



Immigration News Highlights

2026 - 22, 2 June 2026



The KPMG team regularly monitors recent developments across the globe in the Immigration space and publishes them as Immigration News Highlights. Please find the key developments that occurred over the last week enumerated below. [Click here to find all issues of the Immigration News Highlights on the GMS Flash Alert: Immigration page.](#)

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[Americas](#)

[Asia Pacific](#)

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Americas

Canada

[British Columbia announces temporary rural and remote health support pathway under British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program](#)

The British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program released an updated Skills Immigration Program Guide on 28 May 2026, reflecting program changes announced on 23 April 2026 and setting out eligibility criteria for the Temporary Rural / Remote Health Support initiative. The one-time initiative is intended to retain up to 250 workers already employed by a health authority in cleaning or security roles in rural or remote communities. Registrations will open from 15 June 2026 to 31 August 2026 through the program's expression-of-interest system. The update is part of the program's Care objective, which prioritizes healthcare and public-service workforce needs.

[Read more](#)

[Canada updates documentation expectations for digital nomads](#)

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada published updated officer instructions on 26 May 2026 for digital nomads entering Canada as visitors. The update states that applicants

must provide sufficient documentation showing that income is earned entirely outside Canada and that remote work is performed for a foreign employer or, if self-employed, for clients outside Canada. Digital nomads must also satisfy officers that they will not enter the Canadian labor market, while accompanying family members must apply for their own temporary resident status.

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[Ontario amends Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program regulations ahead of program redesign](#)

The Government of Ontario announced that amendments to Ontario Regulation 421/17 under the Ontario Immigration Act, 2015 took effect on 30 May 2026 to prepare for a redesign of the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program. Ontario Regulation 47/26 revokes sections establishing existing applicant categories and updates processes for expression of interest and Express Entry categories, including general or targeted invitations and notifications of interest. The regulation also requires applicants in job-offer categories to have a job offer from an employer registered with the director. Applications received under the existing framework will be assessed under the eligibility requirements in place at submission.

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[Alberta updates Worker Expression of Interest submission policy](#)

The Alberta Advantage Immigration Program reportedly updated its Worker Expression of Interest (WEOI) process on 26 May 2026 to allow candidates to edit submitted WEOIs without cancelling and resubmitting them. The update also reportedly allows certain invited candidates to decline an invitation and return to the WEOI pool before the 15-day invitation period ends. The Government of Alberta fee schedule confirms that, effective 07 April 2026, the WEOI submission fee is CAD135. The update also provides limited refund eligibility for some candidates affected by the previous cancellation requirement.

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United States

[US Employment-Based Second Preference \(EB-2\) immigrant visa limit reached for India in fiscal year 2026](#)

The US Department of State announced on 22 May 2026 that, in collaboration with US Citizenship and Immigration Services, it has issued all available immigrant visas in the Employment-Based Second Preference (EB-2) category for applicants chargeable to India for fiscal year (FY) 2026. Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, EB-2 visas are subject to annual employment-based and per-country limits. As all available EB-2 visas for India have been used, embassies and consulates may not issue further visas in this category for the remainder of FY2026. Annual limits will be reset on 01 October 2026.

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[United States Office of Foreign Labor Certification seeks input on H-2A labor supply states](#)

Office of Foreign Labor Certification announced on 22 May 2026 that it is soliciting public input for the annual determination of labor supply states under the H-2A program. The solicitation follows the 2022 H-2A Final Rule, which established a process for identifying additional states where approved job orders may be circulated and where additional positive recruitment may be required. The agency will consider information on qualified worker availability, geographic labor

supply areas, recruitment methods and labor flow trends. Previously determined labor supply requirements remained in effect unless information shows that a state is no longer a source of qualified workers.

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Asia Pacific

India

[India revises registration timeline under Immigration and Foreigners Amendment Rules 2026](#)

The Ministry of Home Affairs notified the Immigration and Foreigners Amendment Rules 2026, introducing changes to registration timelines and the appeals mechanism under the Immigration and Foreigners Rules 2025. The amendment allows foreign nationals to complete registration any time before the expiry of 180 days from arrival in India, replacing the earlier requirement to register within 14 days after the end of the 180-day period. Late registration beyond this period will be permitted only in emergent circumstances. The update also revises appeal procedures under the amended rules.

