

Global Immigration alert

February 2026

Indonesia

Indonesia launches Global Citizenship of Indonesia (GCI) program

Executive summary

On 26 January 2026, Indonesia launched the Global Citizenship of Indonesia (GCI) program. The program provides a pathway to permanent residence status for eligible foreign nationals with strong ties to the country and addresses dual citizenship challenges while maintaining Indonesia's single-citizenship principle.

Background

The GCI program aims to address complexities relating to dual citizenship. Indonesia does not currently allow its nationals to also hold citizenship in a second country. The GCI program allows foreign nationals with ancestral, family and cultural connections to Indonesia to obtain permanent residence status in Indonesia under the GCI program, without forfeiting their citizenship in another country.

Key developments

Eligibility for the GCI program is limited to foreign nationals with Indonesian roots, including:

- Former Indonesian nationals (i.e., "Warga Negara Indonesia" (WNI)).
- Descendants of former WNI up to the second generation.
- Legal spouses of WNI or former WNI, provided the marriage is registered in accordance with the Indonesian marriage law and registered with the Indonesia Civil Registry Office. Same-sex marriage is not recognized by Indonesian law.
- Children born from legally recognized marriages between Indonesian nationals and foreign nationals.

The following individuals are not eligible to apply under the GCI program:

- Nationals of countries formerly under Indonesian control (i.e., Timor-Leste)
- Individuals involved in separatist activities (i.e., individuals who participated in movements or actions aimed at breaking away from Indonesia or creating independent states)
- Individuals serving in foreign armed forces, civil service or intelligence agencies

Key benefits of the GCI program for successful applicants include:

- *Permanent residence:* The GCI grants permanent residence status and does not expire. It also does not require impacted individuals to renew or reapply for their status.
- *Retention of current citizenship:* Applicants may retain their existing (non-Indonesian) nationality while complying with Indonesia's single-citizenship framework.
- *Legal and secure connection to Indonesia:* The GCI addresses long-term residence concerns for foreign spouses of Indonesian nationals, Indonesian children or children with ties to Indonesia who are under the age of 18 (and who are required by that age to choose their country of nationality), families with members who are of different nationalities, and individuals who formerly held Indonesian citizenship and seek to return to reside in the country.



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GCI status does not automatically confer authorization to work in Indonesia for an Indonesian employer. Individuals who are in Indonesia pursuant to the GCI program and seek to work for an Indonesian employer are required to apply for and obtain Indonesian work authorization. Further details regarding procedures and regulations are expected in subsequent government announcements.

Impact

The GCI program is expected to provide Indonesian employers access to a larger talent pool, and to reduce the time and costs associated with applying for work and residence authorization for impacted individuals.

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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