

Argentina

Automatic extensions of expiring/expired immigration documents to come to an end

Executive summary

The Argentine Ministry of the Interior recently instructed the country's immigration authorities to stop issuing automatic extensions for expired and expiring immigration documents held by foreigners who are in or outside of Argentina. The final automatic extension was granted on 23 June 2021 and is valid for 15 days from that date, i.e., until 8 July 2021.

Background

Foreigners must be physically present in Argentina to renew or extend their expiring immigration documents, such as residence and work permits. On 17 March 2020, following from the outbreak of COVID-19, all government offices were closed. Given that individuals applying to extend/renew their immigration documents must appear in person at the offices of the Argentine immigration authorities to complete their extension/renewal process, the Argentine authorities began automatically extending the validity of immigration documents that expired on/after 17 March 2020, in 30-day increments.

Action(s) required by individuals with expiring documents The final automatic extension on expiring/expired immigration documents is valid until 8 July 2021. Accordingly, foreigners holding immigration documents that are set to expire on or before 8 July 2021 must apply to extend/renew their immigration documents no more than 15 days after their document's expiry date (i.e. on or before 23 July 2021). This measure impacts individuals with expired or expiring

technical and business visas, as well as temporary residents, such as intra-company transfers, local hires and their dependent family members. Individuals who are outside of Argentina, who are seeking to extend their Argentine immigration documents, must travel to Argentina and file their renewal/extension application from within the country on or before 23 July 2021 (depending on expiry date of their immigration document). Impacted individuals who are unable to re-enter Argentina and file their extension applications before the end of the 15-day grace period from the date of expiry of their immigration document (e.g., individuals who are unable to travel due to restrictions resulting from COVID-19), will need to apply for a new immigration document in order to obtain the immigration status in Argentina that they held previously.

Next steps

Argentine employers and foreigners with expiring Argentine immigration documents need to take immediate action to ensure that the foreigners who currently have valid immigration status in Argentina remain compliant with local immigration rules. In some cases, Argentine sponsors have an obligation to notify the Argentine immigration authorities, for example, in connection with local hires who are not seeking to extend/renew their status in Argentina.

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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