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Global Immigration alert

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Ireland

Ireland announces measures to address delays in processing of IRP renewal applications

Executive summary

On 30 June 2026, Ireland's Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) announced measures to address ongoing delays in the processing of Irish Residence Permit (IRP) renewal applications.

Background

Ireland's online IRP renewal system allows eligible applicants to submit renewal applications up to 12 weeks before their current IRP card expires. Due to increased application volumes, processing times have been extended in recent months. ISD has previously confirmed that individuals who submit a renewal application before their IRP expires may continue to reside and work in Ireland under their existing permission for up to 12 weeks while the application is being processed.

Key developments

ISD acknowledged that lengthy processing times can be frustrating and confirmed that it is taking steps to increase processing capacity.

To help address processing delays, ISD has now increased processing capacity and continues to publish [weekly processing updates](#).

Processing times may vary depending on application volumes, individual circumstances, case complexity, whether additional information is required, and peak processing periods.

The authorities have confirmed that IRP renewal applications may be submitted up to 12 weeks before the current IRP expires. However, individuals whose immigration permission is based on an employment permit must hold a valid employment permit at the time the IRP renewal application is submitted. As a result, foreign workers whose employment permits are also due for renewal may not be able to take full advantage of the 12-week IRP renewal window and will need to obtain

a renewed employment permit before submitting their IRP renewal application. This limitation does not generally apply to dependents, students, and other permission holders who are not required to hold an employment permit.

Once an application has been approved, applicants should generally expect to receive their new IRP card by post within approximately 15 business days. Applicants should file their renewal application as soon as possible to reduce reliance on the grace period.

Impact on employers

Organizations should encourage their employees to submit renewal applications as early as possible, as ongoing delays may impact international travel, immigration status or right-to-work verifications.

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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