

Sweden

New requirements for immigration applications

Executive summary

Effective 1 November 2022, individuals who seek to apply for new Swedish work and residence permits or extend their existing permits will be required to present their original passports in person as part of the application process.

First-time applications

Individuals who require a visa to enter Sweden (i.e., visa nationals), who apply for new work or residence permits, or have pending applications, will be required to present their original passports when attending their biometrics appointment at a Swedish embassy or consulate. Currently, these applicants are only required to submit electronic copies of their passports.

In addition, foreign nationals who do not require a visa to enter Sweden (i.e., visa-exempt nationals), who seek to apply for a work or residence permit, will need to appear in person at a Swedish embassy or consulate and present their original passport. Currently, these individuals may submit electronic copies of their passports as part of the application process and are not required to make a personal appearance at an embassy or consulate.

Extension applications

Individuals who seek to extend their valid work and residence permits will be required to present their original passports in person at an office of the Migration Agency in Sweden when requested by the local authorities. Currently, they are only required to submit electronic copies of their passports.

Impact on employers

The new requirements are expected to increase government processing times for new work and residence permit applications (up from four months currently) and extension applications (up from six months currently).

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. 009394-22Gbl

2101-3682263 ED None

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