Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2022

Brazil

Digital nomads now eligible to work from Brazil

Executive summary

Effective 24 January 2022, digital nomads may work in Brazil for up to two years.

Background

In general, the term "digital nomads" refers to individuals who are employed and receive salaries and benefits in one country (i.e., the home country) but work remotely from another country (i.e., the host country). Digital nomads are typically not permitted to earn remuneration in the host country, as the purpose of admitting digital nomads is to attract foreign spending to the host country on a temporary basis without permitting the digital nomads to enter into the host country's local labor market.

Brazil defines digital nomads as foreign nationals who are employed by companies registered outside of Brazil and provide services to non-Brazil entities using information and communication technologies (e.g., laptops, phones). Digital nomads are prohibited from receiving remuneration from Brazilian sources and performing work or delivering services that generate revenue for Brazilian entities.

Key issues

Effective 24 January 2022, digital nomads may work in Brazil for up to one year initially, by applying for and obtaining a residence permit based on Normative Resolution No. 45, otherwise known as a digital nomad visa. Foreigners who are outside of Brazil may submit their digital nomad visa applications to the Brazilian Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction over their home country or country of residence. Applicants located in Brazil may depart the country and apply from abroad, or they may avail of the Brazilian immigration authorities' "MigranteWeb" online platform if they are applying from within Brazil. The nomad visa can be extended for an additional year at the discretion of the Brazilian immigration authorities, for a maximum cumulative stay of up to two years.

To be considered eligible for a digital nomad visa, foreigners must prove that:

- They will receive a monthly income of at least \$1,500 USD (or its equivalent in another currency) throughout their stay in Brazil as digital nomads
- Their work activities in Brazil will be carried out using information and communication technologies exclusively
- They hold medical insurance policies that cover the cost of medical treatments (including COVID-19 related medical care) during their stay in Brazil

COVID-19 related entry requirements

In general, new entrants are required to take a reverse transmission polymerase chain reaction (RT PCR) COVID-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to travel, or an antigen COVID-19 test no more than 24 hours prior to travel, and test negative to be admitted to Brazil. Travelers who transit through another country en route to Brazil and remain in the transit country for more than 72 hours (or 24 hours) must take another RT PCR (or antigen) COVID-19 test in the transit country and test negative to be admitted to Brazil.



Individuals who previously tested positive for COVID-19 and have recovered and are asymptomatic are not eligible to take an antigen COVID-19 test prior to travel. These travelers are required to take an RT PCR COVID-19 no more than 72 hours prior to travel, and test negative. They must also take an RT PCR COVID-19 test 14 days beforehand (the result of this test may be negative or positive). Recovered travelers must also carry a certificate from a medical professional or institution in their country of residence, stating that the traveler is asymptomatic and able to travel. The certificate must be in Portuguese, Spanish or English. Certificates issued in other languages should be translated to Portuguese, Spanish or English and accompanied by a sworn declaration from the translator. Recovered travelers who transit through another country en route to Brazil and remain in the transit country for more than 72 hours must take another RT PCR COVID-19 test in the transit country and test negative to be admitted.

All travelers are still required to complete and submit an online <u>health declaration</u> no more than 24 hours prior to travel and carry proof that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. To be considered fully vaccinated for purposes of entry into Brazil, travelers must have received all required (non-booster) doses of a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the World Health Organization and receive the final (non-booster) dose at least 14 days prior to travel.

Key steps

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

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