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**Canada – Electronic Travel Authorization Mandatory for Some from March 15**

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## flash Alert

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On March 15, 2016, electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) became mandatory for certain travelers coming to Canada.

### Why This Matters

Travelers subject to the eTA rules, need to be aware of the new requirements. Failure to comply could result in being refused entry.

As of March 15, 2016, an eTA is required for certain foreign nationals to travel to Canada by air. Airlines may deny foreign nationals without an eTA from boarding their flight. However, Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada ("IRCC") (formerly Citizenship and Immigration Canada) has released guidance which states that eTA-requiring foreign nationals may still be eligible to fly to Canada without an eTA until autumn 2016.

Foreign nationals should obtain an eTA well in advance of expected travel dates. If IRCC requires additional information, travel plans may be affected. As an eTA may be valid for up to five years, all foreign nationals who require an eTA should obtain one at their earliest convenience.

### Background

In April 2015, IRCC announced the introduction of the eTA. The objective of the eTA is to allow IRCC to identify individuals with admissibility concerns prior to their arrival at a Canadian port of entry.

### KPMG Note

To understand how this impacts visa-impact foreign nationals, American permanent residents, U.S. nationals, Canadian permanent residents, and foreign nationals already in Canada, you may find further details in "Electronic Travel Authorization – Questions and Answers," *e-Alert* (2016/03), a publication of KPMG Law LLP, a KPMG International member firm in Canada. For your copy, please contact Howard Greenberg, National Practice Leader – Immigration, KPMG Law LLP in Toronto (Tel. 416 943 0288 ext. 224, [hgreenberg@kpmglaw.ca](mailto:hgreenberg@kpmglaw.ca)).

For prior coverage of the eTA, see GMS [Flash Alert 2016-013](#) (January 25, 2016).

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