

Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2024

Denmark

Denmark announces plans to introduce a new education-related residence scheme

Executive summary

On 1 February 2024, the Danish Minister for Immigration and Integration announced plans to introduce a new education-related residence scheme. The scheme would allow qualifying third-country nationals who are enrolled in studies within fields experiencing labor shortages to remain in Denmark and complete their studies even if they no longer meet the conditions for staying in the country.

Key developments

If adopted, the new scheme will facilitate the continuation of stay for eligible third-country nationals (i.e., individuals from countries located outside the EU and EEA) who are granted residence authorization but no longer meet the conditions of their current authorization. The scheme will enable these individuals to continue residing in Denmark provided they are enrolled in specific educational programs aligned with industries experiencing a labor shortage, as outlined in the [Positive List](#). These programs include vocational courses for certain occupations (e.g., health and social care assistant, chef, carpenter) and higher education programs for certain professions (e.g., doctor, nurse, IT engineer).

The government is expected to propose new legislation to introduce this scheme in the near future and, if approved, implement it as of 1 July 2024.

Impact on employers

The new proposal, if adopted, would benefit employers by providing them greater access to talent from outside the EU and EEA.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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