

Global Immigration alert

January 2026

Belgium

Belgium increases processing fees for certain immigration applications

Executive summary

Effective 1 January 2026, the Belgian government increased processing fees for certain immigration applications.

Key developments

Individuals who apply for the following permits are now required to pay the revised processing fees:

- Single permits: EUR 152 (up from EUR 148)
- Long-term residence (D Visa): EUR 202 (up from EUR 198)
- Family reunification (when the sponsor is a third-country national): EUR 218 (up from EUR 213)

The revised fees impact applications for the following categories:

- New Single Permits or D Visas filed in or outside Belgium (e.g., at Belgian embassies and consulates abroad or at relevant townhalls in Belgium)
- Conversion of residence status filed by individuals who are already residing in Belgium based on a valid visa or permit, and seek to obtain a D Visa under another category (e.g., a student who applies to change their residence status to employee) or a Single Permit

The revised fees apply to individuals who booked an appointment with the immigration authorities before 1 January 2026 but did not submit their application as of this date.

Certain individuals are exempt from the increased fees, including those who:

- Apply to extend the validity period of their existing Single Permit or D Visa without any change in status
- Submit their applications and pay processing fees on or before 31 January 2026

The authorities generally review and adjust processing fees annually.

Impact on employers

Employers may take into account the revised application processing fees and plan accordingly.

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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Johan Bellens

Partner - People Advisory Services
Tel: +32 497 597 029
Email: johan.bellens@be.ey.com

Robin Collard

Partner - People Advisory Services
Tel: +32 497 597 186
Email: robin.collard@be.ey.com

Hendrik Serruys

Partner - People Advisory Services
Tel: +32 479 98 29 50
Email: hendrik.serruys@be.ey.com

Julie Moïny

Senior - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +32 473 330 434
Email: julie.moïny@be.ey.com

Clara Hubeaux

Senior - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +32 475 720 370
Email: clara.hubeaux@be.ey.com

Ben Willis

Partner - EY Global Immigration Competency Lead
Tel: +44 20 7951 9589
Email: ben.willis@uk.ey.com

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