

Global Immigration alert

January 2026

Belgium

Walloon region increases salary thresholds for work permits and single permits effective 1 January 2026

Executive summary

Effective 1 January 2026, the minimum salary thresholds increased for third-country nationals who work in the Walloon region and hold work permits or single permits.

Background

Individuals who apply for certain Belgian work permits and single permits are required to meet specific salary thresholds, which the authorities review periodically. Salary thresholds and policies vary across the three Belgian regions of Brussels, Flanders and Walloon.

Key developments

New salary thresholds for third-country nationals in the Walloon region went into effect starting on 1 January 2026. These are available on the Walloon authorities' official website. Some of the new thresholds include:

- *Highly qualified workers*: EUR 53,220 (up from EUR 51,613)
- *Highly qualified workers under the age of 30*: EUR 42,576 (up from EUR 41,290)
- *Managerial roles*: EUR 88,790 (up from EUR 86,110)
- *EU Blue Card and Intra Company Transfer holders (managerial roles)*: EUR 68,815 (up from EUR 66,738)
- *EU Blue Card holders who have less than three years of experience*: EUR 55,052 (up from EUR 53,390)

The 2025 thresholds remain in effect for 2026 in Brussels, but a larger adjustment may follow in 2027. In Flanders, the 2025 salary thresholds remain in effect until new thresholds are published. Employers will then be required to comply with the updated thresholds starting the month after publication.

Impact on employers

Employers may review the salaries of their employees and update their internal processes as required to ensure compliance and mitigate 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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