



## Immigration news alerts

### COVID-19

COVID-19 (also previously referred to as 2019 Novel Coronavirus or 2019-nCoV) is a virus identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China. While it is unclear how easily this virus is spreading between people, authorities across the globe are issuing travel health notices related to this outbreak.

In this series of news alerts, we will provide you with immigration updates to keep you updated on the rapidly evolving situation within our region.

#### Japan

##### **Japan bans entry from 2nd Chinese province, raises travel advisory**

The Asahi Shimbun | 12 February 2020

Starting 13 February 2020, foreign nationals who have visited Zhejiang province or whose passports were issued by the province will be refused entry to Japan, except in exceptional cases. The same blanket ban has been imposed since 1 February 2020 for travellers from Hubei province.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe also promised to simplify the administrative process to deny entry. From now, Cabinet approval will not be needed to bar entry to foreign nationals from regions in China where the virus has spread

and those aboard ships with suspected cases of pneumonia caused by the pathogen.



[More information](#)

## Singapore

### **Update on work pass issuances for PRC nationals**

13 February 2020

It has been observed that the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) may require People's Republic of China (PRC) nationals to observe a 14-day leave of absence before their work passes can be issued.

MOM has clarified that exceptions may be granted for employers to proceed with the work pass issuance if they can provide evidence, in the form of passport copies and a self-declaration form to be completed by the employee, indicating that the employee has not travelled to mainland China within the last 14 days.

Employers are advised to check MOM's website regularly at [www.mom.gov.sg/2019-ncov](http://www.mom.gov.sg/2019-ncov) for the latest advisory and actions to be taken.

### **Two work passes revoked for re-entry into Singapore without prior approval**

Ministry of Manpower | 13 February 2020

The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) has revoked the work passes of two workers and suspended the work pass privileges of their employers. The two workers had breached the entry approval requirements put in place by MOM.

After 2359h, 8 February 2020, all work pass holders with travel history to mainland China within the last 14 days and planning to enter/return to Singapore, are required to obtain MOM's prior approval before they commence their journey.

The employers of the two workers had applied for them to enter Singapore on 11 February 2020. However, their applications were not approved, as part of MOM's efforts to ensure a manageable and orderly return of such workers. Even though the employers were informed of the outcome at least 12 hours before the workers' intended arrival, they still made the journey and entered Singapore on 11 February 2020.

MOM has ordered the employers to repatriate the workers within 24 hours. The workers have also been permanently banned from working in Singapore. As for their employers, MOM has suspended their work pass privileges for one year.



[More information](#)

## Taiwan

### Travellers entering Taiwan to complete health declaration form

Taiwan Centres for Disease Control | 11 February 2020

From 11 February 2020, all travellers arriving from areas outside China, Hong Kong and Macau will be required to complete a health declaration form on their travel and contact history with China, Hong Kong, and Macau within the last 14 days before entry.

Travellers who provide inaccurate information or refuse, evade or interfere with the provision of such information will be fined up to NT\$150,000 according to the relevant laws.

Travellers arriving from China, Hong Kong and Macau are required to complete the Novel Coronavirus Health Declaration and Home Quarantine Notice, and abide by home quarantine measures for the next 14 days after entering Taiwan.



[More information](#)

## Contact

Should you have any comments or questions arising from this newsletter, please feel free to contact me.



**Christina Karl**  
SEA Immigration Leader  
Deloitte Southeast Asia

+65 6800 3997  
[ckarl@deloitte.com](mailto:ckarl@deloitte.com)



Access the latest global and regional tax news, information, and resources from **Deloitte tax@hand**: A digital platform designed for global tax professionals, available anytime, on any device.

[deloitte.com/taxathand](https://deloitte.com/taxathand)



[Dbriefs](#) is a series of live, on-demand and interactive webcasts focusing on topical tax issues for business executives. Obtain your Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit for career development when you watch the webcast.

[Subscribe for the latest webcasts.](#)



Deloitte's 175th milestone year is the first anniversary to be acknowledged and celebrated globally.

This uniquely unifying moment offers the opportunity to demonstrate the value of Deloitte's role in the world—past and future. Deloitte has been making an impact that matters for 175 years and will continue to do so for many years to come.



**Deloitte Southeast Asia | Add Deloitte as safe sender**

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL"), its global network of member firms, and their related entities. DTTL (also referred to as "Deloitte Global") and each of its member firms and their affiliated entities are legally separate and independent entities. DTTL does not provide services to clients. Please see [www.deloitte.com/about](http://www.deloitte.com/about) to learn more.

Deloitte is a leading global provider of audit and assurance, consulting, financial advisory, risk advisory, tax & legal and related services. Our global network of member firms and related entities in more than 150 countries and territories (collectively, the "Deloitte organisation") serves four out of five Fortune Global 500<sup>®</sup> companies. Learn how Deloitte's approximately 312,000 people make an impact that matters at [www.deloitte.com](http://www.deloitte.com).

Deloitte Asia Pacific Limited is a company limited by guarantee and a member firm of DTTL. Members of Deloitte Asia Pacific Limited and their related entities, each of which are separate and independent legal entities, provide services from more than 100 cities across the region, including Auckland, Bangkok, Beijing, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Melbourne, Osaka, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Taipei, Tokyo and Yangon.

This communication contains general information only, and none of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, its member firms, or their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte Network") is, by means of this communication, rendering professional advice or services. Before making any decision or taking any action that may affect your finances or your business, you should consult a qualified professional adviser. No entity in the Deloitte Network shall be responsible for any loss whatsoever sustained by any person who relies on this communication.