



Global Immigration alert

June 2024

France

Delays in immigration application processing expected due to the upcoming Olympic Games

Executive summary

Immigration application processing in France is expected to be impacted in the upcoming months as the country prepares to host the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

Key developments

France is set to host the Olympic Games from 26 July 2024 to 11 August 2024 and the Paralympic Games from 28 August 2024 to 8 September 2024. EY anticipates an estimated 70,000 visa applications will be filed ahead of the Olympics.

Individuals seeking to travel to France in the upcoming months for work or business purposes are required to submit visa applications to the French consulate in their country of residence or citizenship, following the usual process. Regarding secondment of foreign nationals for work during the Games, visa and work authorization requirements will vary based on nationality, duration of stay and type of work activity. Certain individuals are exempt from short-term work permit requirements, including direct participants of major sporting events (such as the Olympics) and individuals engaged in specialized activities in audit, finance or management. Regardless of whether an exemption applies, all individuals who seek to conduct work activities are required, in principle, complete a Posted Worker Notification on the SIPSI online platform prior to undertaking work.

To streamline the process for members of the "Olympic family" (e.g., athletes, their teams, accredited journalists), a dedicated consulate has been established in Nantes, France. This consulate,

operational since 1 January 2024, prioritizes visa applications from these individuals and processes them free of charge.

Individuals may use the [France-Visas](#) portal to assess whether they need a visa and, if so, to identify application requirements based on their residency or nationality.

All third-country nationals entering the Schengen Area are required to adhere to the conditions set forth by European and national regulations.

Impact on employers

Companies may support their employees with filing relevant (business visa or work permit) applications as soon as possible to avoid potential delays and mitigate business disruptions.

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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