[Read more](#)

Indonesia

[Indonesia issues guidance on electronic visa \(e-Visa\) account security and visitor visa activities](#)

The Directorate General of Immigration reportedly issued guidance warning foreign visitors to secure their e-Visa accounts and comply with the conditions of their visitor visas when carrying out unpaid influencer or content creation activities. The guidance states that Indonesia's e-Visa system uses two-factor authentication, with one-time passwords sent to registered email addresses, and advises users to access the official e-Visa portal and maintain strong passwords. It also clarifies that unpaid collaborations or promotional content may still be restricted if they carry economic or commercial value. Foreign visitors must use visas and stay permits according to the purpose of stay, as activities inconsistent with visa conditions may lead to sanctions.

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Japan

[Japan to add photographs to residence cards for individuals aged one and above](#)

Japan's Immigration Services Agency states that, from 14 June 2026, residence cards issued to eligible individuals aged one year and above will display facial photographs. The agency also states that special permanent resident certificates issued from the same date will include facial photographs for individuals aged one year and above. The change forms part of the introduction of new-format residence cards and special permanent resident certificates from 14 June 2026, including documents linked to measures for adding My Number Card functions. Previously issued residence cards and special permanent resident certificates display photographs for individuals aged 16 and above.

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Malaysia

Malaysia defers succession plan requirement under revised Expatriate Salary Policy

Immigration Department of Malaysia announced on 26 May 2026 that the revised Expatriate Salary Policy will take effect from 01 June 2026, while the succession plan requirement will only apply from 01 January 2027. The succession plan requirement is intended to support structured transfer of knowledge and expertise to local employees during the expatriate's employment period. The phased implementation gives organizations additional time to prepare and align with the new requirement. The broader revised policy updates minimum salary thresholds and employment-duration rules for Employment Pass Categories I, II and III.

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New Zealand

New Zealand moves family of temporary visa holder applications to enhanced Immigration Online

Immigration New Zealand announced that, from 01 June 2026, family of temporary visa holder applications moved to the enhanced Immigration Online system. The change applies to listed student, work and visitor visa categories, including the Dependent Child Student Visa, Partner of a Worker Work Visa, Partner of a Student Work Visa, Partner of a Worker Visitor Visa and Child of a Student Visitor Visa. Applications submitted through the old system on or before 31 May 2026 will continue to be processed, while draft applications may be completed in the old system or restarted in enhanced Immigration Online.

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New Zealand temporarily reduces visitor visa fees for eligible Pacific nationals

Immigration New Zealand will temporarily reduce visitor visa fees for eligible Pacific nationals applying from outside the country for 12 months from June 1, 2026, lowering the total cost to NZD161 (from NZD216), including the NZD41 immigration levy. The reduction applies to a specified group of Pacific countries, such as Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, and Papua New Guinea, while Parent Boost and Group Visitor Visas are excluded. Pacific visitors will also continue to be exempt from the International Visitor and Conservation Levy.

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New Zealand announces Short-term Graduate Work Visa and expanded Post Study Work Visa eligibility

Immigration New Zealand announced on 29 May 2026 that it will introduce a new Short-term Graduate Work Visa and expand Post Study Work Visa eligibility from 16 November 2026. The new visa would provide eligible international graduates with six months of open work rights if they completed a New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework (NZQCF) Level five to seven qualification in New Zealand that does not qualify for a Post Study Work Visa. Applicants must have NZD5,000 available to support themselves and apply within three months of their student visa expiring. Post Study Work Visa eligibility will also extend to NZQCF Level seven graduate diploma holders who also hold a bachelor's degree.

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[New Zealand announces 2026 Pacific Access Category ballot results](#)

Immigration New Zealand announced on 29 May 2026 the successful registrations for the 2026 Pacific Access Category ballot. The draw took place on 20 May 2026, with enough registrations selected to allow up to 250 Tongan citizens, 250 Fijian citizens, 75 Kiribati citizens and 75 Tuvaluan citizens to apply for New Zealand residence. Selected registrants will be contacted with instructions on applying for a Pacific Access Category Resident Visa, while unsuccessful registrants may enter the ballot again when it reopens in 2027.

