

Mobility: Immigration alert

July 2023

Czech Republic

Long-Term Visas now available to digital nomads

Executive summary

Effective 28 June 2023, digital nomads who are nationals of specific countries and work in IT or STEM fields, and their family members, are eligible to obtain Czech Long-Term Visas.

Background

In general, the term “digital nomads” refers to individuals who are employed and receive salaries and benefits in one country (i.e., the home country) but work remotely from another country (i.e., the host country). Digital nomads are typically not permitted to earn remuneration in the host country.

Key developments

On 28 June 2023, the Czech government introduced Digital Nomads, a new program for nationals of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan, the UK and the US who work in IT (information technology) or STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) fields and seek to enter the Czech Republic as digital nomads for long-term stays (i.e., more than 90 days). Applicants may qualify as digital nomads under two categories:

- ▶ Those who are employed by a company outside the Czech Republic and work remotely from within the Czech Republic can apply for a Long-Term Visa for “Other” Purposes.
- ▶ Those who provide IT services to entities on a freelance basis from within the Czech Republic, based on a Czech trade licence, can apply for a Long-Term Visa for “Business.”

Individuals who meet all requirements and register for the Digital Nomads program will be issued an appointment for submitting their Long-Term Visa application at the Czech embassy or consulate in their country of citizenship or residence. These applications will be eligible for expedited processing and are expected to be processed within 45 days from the date of submission.

Qualifying family members (i.e., spouses or common-law partners and children) of digital nomads can also register for the program and apply for Long-Term Visas for “Family” Purposes at the same time as the principal applicant.

Impact on employers

The Czech Republic joins a growing list of countries that have introduced visas and permits for digital nomads and remote workers following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Non-Czech employers that allow teleworking may consider the Czech Republic as a potential destination for their employees who are seeking to work remotely.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

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.

Ernst & Young LLP is a client-serving member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited operating in the US.

© 2023 Ernst & Young LLP.
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 006881-23Gbl

2101-3682263
ED None

ey.com

Martina Kneiflova

Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +420 731 627 041
Email: martina.kneiflova@cz.ey.com

Jan Lachmann

Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +420 730 191 759
Email: jan.lachmann@cz.ey.com

Eva Babincova

Senior Consultant - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +420 735 729 341
Email: eva.babincova@cz.ey.com