:

- In order to be eligible for a new employer-specific work permit, applicants must:
  - Have a valid visitor status in Canada on the day they apply (visitors include super visa holders, business visitors and those who entered Canada through the Global Skills Strategy work permit exemption);
  - Have been in Canada on Aug. 24 and remained in Canada;
  - Have a job offer;
  - Submit an application no later than March 31, 2021 for an employer-specific work permit that is supported by a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) or an LMIA-exempt job offer; and
  - Meet all other standard admissibility criteria.

- Applicants who meet these requirements who also had a valid work permit in the last 12 months are allowed to start working for the new employer before their work permit application has been fully approved. Instructions for this process are [here](#).
- Foreign nationals arriving as visitors after Aug. 24 are not eligible.

The new policy is intended to support employers in Canada seeking workers and help temporary residents find jobs.

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## Nigeria - Resumption of international flights postponed

### What is the change?

Nigeria have postponed plans to resume international flights until Sept. 5.

#### Key Points:

- International flights were first suspended in March, with exceptions in place for essential and diplomatic flights. Nigeria recently announced that international flights will resume on Aug. 29, but officials pushed that date back this week.
- Commercial air travel is now scheduled to resume at international airports in Abuja and Lagos on Sept. 5. Additional information is expected soon, but it is likely that under the principle of reciprocity, carriers from countries that ban flights from Nigeria will not be permitted to land in Nigeria.

The resumption of international flights may allow employers to send employees into and out of Nigeria, though little information is available at this point about what procedures and protocols may be in place when flights resume.

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## **Myanmar - Myanmar expands Rakhine COVID-19 lockdown to cover 1 million people**

### **What is the change?**

Myanmar expanded a lockdown in Rakhine state to cover four more townships on 26 August 2020, halting the movement of about 1 million people as the number of coronavirus cases climbs steadily. State capital Sittwe has been under lockdown and an overnight curfew since the weekend, and on Wednesday the order was extended to four townships elsewhere: Kyaukphyu, An, Taungup, and Thandwe.

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## **Singapore - Travellers to Singapore with recent travel history to South Korea to serve Stay-Home Notice (SHN) at dedicated facilities**

### **What is the change?**

Travellers entering Singapore who have recent travel history to South Korea will have to serve the 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) period at dedicated facilities instead of their own place of residence. The regulation applies to those entering Singapore from midnight on 29 August 2020, and those who have travelled to South Korea within the last 14 days, including transit. These travellers will also have to undergo a COVID-19 test before the end of their SHN, as per the current requirement.

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## **Singapore - Salary criteria for Employment Passes and S Passes will be raised**

### **What is the change?**

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The Government will raise the salary criteria for Employment Passes (EPs) and S Passes amid weak labour market conditions. Currently, those on EPs need to earn at least S\$3,900 a month, while S Pass holders earn a minimum of S\$2,400 a month.

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## Bahrain - Labor market testing process details announced

### What is the change?

The Labor Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) recently announced new labor market testing process details for employers in Bahrain.

### What does the change mean?

Some delay is to be expected for employers applying for new work permits for foreign nationals outside Bahrain because of the new process.

- **Implementation timeframe:** Immediate and ongoing.
- **Visas/permits affected:** Work permits.
- **Who is affected:** Employers and work permit applicants, both out-of-country and in-country.
- **Impact on processing times:** The new labor market testing requirements could increase the time it takes to obtain a work permit because employers will have to wait 14 days and have their job vacancies posted in a local newspaper before they can lodge work permit applications.
- **Business impact:** Employers in Bahrain might find the process of hiring foreign nationals more challenging.

### Background

Requests for new work permit applications for foreign nationals outside the country will be delayed for 14 days to give local candidates (citizens and residents) a chance to apply for the position. Employers are required to post available job vacancies in local government-approved newspapers for seven days. The newspaper job postings must mention the job position, company name and email and telephone number listed in the LMRA system.

The Labor Market Regulatory Authority will publish the job vacancies for employers. The cost per job posting will be 30 Bahraini Dinars or about \$US 79.57. Employers are allowed to choose from among these newspapers for their job postings: Al Ayam, Akhbar Alkhaleej, Al Bilad, Al Watan, Gulf Daily News and the Bahrain Daily Tribune.

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Employers who choose to select a preferred newspaper for publishing their available job vacancies are required to do so within one hour of submitting a new work permit application for a foreign national outside the country. They can submit an electronic ticket through the [E-Support system](#).

