



Global Immigration alert

September 2024

Brazil

Delays in registration appointments for foreign employees and other foreign nationals

Executive summary

As of early September 2024, several categories of foreign nationals who have applied for Brazilian visas or permits are facing delays in completing immigration processes due to delays in obtaining appointment slots with the authorities in São Paulo.

Key developments

The delays are largely due to the unavailability of appointments with the Federal Police of São Paulo resulting from the current large volume of applications being processed. The following individuals are impacted, as of the time of publication:

- ▶ Visa holders, including foreign employees, who entered Brazil recently or are scheduled to arrive in the upcoming days/weeks. These individuals are required to register their stay within 90 days of entry. However, registration appointments for these individuals are currently only available as of the last week of October 2024. Generally, these appointments are available within 20 to 30 days of the individual entering the country.
- ▶ Foreign nationals who obtain authorization to reside in Brazil or complete other in-country processes (e.g., renewing their authorization, converting their status to another immigration category). These individuals are required to register with the Federal Police within 30 days of their application being approved. However, registration appointments for these individuals are also only available as of the last week of October 2024. Generally, these appointments are available within 20 to 30 days of their application being approved.

- ▶ Foreign nationals who seek to obtain authorization to reside in Brazil pursuant to international agreements, such as the Mercosur agreement, the Brazil-Argentina bilateral treaty and Interministerial Ordinance 19. These individuals are required to apply for residence authorization with the Federal Police. Currently, appointments for these individuals are only available two to three months after they request an appointment. Generally, these appointments are available within 20 to 30 days of making the request.

Impact on employers

The current situation may lead to delays in foreign employees receiving authorization to begin work with their Brazilian employer and result in penalties for these individuals and their employers. Companies may remain abreast of appointment availability and support employees with completing all required processes as soon as possible to mitigate delays and 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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