

Global Immigration alert

March 2025

United Arab Emirates

UAE expands visa on arrival facility to additional categories of Indian nationals

Executive summary

On 14 February 2025, the Emirates News Agency published an [article](#) according to which, the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs & Port Security has announced the expansion of the UAE's visa on arrival service to additional categories of Indian nationals.

Key developments

Effective 13 February 2025, Indian nationals who hold valid visas, residence permits or green cards issued by any of the following six countries are eligible for the visa on arrival service: Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore and South Korea. This service enables eligible individuals to obtain an entry visa to the UAE as a visitor for a period of 14 days, which can be extended once for an additional 14 days. To avail this service, individuals must also hold an Indian passport that is valid for at least six months.

These six new countries have been added to the eligibility list, which already included the UK, the US and the EU Member States.

According to the Dubai General Directorate for Identity and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFAD), to avail the visa on arrival service, individuals must register on the GDRFAD [website](#), apply for a visa and pay the relevant fee. Once the authorities approve the application, the visa is sent to the applicant's email.

Impact on employers

This development is expected to benefit employers that deploy individuals to the UAE for business purposes (e.g., attending meetings) by reducing the time and costs associated with their admission.

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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