

Mobility: Immigration alert

September 2023

Qatar

Qatar mandates health insurance policy for multi-entry work visa holders

Executive summary

The Qatari immigration authorities have mandated that all individuals arriving in Qatar with a multi-entry work visa must obtain a health insurance policy from companies approved by the Qatari Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). In some cases, multi-entry work visa holders may obtain the health insurance policy after arrival in Qatar.

Key developments

While an official announcement has not yet been released by the authorities, it has been observed in practice that once a multi-entry work visa application is approved, the visa issuance process (i.e., the payment step) on the online portal of the Ministry of Interior cannot be completed without providing health insurance information. Previously, health insurance was mandatory only for Tourist Visa and Family Visit Visa applicants.

Individuals intending to apply for a multi-entry work visa are required to purchase a health insurance policy from an insurance company accredited by the MoPH and listed on their [website](#), either at the time of submitting the application or once the application is approved. The validity of the insurance policy must cover the duration of the visa's validity period.

Individuals who already hold a valid multi-entry work visa may be required to obtain a health insurance policy prior to their next trip to Qatar or upon arrival at a port of entry in Qatar, subject to the discretion of the border authorities.

Individuals who are already in Qatar on a multi-entry work visa may procure a qualifying health insurance policy to avoid any inconvenience on departure. The insurance policy must cover the remaining duration of the visa.

For amendments of existing multi-entry work visas, visa holders will need to provide an insurance policy at the time of filing the amendment application that covers the duration of the visa's validity period.

Impact on employers

Employers may obtain a qualifying insurance policy for their employees prior to their travel to facilitate admission into Qatar. Alternatively, individuals may obtain an insurance policy either online or at a Qatari port of entry at an additional cost.

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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