

Philippines

Philippines launches online platform for several immigration applications

Executive summary

On 12 July 2023, the Philippines Bureau of Immigration launched an online platform that allows individuals to submit certain immigration applications electronically. It is expected that the new portal will soon be expanded to allow eligible individuals to submit work, business and student visa applications online.

Key developments

Eligible individuals may now submit the following immigration applications electronically on the <u>eServices</u> platform:

- ► Tourist visa extension requests
- Visa waiver requests submitted by individuals who enter the Philippines without a visa based on their nationality (i.e., visa-free nationals) and seek to extend their stay in the country beyond the initial visa-free period of 30 days
- Requests for travel documents submitted by holders of Alien Certificate of Registration Identity Cards who depart the Philippines temporarily (e.g., Certificates of Exemption, Re-entry Permits, Special Return Certificates)
- Waiver of Exclusion Ground, which enables children below
 15 to enter the Philippines without a parent or guardian
- Dual citizenship

Impact on employers

The introduction of online application services is expected to reduce costs and resources for employers by decreasing paperwork and processing times and providing them easier access to their employees' documentation.

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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