

Mobility: Immigration alert

September 2021



Sweden

Sweden extends the deadline for UK citizens to apply to retain their right of residence in Sweden, and announces updated entry rules and restrictions

Executive summary

The Swedish authorities recently extended the deadline for UK citizens and their qualifying dependent family members to apply to retain their lawful residence in Sweden pursuant to the Agreement on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (“EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement”) to 31 December 2021, from 30 September 2021. The Swedish Government also announced new, more lenient entry requirements for travelers with vaccination certificates issued in certain countries outside of the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA), and heightened admission requirements for travelers from countries with high COVID-19 case volumes.

Application deadline for UK citizens

UK citizens and their qualifying family members who were lawful Swedish residents on or before 31 December 2020, and are seeking to retain their right to reside in Sweden beyond that date, were originally required to apply to extend their residence status with the Swedish authorities no later than 30 September 2021.

This deadline has moved to the end of the 2021 calendar year. UK citizens and their qualifying dependents who fail to file applications to extend their Swedish residence status by 31 December 2021 will be considered unlawful residents of Sweden after that date, and subject to penalties for non-compliance with Swedish immigration laws.

Travelers with non-EU/EEA vaccination certificates

Holders of COVID-19 vaccination certificates issued in Northern Macedonia, San Marino, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the Vatican are now permitted to enter Sweden without getting tested for COVID-19 prior to their travel.

In addition, third-country nationals who hold an EU Digital COVID Certificate are no longer required to get tested for COVID-19 prior to their travel.

Travelers from six countries temporarily barred from entry

Sweden-bound individuals seeking to travel from Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brunei, Japan or Serbia are temporarily prohibited from entering Sweden. Previously, these travelers were admissible provided that they satisfied all other entry requirements (e.g., pre-travel testing).

Uruguay was recently removed from Sweden’s list of banned countries. Travelers from Uruguay may now enter Sweden provided that they satisfy all other entry requirements.

Key steps

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

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