



Global Immigration alert

August 2024

Qatar

Qatar authorities announce new services at Qatar Visa Centers

Executive summary

According to an announcement dated 11 July 2024 on the [official website](#) of the Qatar Ministry of Interior (MoI), the Visa Support Services Department of the General Directorate of Passports now offers new services for temporary work visa and multiple-entry work visa applicants at Qatar Visa Centers (QVC) abroad.

Key developments

The new services include medical examinations for temporary work visa and multiple-entry work visa applicants, as well as vision tests for applicants who wish to obtain a driving license in Qatar.

According to Major Nasser Ali Al-Khalaf, Director of the Visa Support Services Department, QVCs enable jobseekers to complete the most important part of the visa application process while they are in their country and offer several benefits, including supporting with documentation of employment contracts before they arrive in Qatar and simplifying the process of residence permit issuance upon their arrival in Qatar. As per media reports, QVCs are currently operating in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, and the immigration authorities plan to open new centers in Indonesia, Kenya and Tunisia.

Impact on employers

The introduction of the new services is expected to streamline and facilitate visa application processes for impacted applicants and their employers. Citizens of countries where QVCs are functioning, but who reside outside those countries, are required to return to their home country to complete visa approval formalities at a QVC in their home country. Employers may plan appropriately so that business activities remain unaffected.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

Roman Gusev

Partner – People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration

Tel: +973 3365 1121

Email: roman.gusev@bh.ey.com

Xavier Delaunay

Partner – People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration

Tel: +971 5640 61072

Email: xavier.delaunay@ae.ey.com

Sana Sheikh

Director – People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration

Tel: +971 5593 88963

Email: sana.sheikh@ae.ey.com

Saima Syed

Assistant Manager – People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration

Tel: +974 5076 3814

Email: saima.syed@qa.ey.com

Ben Willis

Partner – People Advisory Services, EMEA Immigration Leader

Tel: +44 20 7951 9589

Email: ben.willis@uk.ey.com

Seema Farazi

Partner – People Advisory Services, EMEA Immigration Leader

Tel: +44 20 7951 7122

Email: seema.farazi@uk.ey.com

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EYG no. 006939-24Gbl

2101-3682263

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