[Read more](#)

[New Zealand announces 2026 Samoan Quota ballot results](#)

Immigration New Zealand announced on 29 May 2026 the successful registrations for the 2026 Samoan Quota ballot. The draw took place on 20 May 2026, with enough registrations selected to allow up to 1,100 Samoan citizens to be granted residence. Successful registrations are invited to apply for residence under the Samoan Quota, and Immigration New Zealand will contact selected registrants with information on how to apply for the Samoan Quota Resident Visa. Unsuccessful registrants may register again when the 2027 ballot reopens.

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South Korea

[South Korea establishes team to protect foreign workers rights](#)

The Ministry of Justice announced on 01 June 2026 the establishment of a new team within the Korea Immigration Service to prevent human rights violations against foreign workers and strengthen protections. The team will provide education and information to immigrant workers, support counselling and reporting, conduct on site investigations into alleged human rights violations, and offer relief to victims. The ministry also said it plans an integrated support system covering pre-entry procedures, residence, employment and community integration, in cooperation with the labor ministry, local governments and foreign worker support organizations.

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Taiwan

[Taiwan suspends entry and visa issuance for residents of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda](#)

The Taiwan Centers for Disease Control announced a 90-day suspension of entry and visa issuance for residents of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, effective 02 June 2026, in response to escalating Ebola outbreaks in both countries. The measure includes limited exemptions for specific categories such as students, diplomats, and certain family members. Taiwan has simultaneously strengthened border controls, requiring eligible inbound travelers with recent exposure to affected regions to undergo 21 days of self-health management and monitoring. Additional quarantine protocols, health screening procedures, and public advisories have been implemented, with measures subject to ongoing review based on the evolving outbreak situation.

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Vietnam

Vietnam to require health declarations for inbound, outbound and transit travelers

The Vietnam Government Portal announced on 21 May 2026 that inbound and outbound travelers will be subject to health declaration requirements from 01 July 2026 under Decree No. 165/2026/ND CP. Travelers entering, exiting or transiting Viet Nam must use the health declaration form attached to the decree and complete it within seven days before travel. The form will be provided by the Ministry of Health in Vietnamese and English. The Ministry of Health will provide further instructions on health declarations at border gates in the event of an infectious disease outbreak.

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Europe and Africa

Denmark

Denmark Updates AR6 and AR7 Applications to Include Offshore Work Questions

The Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) announced on 01 June 2026, that it will update its AR6 and AR7 application forms, effective 03 June 2026, to include additional questions for offshore work cases. Employers will be required to provide details on shift duration, weekly working days, daily working hours, and the provision of holiday allowances for hourly-paid workers. The update is intended to streamline and accelerate the processing of offshore-related applications. Overall, the changes reflect SIRI's efforts to strengthen information collection and improve the efficiency and quality of case handling.

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Ghana

Ghana launches electronic visa (e-Visa) portal and waives visa fees for African passport holders

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Ghana launched its e-Visa portal on 25 May 2026, coinciding with the 63rd African Union Day. The platform replaces manual visa procedures with a secure, technology-driven online system designed to improve border security management, efficiency and transparency. The announcement also confirmed that holders of African passports are not required to pay visa fees when travelling to Ghana from 25 May 2026. The government stated that the measure supports the African Union's continental integration agenda, including the African Passport and Free Movement of People flagship program under Agenda 2063.

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Ireland

Ireland confirms changes to employment permit occupation lists

Ireland's Department of Enterprise, Tourism and Employment announced on 28 May 2026 that 32 changes to jobs eligible for employment permits have been confirmed following a review that began in summer 2025. The changes target labor and skills shortages in construction, healthcare, transport and agri-food. Six roles are recommended for eligibility under the Critical

Skills Employment Permit, nine roles for General Employment Permits without quotas, two roles for General Employment Permits under new quotas, and 15 roles for renewed quotas. For certain quota-based roles, the earliest valid application date is 10 June 2026 due to labor market testing requirements.

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Togo

Togo approves 30-day visa exemption for African nationals

The Council of Ministers adopted a decree on 26 May 2026 exempting nationals of African states from entry visas to Togo as part of the government's policy to promote African integration and facilitate free movement. The official update states that the exemption applies for stays of up to 30 days to travelers holding a valid recognized passport or travel document. Immigration checks and formalities remain in place, and authorities may refuse entry or limit the stay of individuals considered a risk to public order, national security or public health. The exemption may also be suspended for any state if Togo's fundamental interests are threatened.

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