

Mobility: Immigration alert

January 2022



Russia

New medical exam, photo and fingerprint requirement for foreign travelers

Executive summary

Foreigners entering Russia on or after 29 December 2021 must register their local residence, undergo a medical exam at an approved clinic and submit their photo and fingerprints to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, with limited exceptions.

Key issues

Foreign nationals entering Russia to work, including citizens of [Eurasian Economic Union](#) member states and highly qualified specialists with or without permanent residence permits, must complete these requirements no more than 30 calendar days after entering Russia. Foreigners entering for purposes other than work, including business visitors and family members of foreigners entering Russia to work, must complete these requirements no more than 90 calendar days after arrival.

Foreigners must register their place of residence in Russia. Typically, this is handled by hotel staff or the landlord of the accommodation where they will stay. Once complete, foreigners will receive a registration coupon. They must then visit a government-approved clinic, provide their registration coupon and other documents (e.g., notarized translations of their passports) and undergo a medical exam, which tests for narcotics and psychotropic substances and several medical conditions (e.g., syphilis, tuberculosis, leprosy, COVID-19, HIV). Provided that the foreigners are deemed to be in good health, they will be issued a medical certificate confirming the same within five working days of the exam. They must then appear in person before the Ministry of Internal Affairs to file their medical certificate, have their photo taken and submit their fingerprints. Foreigners will then be issued a biometric

identification card that contains their full name, date of birth, country of citizenship, gender, passport information, photo and biometric information (i.e., fingerprints).

Individuals who are currently in Russia are not subject to these requirements unless they depart and re-enter Russia. These individuals must complete the new requirements upon their first return to Russia on or after 29 December 2021.

Under the new rules, foreigners must submit their photos and fingerprints once, and undergo a medical exam every three months. The Russian authorities may change the frequency of the mandatory medical exam in the near future.

Exemptions

Citizens of Belarus are exempt from these requirements, as are children under the age of six. Foreigners entering to work in Russia for less than 30 days per calendar year, and those who enter for purposes other than work for less than 90 days per calendar year, are also exempt.

Penalties for noncompliance

Individuals who fail to comply with these requirements may be ordered to leave Russia and/or barred from re-entering.

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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EYG no. 000145-22Gbl

2101-3682263
ED None

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