If the employer is unable to find a suitable worker from the resident labour market the work permit application will proceed. Authorities do not require the employer to submit any reports or feedback after the advertisement of the job vacancy in the local newspaper. Further information is available on the [LMRA website](#).

The objective of the new process is to ensure citizens and residents who are currently in Bahrain have ample opportunities to apply for new local job vacancies. Bahrain announced in late July it would begin accepting applications for new work permits for foreign nationals Aug. 9. The issuance of new work permits was suspended in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## Deloitte's View

Employers should take note of the new labor market testing process and follow it. They may expect delays when applying for new work permit applications for foreign nationals outside Bahrain. Employers are encouraged to work with Deloitte to ensure they remain in compliance with the new requirements.

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## Ghana - Reopens Air Border effective 1 September 2020

### What is the change?

Ghana has opened its air borders effective 1 September 2020, however the country's land and sea borders remain closed until further notice. Both departing and arriving air passengers will be subjected to enhanced health protocols at Ghana's airport.

#### Key points:

- Passengers arriving in Ghana must possess a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited laboratory in their country of origin obtained within 72 hours of departure.
- All arriving passengers, with the exception of children below 5 years, will be required to undergo a mandatory COVID-19 test at the Ghana airport terminal at a cost of USD 150, to be borne by the passenger. Arriving passengers who

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test positive for COVID-19 will receive further clinical assessment and treatment.

- Passengers who depart Ghana and return within one (1) week will not be required to present a COVID-19 test result from the country of departure. They will however be required to take the mandatory test upon their arrival in Ghana.

The re-opening of air borders is in line with the Government of Ghana's strategic easing of restrictions imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ghana air border reopens on 1 September 2020, following closure for several months since March 2020.

Travelers wishing to enter Ghana are advised to travel by air and make arrangements in line with the announced protocols as land and sea borders remain closed until further notice. Travelers who test negative will be allowed entry into Ghana. Outbound travelers are advised to confirm current travel restrictions of intended destination countries with the respective embassies prior to embarkation to avoid inconveniences on arrival at their destinations.

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## Finland - Deadline extended for ID confirmation extended

### What is the change?

Finland has extended the deadline for residence permit applicants who need to prove their identity at a Finnish consulate or service point in order to have their permit processed.

#### Key Points:

- Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, applicants for Finnish residency, registration of right of residence or citizenship will have until Dec. 31 to complete an in-person identity appointment at a Finnish embassy, consulate or service center. Normally, such appointments must be completed within three months of submitting an online application.
- The in-person appointment is mandatory for the application to be processed. Applicants have their fingerprints taken and documents verified during the appointment.

- Applicants who are in Finland can apply for an extended residence permit and may be able to avoid an in-person appointment by using “strong identification” in the [Enter Finland](#) online service. More information is available [here](#).
- There is currently a shortage of available in-person appointments at Finnish Immigration service points in the service’s online appointment system. Applicants can monitor the situation [here](#).

According to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, reception activities for residence permit applications have gradually resumed since June 16. The extension marks the third time since the beginning of the pandemic that authorities have extended the deadline for identity appointments. It was initially extended to August 31, and again until Oct. 31.

The extension should provide relief for applicants who have been unable to book an appointment to complete their application process.

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## Israel - Upcoming holidays could cause delays in processing times

### What is the change?

Israeli government offices will be closed for extended periods for the upcoming holidays of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot.

### What does the change mean?

Applicants should expect delays in mid- and late-September.

- **Implementation time frame:** Sept 18-20 (Rosh Hashanah), Sept 27-28 (Yom Kippur), Sept 29-Oct 1 (offices closed), Oct 2-Oct 10 (Sukkot).
- **Visas/permits affected:** All visas, permits and other immigration-related services.
- **Who is affected:** Anyone in need of immigration-related services.
- **Impact on processing times:** Processing times for all work permits and visas are expected to be delayed in September and October, including in the days and weeks after offices reopen.

- **Business impact:** Employers should factor in the holiday closures and ensuing delays when planning business schedules and start dates.

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## Deloitte's View

Employers should anticipate delays and submit applications before the holidays if possible. Israeli consular posts abroad will also suspend operations or operate on significantly reduced schedules. Overseas applicants should contact their relevant Israeli consulate for specific holiday schedules.

## Czech Republic - Test required after 14 days for workers from 'red countries'

### What is the change?

The Czech Republic has begun requiring workers from "red countries" to be tested for the COVID-19 virus 14 days after entering the country.

