

Mobility: Immigration alert

January 2022



Hong Kong

Hong Kong introduces new e-Visa

Executive summary

Late last month, the Hong Kong Immigration Department (ImmD) began issuing electronic visas (e-Visas) to successful visa applicants in lieu of physical, sticker-type visas. It also introduced an end-to-end online filing option for three types of applications.

Key issues

On 28 December 2021, the ImmD ceased issuing sticker-type visas and began issuing e-Visas (e.g., electronic versions of the Notification Slips for Entry Visa/Permit and Conditions of Stay) to successful applicants. The new e-Visas contain encrypted QR codes which can be scanned using the ImmD [mobile app](#). Successful applicants must retain their e-Visas electronically on their mobile devices or physically as a printout on white, size A4 paper (i.e., 210mm x 297 mm) for the duration of their stay in Hong Kong. In order to enter Hong Kong, e-Visa holders who are required to complete the immigration clearance process must now present their e-Visa and valid travel document (e.g., passport), and an exit endorsement from the relevant authorities (for individuals traveling from Mainland China). Upon arrival, the e-Visa will be activated automatically, and where applicable, travelers will be required to apply for a Hong Kong Identity card.

Late last month, the ImmD also made it possible for individuals to complete all application steps online (from application filing to payment of fees to e-Visa collection) for the following types of applications: extensions of stay, Immigration Arrangements

for Non-Local Graduates and the Admission Scheme for the Second Generation of Chinese Hong Kong Permanent Residents. Applicants are not required to file these applications online (i.e., they may still file them in person at the offices of the ImmD or by mail). The ImmD plans to introduce end-to-end online filing options for other application types later this year.

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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