

Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2023



Azerbaijan

Relaxation in documentation requirements, new work permit exemptions

Executive summary

Effective 7 February 2023, foreign nationals who seek to apply for certain visas and permits are subject to relaxed documentation requirements. In addition, effective 1 January 2023, specific foreign nationals working in Azerbaijan's technology parks are no longer required to obtain work permits to conduct work in the country.

Relaxed documentation requirements

On 20 December 2022, the government implemented the Law on the Amendments to the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Pursuant to this law, foreign nationals who apply for certain visas and permits (e.g., extension of temporary stay, temporary residence and work permits) after 7 February 2023 are not required to submit documents to the immigration authorities during the application process if these documents are already available on the [online](#) Electronic Government Information System. In these cases, the immigration authorities will retrieve these documents directly from this online system. Applicants are still required to submit documents directly to the immigration authorities if they are not available on the Electronic Government Information System, or provide consent to the government department that has issued the document to share it with the immigration authorities. Further details are awaited regarding the new documentation requirements.

Relaxed work permit requirements

On 27 December 2022, the Amendments to the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan went into effect. Pursuant to this law, effective 1 January 2023, the following categories of individuals may work and apply for authorization to reside in Azerbaijan without obtaining work permits:

- ▶ Heads or deputies of legal entities that are registered as "technopark residents" in Azerbaijan
- ▶ Specialists with professional experience in the field of information and communication technology who are employed by these "residents" and perform work in the territory of Azerbaijan
- ▶ Foreign nationals who carry out entrepreneurial activities without creating a legal entity and hold a technopark registration certificate

A "technopark resident" refers to a legal entity operating in the technopark or outside it, or an individual who carries out entrepreneurial activities in the technopark without creating a legal entity and has received a technopark registration certificate.

Impact on employers

These developments are expected to benefit companies that employ impacted individuals by relaxing immigration compliance requirements and reducing the time needed to deploy these individuals to Azerbaijan's technology parks.

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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