

Global Immigration alert

October 2025

Brazil

Brazil expands the scope of business visitor activities

Executive summary

On 8 October 2025, the Brazilian government published and enacted Decree No. 12,657/2025, which expands the scope of activities permitted for business visitors to include technical assistance and technology transfer.

Background

The decree responds to a growing demand for urgent technical support and amends Decree No. 9,199/2017 to allow certain short-term activities to be performed by business visitors. These activities may be carried out for up to 90 days when supported by a formal agreement between a Brazilian and a foreign company. While the change introduces greater flexibility, existing immigration rules that regulate technical services without employment remain applicable and should be considered when assessing visa options.

Key developments

Decree No. 12,657/2025 allows business visitors to engage in technical assistance and technology transfer activities for up to 90 days. These activities are required to be based on a contract, cooperation agreement, or partnership between a Brazilian and a foreign company. The permitted stay may vary depending on reciprocity agreements and the foreign national's remaining days of authorized stay within a 12-month period, which begins on the date of their first entry into Brazil. If no days remain within that timeframe, a work visa application may be required.

Impact on employers

This change is expected to benefit employers by introducing a new legal pathway for business visitors to perform short-term technical activities in Brazil. Employers may remain aware of potential challenges related to documentation, entry control and compliance 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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