

Nigeria

Nigeria launches new online platform to streamline immigration processes

Executive summary

Nigeria recently launched the Electronic Comprehensive Expatriate Residence Permit and Automated Cards (e-CERPAC) platform to streamline immigration processes. In addition, the Federal Ministry of Interior introduced a new "Legacy Records" section on its Citizenship & Business (C&B) platform to synchronize existing permits with e-CERPAC.

Key developments

With the launch of the <u>e-CERPAC platform</u>, manual CERPAC applications (i.e., applications for Comprehensive Expatriate Residence Permit and Automated Cards) are no longer accepted. Companies are now required to submit applications through the new portal. Additionally, the purchase of CERPAC forms at Polaris Bank has been discontinued. The statutory e-CERPAC fee, payable in USD or Naira at the prevailing exchange rate, can now only be paid electronically through the platform.

In addition, the Federal Ministry of Interior introduced a new "Legacy Records" feature on its <u>C&B platform</u> that enables companies to synchronize their valid Expatriate Quota (EQ) records with the e-CERPAC system. To complete this process, companies can log into the C&B platform, access the "Legacy Records" section, and upload scanned copies of their active EQ approvals. This ensures that the system recognizes existing permits and links them to the e-CERPAC platform, allowing continued access and visibility of valid records.

Impact on employers

These changes are expected to simplify application procedures, reduce costs and administrative steps, and support compliance by enabling companies to manage their foreign national workforce in line with regulatory requirements.

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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EYG no. 007333-25Gbl

2101-3682263 ED None

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