



Global Immigration alert

June 2024

Denmark

Denmark approves new education-related residence scheme

Executive summary

On 4 June 2024, the Danish parliament passed a proposal to introduce a new education-related residence scheme which would allow qualifying third-country nationals who are enrolled in studies within fields experiencing labor shortages to remain in Denmark and complete their studies even if they no longer meet the conditions for staying in the country. This scheme will go into effect on 1 July 2024.

Key developments

Effective 1 July 2024, the new “educational attachment” scheme will facilitate the continuation of stay for all eligible third-country nationals (i.e., individuals from countries located outside the EU and EEA) who are granted a residence permit but no longer meet the conditions of their current permit. These individuals will be able to continue residing in Denmark provided they are enrolled in specific educational programs aligned with industries experiencing a labor shortage, as outlined in the [Positive List](#). These programs include vocational courses for certain occupations (e.g., health and social care assistant, chef, carpenter) and higher education programs for other professions (e.g., doctor, nurse, IT engineer).

The educational attachment scheme will also impact qualifying individuals whose residence permits either expired (or will expire) or were/are revoked between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2024. These individuals will be able to remain in Denmark provided they were (are) enrolled in an eligible field of study when they lost (lose) their permit.

In addition, the authorities will introduce a “change of education” scheme for individuals who are granted a residence permit under the educational attachment scheme but seek to change to another field experiencing a labor shortage.

Individuals who are granted residence permits under the educational attachment or change of education schemes will also be granted a permit to stay in Denmark for up to six months after completing their studies to seek employment in Denmark.

Impact on employers

The new scheme will benefit employers by providing them greater access to talent from outside the EU and EEA.

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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