

GMS Flash Alert

Immigration

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Malaysia – Exit Clearance for EP and PVP Holders Required Effective November 2025

The Immigration Department of Malaysia (Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia, JIM), under directive from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA), has mandated companies to shorten expatriate passes before permanent departure from Malaysia and to complete Exit Clearance for expired Employment Pass (EP) and Professional Visit Pass (PVP) holders. The directive establishes formal processes, documentary requirements, and compliance deadlines for all EP and PVP holders who did not cancel their passes prior departing from Malaysia.

These requirements became effective 18 November 2025 onwards and now apply to all passes managed via the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC)'s eXpats¹ and Expatriate Services Division (ESD) Online system.²

WHY THIS MATTERS

The pass shortening and Exit Clearance rules introduce significant compliance obligations for organizations employing expatriates in Malaysia.

For mobile employees, these measures may lead to smoother departure processes but require advanced coordination to confirm all documentation is complete and available for inspection.

Failure to follow these steps may affect both individual immigration status and the company's ability to sponsor future expatriates.

Background

Previously, expatriate departure procedures were less formalized, with no mandatory pass shortening or structured exit clearance process upon pass expiry. Companies were not required to provide systematic evidence of departure, and non-compliance did not directly affect future application rights within the eXpats and ESD Online system. The new directive establishes formal processes, documentary requirements, and compliance deadlines for all departing EP and PVP holders.

Key Highlights

Mandatory Pass Shortening

- Companies must submit a pass shortening application via eXpats or ESD Online for all expatriates permanently departing Malaysia, regardless of remaining pass validity.
- A cancelled Pass/ePASS or Shorten Pass Slip must be retained by the pass holder throughout the departure process.

Exit Clearance Requirement

- If no renewal or pass shortening application is submitted after pass expiry, the company must complete Exit Clearance via eXpats or ESD Online within 30 days from the pass expiry date.
- Required documents include the expatriate's full passport copy and proof of exit (exit stamp, boarding pass, flight ticket, Autogate slip), a shortened pass from a Malaysian Embassy abroad, or a statutory declaration endorsed by a Commissioner of Oaths.
- eXpats and ESD Online will monitor the applicant's exit status; if no exit is detected within 30 days, further declaration is required within seven days.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

Failure to submit Exit Clearance will result in restrictions on the company's eXpats and ESD Online account, preventing new application submissions until the requirement is fulfilled.

Support and Guidance

Companies may contact the following:

- eXpat Service Centre via email at expatctr@mdec.com.my or telephone at +603-8315 3106 / 3157; or
- MYXpats Centre via email at helpdesk@myxpats.com.my or telephone at +603-7839 7171.

Also, check the FAQs on Pass Shortening & Exit Clearance.³

KPMG INSIGHTS

In light of the upcoming changes, organisations may wish to consider the following:

- Update departure protocols to include mandatory pass shortening and Exit Clearance steps for all expatriates and assignees.
- Track pass expiry dates proactively and initiate necessary applications well before departure or expiry.
- Educate human resources and mobility teams on eXpats and ESD Online processes and required documentation.
- Inform expatriates and assignees of new requirements to increase compliance and avoid delays at departure.

Readers may wish to contact their usual immigration adviser or a member of the KPMG team in Malaysia (see the Contacts section).

FOOTNOTES:

1 MDEC announcement on 19 November 2025 (Ref. no. BSD-EXPATS-ANNC-MDEC-242 D20251113) or [EXPATS EXIT CLEARANCE MODULE- Expats | MDEC](#).

2 Expatriate Services Division, Bahagian Khidmat Ekspatriat, Immigration Department of Malaysia, [Updates for EP and DP holders](#), dated 14 November 2025.

3 Expatriate Services Division, Bahagian Khidmat Ekspatriat, Immigration Department of Malaysia, [Pass Shortening & Exit Clearance – Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#).

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Contact Us

For additional information or assistance, please contact your local GMS or People Services professional* or one of the following professionals with the KPMG International member firm in Malaysia:



Long Yen Ping
Partner
Head of Global Mobility Services
KPMG in Malaysia
Tel. +60 (3) 77217018
yenpinglong@kpmg.com.my



Michelle Foo
Associate Director
Global Mobility Services
KPMG in Malaysia
Tel. +60 (3) 77217346
lyeyefoo@kpmg.com.my



Nur Aliaatul Shahira
Manager
Global Mobility Services
KPMG in Malaysia
Tel. +60 (3) 7721 7613
aliaatulnaguib@kpmg.com.my

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