

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.

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