

Mobility: Immigration alert

December 2023

Qatar

Updated residency and visit visa requirements for family members

Executive summary

On 5 December 2023, the Ministry of Interior [updated the rules and procedures](#) regulating the entry of permanent residents' family members intending to visit or reside in Qatar. These updated rules and procedures have been implemented with immediate effect from the date of the announcement (i.e., 5 December 2023).

Family residence visas

Under the updated regulations, individuals sponsoring their family members for family residency visas will be subject to the conditions listed in their employment contract. Effective 5 December 2023, government and semi-government employees sponsoring their family members must ensure family accommodation through their employer or have a minimum monthly salary of QAR 10,000 (as confirmed by the employment contract). Private sector employees must be employed in a technical or specialized role with a minimum monthly salary of QAR 6,000 and family accommodation through their employer, or a minimum monthly salary of QAR 10,000 (as confirmed by the employment contract). Moreover, proof of health insurance covering the entire duration of the stay in Qatar is required. Previously, family accommodation was not a requirement for family residence visa sponsorship and the minimum monthly salary needed to be eligible to apply for family residence visas was QAR 15,000.

Individuals who seek to renew or obtain residence permits for children between the ages of 6 and 18, are required to register their children in accredited schools in Qatar, or provide evidence of their enrollment in educational institutions outside the country.

Family visit visas

Effective 5 December 2023, individuals sponsoring their family members for visit visas must have a profession in the non-labor sector, a minimum monthly salary of QAR 5,000 and family accommodation verified by the relevant authorities. The visitor must be a family member of the applicant within the permitted degree of relationship and have health insurance covering their entire duration of stay in Qatar.

Impact on employers

Employers may ensure that impacted employees have access to the necessary documentation required to satisfy the new requirements pertaining to family residence visa and family visit visa applications.

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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