

Global Immigration alert

August 2024



South Africa

Simplified requirements for Zimbabwe Exemption Permit holders applying for General Work Visas

Executive summary

Effective 6 August 2024, the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) simplified the application requirements for Zimbabwe Exemption Permit (ZEP) holders who seek to obtain General Work Visas (GWVs).

Key developments

ZEP holders seeking to apply for GWVs are no longer required to obtain a recommendation letter from the Department of Employment and Labour (DOL) prior to applying or submit proof of educational qualifications assessed by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) as part of their application. This change impacts all GWV applications submitted to the DHA on or before 6 August 2024 that are still pending adjudication, as well as those submitted after this date.

Impact on employers

This change is expected to benefit employers by simplifying and streamlining the GWV application process for ZEP holders. Employers may assess their employees' immigration status and consider internal policy changes to access the potential advantages offered by this new waiver.

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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