

# Global Immigration alert

March 2025

## Malaysia

Electronic format introduced for certain passes

### Executive summary

The Expatriate Services Division (ESD) and Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) recently introduced electronic versions of certain passes.

### Issuance of electronic passes

Effective 1 March 2025, the ESD and MDEC began issuing electronic passes (i.e., ePASS) instead of physical stickers for new applications filed under the following immigration categories:

- Employment Pass Category I, II and III
- Professional Visit Pass
- Residence Pass-Talent
- Dependant's Pass
- Long Term Social Visit Pass
- Transfer of Endorsement/Take Up Balance

The new pass issuance process is as follows:

- For applications submitted to the ESD: Applicants who travel to Malaysia for the first time must collect a printout of their ePASS from an Expatriate Satellite Centre (ESC) at a Malaysian airport upon arrival.
- For applications submitted to the MDEC: Applicants who travel to Malaysia for the first time will have their ePASS uploaded to their employer's account on the MDEC portal after their entry into Malaysia and cannot collect a printout of their pass from an ESC or any physical office.

An exception to this change in process is applications sponsored by public universities and government agencies. Physical passes will continue to be issued in these cases. There is no change in the format of passes in case of extension applications

filed under the impacted categories as individuals who file extension applications are already being issued an ePASS.

### Impact on employers

These changes are expected to streamline the immigration processes for eligible 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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