#### Key Points:

- Foreign workers who entered the country on or after Aug. 25 and who are not from a country that is on the Czech Republic's list of [low-risk countries](#) must take a second RT-PCR COVID-19 test after they have been in the country for 14 days.
- The test is also required for any foreign nationals who have spent more than 12 hours in the past 14 days in any country that is not on the list of low-risk countries.
- Employees must provide their test results to their employers or a client for whom they are working.
- The new rule does not apply to international transport workers supported by appropriate documentation; it does apply to both foreign students and teachers.
- The countries for which tests are not required are: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Kingdom and Vatican City.

- Belgium, Bulgaria, Luxembourg and Malta currently appear on the low-risk list, but with an asterisks next to their country's name. Officials are at this time requiring tests after 14 days for workers from these countries.

Rules are being tightened for foreign workers from “red countries,” e.g., Russia, Turkey and the United States, that are not considered low-risk for the spread of COVID-19. Employers should make sure employees from such countries complete the test as required after 14 days.

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## Panama - Commercial air travel resumes for citizens and residents

### What is the change?

The government of Panama has reopened commercial flights for citizens and residents with some restrictions. Limited humanitarian flights and flights for medical goods and appliances are currently allowed as well, however, the airport remains closed to the general public.

#### Key points:

- Citizens and residents of Panama can now travel by air. “Residents” is anyone with a valid immigration ID card, or those with pending cases that have been filed while the applicant was outside of Panama, has received a receipt of filing, a receipt of payment of the temporary ID card and a RE-Entry Visa.
- Negative antigen or PCR swab test taken within 48 hours prior to boarding a flight will be required for entry.
- All travelers must sign an affidavit of commitment to comply with sanitary measures issued by the Ministry of Health and use an application for monitoring symptoms, confirmation of quarantine and traceability.
- All travelers will be expected to quarantine for 14 days.
- Travelers must provide a landline telephone number to the place where the individual will quarantine.

Commercial air travel has been suspended in Panama since March. The government expects to reopen the airport by Oct. 12 to the general public, but it is only a projection, not a formal commitment.

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## United Arab Emirates - Tests from overseas labs accepted

### What is the change?

The United Arab Emirates recently made it possible for inbound air travelers to obtain pre-flight COVID-19 PCR tests outside the UAE.

#### Key points:

- All air travelers, including residents, citizens, foreign nationals and those transiting through the airport, are still required to be tested for COVID-19 within 96 hours of traveling to the UAE and present a negative **PCR** test result report to the airline they are flying with before boarding. Where the UAE has [listed designated labs](#) in the country of departure, the test must be taken there, otherwise for countries where there is no designated lab, the test must be taken at any lab approved by the local public health authority. Travelers may also be subject to a second COVID-19 PCR test and quarantine upon arrival at the discretion of the authorities.

Previously, the number of labs air travelers could use for obtaining their COVID-19 tests was limited. The UAE expanded the number of labs to make the testing process more convenient, but also expanded the list of countries where tests must be taken at one the identified clinics.

Expanding the number of labs inbound travelers can use to obtain their pre-flight COVID-19 tests should make their testing processes more convenient.

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## China - Updated requirements for Chinese visa applications in Thailand

### What is the change?

With effect from 22 August 2020, the Chinese Visa Application Service Centre in Bangkok will accept visa applications from the following categories:

- Thai citizens holding a valid Foreigner's Residence Permit for work, private matters or family reunion, and intends to enter China for the same purpose as shown on the Residence Permit (for applicants holding residence permit for work, an employment certificate issued by the Chinese employer is also required)
- Applicants (including accompanying spouse and children under the age of 18) with an Invitation Letter (PU/TE) or Verification Confirmation of Invitation issued by the Provincial Department of Commerce or the Provincial Foreign Affairs Office, and intends to enter China for economic, trade, scientific and technological, culture, educational, or sport purposes
- Applicants who need to travel to China for specific humanitarian reasons
  - For the visiting of a critically ill family member or the death of a family member, copies of the medical certificate/death certificate, an invitation letter from relatives in China, their Chinese ID card, and proof of relationship must be provided, in addition to a request letter from the applicant
  - For the spouse or children under the age of 18 of a Chinese citizen or foreigner holding a valid Chinese Foreign Permanent Resident ID card intending to enter China for family reunion purposes, copies of an invitation letter from family members in China, their Chinese ID card or Chinese Foreign Permanent Resident ID card, and proof of relationship must be provided, in addition to a request letter from the applicant
  - For applicants (including accompanying spouse and children under the age of 18) travelling to China to care for Chinese parents, copies of an invitation letter from the Chinese parents, their Chinese ID card, and proof of relationship must be provided, in addition to a request letter

from the applicant

- Applicants applying for a C visa (crew member) or R visa (foreigner of high talent/specialist)

