



Global Immigration alert

July 2024

Sweden

Stricter requirements expected for family members who accompany Swedish residence permit holders

Executive summary

On 9 July 2024, the Swedish Minister for Migration announced that the government plans to appoint an investigator to propose stricter regulations governing the issuance of residence permits to family members of residence permit holders.

Key developments

The Swedish authorities plan to commission an investigation to examine the requirements for granting residence permits based on family ties. The investigator's responsibilities include:

- ▶ Evaluating how to limit the scope of the definition of "family members" who are eligible for residence permits
- ▶ Proposing stricter maintenance requirements for family members of residence permit holders and determining whether such requirements need to be introduced in cases where no such requirement exists currently
- ▶ Examining the possibility of introducing mandatory health insurance as a prerequisite for family members of residence permit holders
- ▶ Analyzing the current regulations regarding DNA analysis to verify biological relationships, with the aim of expanding the applicability of such testing
- ▶ Deciding whether to tighten or clarify the regulations on denying residence permits to individuals who have been deported from Sweden for committing crimes against family members and who later apply for residence permits based on ties to the same family members

The investigator is expected to submit a report by 25 August 2025. Further details will be announced by the Swedish government in the upcoming months.

Impact on employers

If the legislation is amended based on the investigator's expected report, family members of residence permit holders may be subject to heightened eligibility and application requirements when applying for residence permits.

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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