

Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2023



China Mainland

Resumption of visa issuance and 72/144-hour visa-free transit policy for Japanese nationals

Executive summary

Effective 29 January 2023, the Chinese authorities resumed the issuance of visas to Japanese nationals and lifted the suspension on the 72/144-hour visa-free transit policy for these individuals.

Key developments

Japanese nationals can now continue to apply for visas at Chinese embassies and consulates globally. In addition, they can once again transit through certain Chinese airports without obtaining a visa, provided they remain in the jurisdiction for up to 72 or 144 hours and meet all [requirements](#).

On 10 January 2023, the Chinese authorities [suspended](#) the issuance of certain visas (e.g., visas for the purpose of business, tourism and transit) to Japanese nationals. On 12 January 2023, they then suspended the 72/144-hour visa-free transit policy for these individuals.

Impact on employers

This development is expected to enable employers to resume the timely deployment of Japanese nationals to China Mainland for assignment, employment or short-term business purposes.

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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