

Mobility: Immigration alert

March 2023



Spain

Large Business Unit to now accept only digital signatures for work and residence permit applications

Executive summary

Spanish companies that submit (initial) work and residence permit applications to the Large Business Unit (LBU) on behalf of their employees must now provide digital signatures only. Previously, both physical and digital signatures were accepted.

Key developments

Sponsoring companies must now obtain a [digital certificate](#) from the Fábrica Nacional de Moneda y Timbre (FNMT-RCM) and use it to sign work and residence permit applications on behalf of their employees. Alternatively, companies may authorize a third party to electronically sign the application on their behalf by registering a power of attorney with the Electronic Register of Powers of Attorney (REA). Previously, legal representatives of sponsoring companies could sign the application physically (by providing a “wet signature”) or digitally (by obtaining a “digital certificate”).

Impact on employers

The new change is expected to streamline the work and residence permit application process by eliminating the wet signature requirement.

Key steps

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

EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

Ernst & Young LLP is a client-serving member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited operating in the US.

© 2023 Ernst & Young LLP.
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 002638-23Gbl

2101-3682263
ED None

ey.com

Juan Pablo Riesgo Figuerola-Ferretti
Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +34620581690
Email: juan.pablo.riesgo@es.ey.com

Josefina Botero Escobar
Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +34650659896
Email: josefina.botero.escobar@es.ey.com

Consuelo Fernandez Algora
Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +34650099470
Email: consuelo.fernandez.algora@es.ey.com

Clarisa Egaña Leonardi
Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +34628502394
Email: clarisa.egana.leonardi@es.ey.com