

Global Immigration alert

January 2026

Kuwait

Kuwait increases annual health insurance fees for certain residence permits and implements fees for entry, visit and transit categories

Executive summary

Effective 23 December 2025, Kuwait's Ministry of Health increased the annual health insurance fees for certain categories of residence permits, and implemented new health insurance fees for entry, visit and transit visa categories, per press reports.

Key developments

According to the new Executive Regulations to Law No. 1 of 1999, health insurance fees of KWD 100 (up from KWD 50) now apply to the following categories of individuals who hold a residence permit:

- Government sector employees (Article 17)
- Private sector employees (Article 18)
- Foreign partners (spouses) (Article 19)
- Foreign investors (Article 21)
- Foreign students (Article 23)
- Self-sponsored foreign nationals (Article 24)
- Foreign nationals who own property in Kuwait (Article 25)
- Foreign nationals who are granted residence to perform religious work (Article 31)
- All newly established residence categories

In addition, the authorities implemented a new health insurance fee of KWD 5 for transit and entry visas. Entry visas are issued to eligible individuals who apply for residence for purposes such as employment in the government or private sector, commercial or industrial activities, family or dependent sponsorship, studies, foreign investment, temporary government contracts or temporary work in the oil sector.

For visit visas, health insurance fees are determined in accordance with the private sector health insurance system. These fees apply to official, business, family, private, medical, tourist, sports, cultural and social visit categories.

Impact on employers

Employers may inform impacted employees about the new requirements and update their internal processes 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.



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.

© 2026 EYGM Limited.
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 000452-26Gbl

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

Xavier Brun

Partner - People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration
Tel: + +973 1713 5249
Email: xavier.brun@bh.ey.com

Zina Zaidan

Manager - People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration
Tel: + +974 4457 4179
Email: zina.zaidan1@qa.ey.com

Ben Willis

Partner - EY Global Immigration Competency Lead
Tel: +44 20 7951 9589
Email: ben.willis@uk.ey.com