

# Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2023



## Vietnam

### New online system for obtaining Entry Visa approval letters

#### Executive summary

Effective 1 March 2023, companies located in Ho Chi Minh City and provinces in South Vietnam that seek to sponsor certain visas for foreign nationals must submit online applications to obtain Entry Visa approval letters.

#### Background

Eligible foreign nationals who seek to apply for Business Visas, Work Visas or Dependent Visas must obtain an Entry Visa prior to traveling to Vietnam. Currently, companies located in Ho Chi Minh City and provinces in South Vietnam that seek to sponsor these individuals must submit an application in person to the Ho Chi Minh City Immigration Bureau to obtain an Entry Visa approval letter. The Immigration Bureau issues a physical approval letter, and the company sends it to the applicant in their home country or country of residence. The applicant then visits the Vietnamese embassy or consulate in their country and presents the approval letter, along with other documents, to obtain an Entry Visa.

#### Key developments

With the implementation of an online system, companies will be required to obtain tokens from authorized vendors in Vietnam, which will enable them to access the new system. They will also need to create an online account on the portal of the Vietnamese immigration authorities. Once companies obtain a token and create an online account with the immigration authorities, they must submit applications to obtain Entry Visa approval letters on the [website](#) of the Ministry of Public Service. The Ho Chi Minh City Immigration Bureau will review the

applications and issue electronic approval letters via email to the company, which will forward it to the applicant. The applicant must print the approval letter and present it to the Vietnamese embassy or consulate in their country to obtain an Entry Visa.

All other visa applications submitted to the Ho Chi Minh City Immigration Bureau must continue to be filed in person.

#### Impact on employers

The new online system is expected to streamline and expedite the application process for foreign nationals who seek to visit Vietnam for business or work.

#### 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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**Anh Thi-Kim Ngo**  
Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Tel: +84 909779254  
Email: [anh.kim.ngo@vn.ey.com](mailto:anh.kim.ngo@vn.ey.com)

**Thao Huong Da Dong**  
Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Tel: +84 899319891  
Email: [thao.huong.da.dong@vn.ey.co](mailto:thao.huong.da.dong@vn.ey.co)