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## China - Resumption of partial emergency operation at the Chinese Visa Application Service Centre in Kuala Lumpur

### What is the change?

Every Tuesday and Friday (10 a.m. - 3 p.m.), the Chinese Visa Application Service Centre in Kuala Lumpur will accept visa applications from the following categories:

- Malaysia citizens holding a valid Foreigner's Residence Permit for work, private matters or family reunion, and intends to enter China for the same purpose as shown on the Residence Permit
- Applicants who urgently need to travel to China to engage in economic and trade, science and technology activities, and have obtained the Invitation Letter (PU/TE) or Verification Confirmation of Invitation issued by the Provincial Department of Commerce or the Provincial Foreign Affairs Office
- Applicants for family reunion visas, who will be required to submit an invitation from the Chinese citizen or Permanent Resident together with proof of immediate family relationship
- Applicants who need to travel to China for specific humanitarian reasons
  - For the death of a family member, a proof of relationship within three generations and death certificate is required

- For the visiting of a critically ill family member, a proof of relationship within three generations and certificate of critical illness is required
- For applicants (including accompanying spouse and children under the age of 18) travelling to China to care for Chinese parents, an invitation letter from the Chinese parents stating the reasons for care and proof of immediate family relationship is required
- Applicants who urgently need to apply for document legalisation as a result of emergencies are requested to send a request to [klcentre@visaforchina.org](mailto:klcentre@visaforchina.org) with an explanation of the emergency reasons and supporting documentation
- Applicants for crew visas (walk-ins are accepted)

Please note that diplomatic, official, and courtesy visas, should be applied directly at the Consular Section of the Chinese Embassy in OSK Building instead.

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## Singapore - Cost of Stay-Home Notice (SHN) stays, swab tests, and medical expenses

### What is the change?

As Singapore gradually re-opens its borders for more international travel, the charging policy for the Stay-Home Notice (SHN) at dedicated facilities, post-SHN swab test and medical expenses depend on considerations such as the traveller type, and the date of departure from Singapore. Please refer to the link below for the latest charging policies, including a breakdown for Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents, Long-Term Pass Holders, and Short-Term Visit Pass Holders.

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## Brazil - Entry ban through land and water extended for foreign nationals

### What is the change?

The Brazilian Government announced a 30-day extension on the entry ban on foreign nationals entering Brazil by land or water transportation on Wednesday. The ban does not affect air travel.

#### Key Points:

- The temporary restriction on the entry of foreign nationals has been extended from August 26 for another 30 days until September 25. The extended restriction applies to foreign nationals entering Brazil by land or water.
- Foreign nationals with valid immigration documents may enter Brazil by air, including those who have a valid short stay visa.
- Foreign nationals traveling by air are not allowed to enter via international airports in these states: Goiás, Mato Grosso do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, Rondônia, Roraima, Tocantins.
- Foreign nationals entering with a short stay visa (Visit Visa) up to 90 days in duration are required before boarding, presenting a health insurance valid in Brazil that covers the entire period of stay, provides minimum coverage of R\$30,000 or about US\$5,370 and must be signed in Portuguese or English.
- Further rules may be issued by regulatory authorities pertaining to health procedures, operations and vessels.
- Travelers should expect possible delays in travel because of new airport health protocols.

Besides the exceptions, a number of previously existing exceptions are available for land and water entry, including for: Brazilian nationals; immigrants with definitive residence authorization; close family of Brazilian nationals (except for Venezuela nationals); foreign professionals working for international organizations; foreign employees with Brazilian government accreditation; passengers transiting through Brazil who will not leave the international area of the airport and will be permitted entry to their destination country; humanitarian travel; technical landings for refueling, provided restricted nationals do not disembark from the aircraft; and cargo transportation in compliance with current laws.

The suspension also does not apply to foreign maritime crew members who: (1) possess a Seaman's Book granted under International Labor Organization Convention terms; (2) are required to enter the country by the maritime agent to the Federal Police in order to perform certain duties while on a vessel or a platform operating in Brazilian jurisdictional waters; and (3) possess an entry visa if required.

Brazil opened air travel to foreign nationals from all countries in July.

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



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