



GMS Flash Alert

2016-100 | September 9, 2016



United States - New Online Requirement for Chinese Citizens with 10-Year B1, B2 Visas

Beginning in November 2016, anyone traveling on a People's Republic of China (PRC) passport with a 10-year B1/B2, B1 or B2 visa will be required to enroll in the Electronic Visa Update System (EVUS).¹

WHY THIS MATTERS

This development will add some administrative burden on these individuals given the requirement to enroll in the system and the obligation to periodically update their personal details in the system.

- Applicants who are holding valid 10-year B1/B2, B1, or B2 visas issued before November 2016 will have to enroll in EVUS to use their visas any time after the launch of the program.
- Applicants who receive 10-year B1/B2, B1, or B2 visas from November 2016 onwards will have to enroll before their initial trip to the United States.

Enrollment for all applicants will remain valid for two years or until the traveler's visa or passport expire, whichever comes first.

The visa holders will then have to update their information before traveling to the U.S. again.

Background

In November 2014, the U.S. and PRC governments entered into an arrangement on a reciprocal basis to issue visitor visas with 10-year validity. The arrangement recognized that travelers would be required to periodically complete an online form updating their biographical information.

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In this vein, EVUS was developed to allow travelers to provide the most current information – including name, passport number, address, and employment – to immigration officials *before* traveling to the United States. Completing this form will become mandatory starting November 2016.

Electronic Visa Update System (EVUS)

EVUS is the online system that will be used by all PRC nationals holding a 10-year B1/B2, B1, or B2 (visitor) visa to periodically update basic biographic information to facilitate their travel to the United States. In addition to a valid visa, such travelers will be required to complete an EVUS enrollment to be admitted into the United States. Beginning in November 2016, it will become mandatory for Chinese travelers to go online and update their information in order to comply with EVUS requirements.

KPMG NOTE

Travelers who are citizens of Taiwan (Republic of China), Hong Kong, and Macau traveling on a PRC passport with a 10-year B1/B2, B1, or B2 visa will be required to enroll in EVUS. Travelers using other travel documents, including Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR, and Taiwan passports, may continue to travel to the U.S. as they currently do and follow existing procedures.

FOOTNOTE:

1 For further information, visit this U.S. Customs & Border Protection [Web page](#).

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New Back to Basics: Business Immigration 101

We are pleased to announce the publication of "[Back to Basics: Business Immigration 101](#)," the fifth installment of our Back to Basics thought leadership series!

Global mobility program managers often have the responsibility of managing the many complexities of immigration globally in support of both employee service delivery as well as compliance goals. The severity of potential risks and resulting liabilities necessitate a solid operational framework by organizations for immigration compliance, administration, and service delivery. This newest issue of Back to Basics has been developed to serve as an introduction to understanding key definitions and concepts associated with global business immigration. We also highlight certain leading practices in immigration program management.

We have created [a page on the KPMG TaxWatch Web site](#) for the other articles in the GMS practice's Back to Basics series. This current article as well as past articles (covering home leave, repatriation, short-term assignments, and assignment letters) are in .pdf format on the TaxWatch site.

Contact us

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** Please note that KPMG LLP (U.S.) does not provide any immigration services. However, KPMG LLP Law in Canada can assist clients with U.S. immigration matters.*

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