

# Global Immigration alert

May 2025

## Colombia

Colombia introduces new vaccination requirement and declares national health emergency due to yellow fever outbreak

### Executive summary

On 16 April 2025, Colombia's Ministry of Health and Social Protection introduced a new vaccination requirement and declared a national health emergency due to a yellow fever outbreak affecting several regions within the country.

### Key developments

The Colombian authorities recently enacted Resolution No. 691, which introduces special measures that significantly impact Colombian nationals, residents and foreign nationals, both upon entry to country and when traveling to high-risk areas within the country and in the region. The new measures apply to individuals who:

- Enter Colombia from countries (or areas within those countries) that are considered a risk for yellow fever transmission
- Travel to areas within Colombia that are considered "very high" or "high risk" for yellow fever
- Depart from Colombia to countries (or areas within those countries) that require travelers to be vaccinated against yellow fever as a condition for entry

The Colombian health authorities may request that impacted travelers present vaccination certificates in addition to standard documents, such as passports, visas and foreign ID cards. Travelers who fail to present the requested documents may be denied admission, temporarily prohibited from departing the country, or face other restrictions (e.g., be ordered to get vaccinated prior to traveling within the country).

To comply with the new requirements, the Colombian authorities recommend that travelers:

- Verify whether their destination or point of origin requires them to get vaccinated against yellow fever prior to travel
- Carry a physical certificate (Yellow Fever Card) or an internationally accepted digital version confirming that the individual was vaccinated at least ten days prior to travel
- Keep essential documents up to date, including passports, visas, itineraries and foreign ID cards (if applicable)
- Schedule vaccination appointments in advance of travel at vaccination centers designated by the Colombian Ministry of Health if they have not yet been vaccinated

The Colombian authorities have also launched a mass vaccination campaign domestically with a focus on at-risk individuals and areas that are considered "very high" or "high risk" for yellow fever. Unvaccinated individuals will face mobility restrictions mainly in active outbreak zones and high-risk municipalities (e.g., Cunday, Dolores, Prado, Purificación, Villarrica).

### Impact on employers

Employers that send impacted employees to Colombia (or from Colombia to international destinations) for business or work purposes may support them with meeting the vaccination requirement prior to travel to ensure compliance with local requirements and mitigate potential business disruptions.

### 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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