

Global Immigration alert

February 2026

Ireland

Ireland extends temporary travel measure for IRP renewal applicants until 28 February 2026

Executive summary

On 30 January 2026, the Irish immigration authorities [extended](#) the validity of the Travel Confirmation Notice to 28 February 2026 to support individuals who seek to depart from and re-enter Ireland while their Irish Residence Permit (IRP) renewal application is still being processed.

Background

Since October 2025, the Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) faced ongoing delays in the IRP renewal process, resulting in longer processing timelines for applicants. In response, the authorities introduced a temporary Travel Confirmation Notice for the holiday season to support eligible foreign nationals who were awaiting their renewed IRP card. Continued delays have now prompted the ISD to extend this measure through the end of February 2026.

Key developments

The ISD now allows qualifying individuals to travel using the Travel Confirmation Notice between 8 December 2025 and 28 February 2026. Eligible individuals may depart from and return to Ireland with their recently expired IRP card, the Travel Confirmation Notice, and proof that they submitted their IRP renewal application before the card expired. This extension aims to offer applicants greater certainty during a period of increased processing demand.

Visa-required nationals who do not qualify for the Travel Confirmation Notice, or who intend to return to Ireland after 28 February 2026, may, in exceptional circumstances only, request a D-entry visa from their nearest Irish embassy or consulate after reaching their travel destination. Re-entry visas can take several weeks to be issued, which means the individual would not be able to return to Ireland for an extended period.

Impact on employers

Employers may communicate this development to employees and review their situations on a case-by-case basis 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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