

Global Immigration alert

December 2025

Malaysia

Malaysia introduces new exit requirements for foreign nationals

Executive summary

The Malaysian immigration authorities recently issued a reminder to employers regarding their obligation to shorten expatriates' passes prior to their permanent departure from the country. In addition, employers are now required to submit online Exit Clearances for Employment Passes (EP) and Professional Visit Passes (PVP) processed by the Expatriate Services Division (ESD), and for EP passes processed by the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), if the passes were not shortened or renewed before expiry.

Key developments

Malaysian employers that sponsor foreign workers for EPs and PVPs that are processed by the ESD are required to submit a pass-shortening application via the ESD's [online system](#) for these workers prior to their permanent departure from the country. While this is not a new requirement, the announcement serves as a reminder for companies that may not have complied with this requirement in the past. Once the pass-shortening application is approved, companies may download the Shorten Pass Slip, which serves as proof of the completed process. Pass holders are required to carry this slip at the time of their departure and present it to the authorities if requested.

Effective 18 November 2025, employers are required to submit an online Exit Clearance for EPs and PVPs that were processed by the ESD but not shortened or renewed before the pass expiry date. Effective 20 November 2025, employers are required to submit an online Exit Clearance for EPs that were processed by the MDEC but not shortened or renewed before the pass expiry date. The Exit Clearance must be submitted within 30 days of the pass expiry date via the ESD's online system (for passes processed by the ESD) or the eXpats [online system](#) (for

passes processed by the MDEC). This requirement applies to foreign nationals employed by both MD and non-MD companies who are issued passes by the MDEC (MD companies enjoy "Malaysia Digital Status" and are entitled to various incentives and privileges, whereas non-MD companies do not have such entitlements). Failure to comply may result in penalties for employers, including restrictions on submitting new applications.

Impact on employers

Employers may review their existing expatriate workforce to ensure compliance with these requirements and mitigate delays and 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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