

Global Immigration alert

November 2025

Malaysia

New online platform for Employment Pass applications in Sarawak state

Executive summary

Effective 1 November 2025, employers are required to apply for Sarawak state Employment Pass (EP) applications via a new online platform.

Background

In Malaysia, the state of Sarawak maintains autonomy over its own immigration borders. Non-Sarawakians (i.e., Malaysians from Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah, as well as foreign nationals) are required to obtain a permit to work in Sarawak. Previously, Sarawak work permit applications were customarily prepared and submitted manually at Sarawak immigration offices.

Key developments

The Immigration Labour Management Unit (ILMU) recently launched the “Advanced Labour & Immigration Aligned Network for Compliance System (ALIANCE)” [platform](#) for new EP applications. Companies are required to create an account on ALIANCE before they can submit new EP applications via the Gateway & Employment for Non-Sarawakians (GENESIS) [portal](#), on the ALIANCE platform.

The launch of the new online platform is part of the ILMU’s “Foreign Workers Transformation Approach” project, which aims to digitize and streamline the work permit application process. Currently, only new EP applications are required to be submitted via the online platform. The authorities are planning to expand the online platform to include EP renewals, Professional Visit Pass (PVP) and Dependent Pass (DP) applications in the future.

Impact on employers

Over time, these changes are expected to simplify and streamline the EP application process, reduce errors and enhance the application process for employers and the Sarawak immigration offices. In the short term, these changes may impact existing EP applications as additional time may be required to transition these applications into the online platform. Employers may update internal processes and inform impacted employees about the new requirement to manage employee expectations and mitigate potential 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.



Shape the future
with confidence

EY | Building a better working world

EY is building a better working world by creating new value for clients, people, society and the planet, while building trust in capital markets.

Enabled by data, AI and advanced technology, EY teams help clients shape the future with confidence and develop answers for the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

EY teams work across a full spectrum of services in assurance, consulting, tax, strategy and transactions. Fueled by sector insights, a globally connected, multi-disciplinary network and diverse ecosystem partners, EY teams can provide services in more than 150 countries and territories.

All in to shape the future with confidence.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

© 2025 Ernst & Young LLP.
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 009803-25GbI

2101-3682263
ED None

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com

Irene Ang
Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +603-7495-8306
Email: irene.ang@my.ey.com

Cynthia Wong
Associate Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +603-7495-8129
Email: cynthia.wong@my.ey.com

Jehan Iskandar
Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +603-7495-8286
Email: jehan.iskandar@my.ey.com