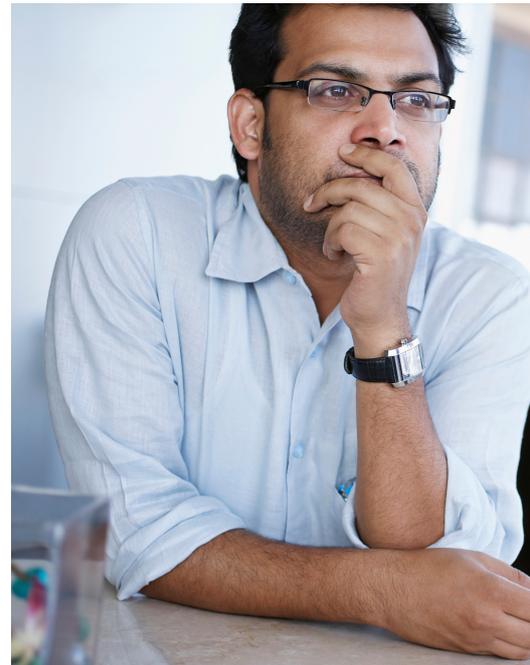


JUNE 2022 |

MIGRATION UPDATE



CHANGES TO SWEDISH WORK PERMIT LEGISLATION

About the Migration Agency

In Sweden, the Migration Agency is the authority that considers applications from people who want to live in Sweden, visit or work in the country, seek protection from persecution or be granted Swedish citizenship.

The Swedish Migration Agency is commissioned by parliament and government, who set the Swedish asylum and migration policy.

On June 1, 2022 some changes to the Swedish work permit legislation came into effect.

Some of the major changes were that it will now be possible to extend work permits for an indefinite period, employment contracts will be mandatory to attach to applications, maintenance requirements for work permit holders with accompanying family members will be introduced for first time applications and a re-entry visa is introduced for individuals with pending applications.

Practical details are still to be shared by the Migration Agency but we can now share information on some of the changes.

CONTRACTS

The Migration Agency will only grant work permit for 6 months if there is a probationary period included in the employment contract. As this has practical impacts on the possibility to register for a personal id number, we advise employers to remove the probationary period and offer an indefinite employment if possible. This will allow a 2 year permit to be granted.

The Agency has also decided to not accept e-signatures on contracts. This approach has surprised all stakeholders and the Legal department at the Agency is now looking into the implications. Until a different approach is taken, decisions will not be made for any applications that does not contain contracts with handwritten signatures.

RE-ENTRY VISA

The so called re-entry visa (D-visa) that was launched has not turned out to be as generous as there were hopes for. Instead of allowing travels while a renewal application is pending, this visa can only be sought for business travels. It is not applicable for family members and cannot be used for personal trips. More information on how apply for the visa is available in the link below [Entry visa for business trip - Swedish Migration Agency \(migrationsverket.se\)](https://migrationsverket.se).

PROCESSING TIME

The processing time for first time and for extension applications has increased since the end of last year. The consequences of the new rules are expected to initially increase the processing times even further as there are no transition rules and the Migration Agency need to request supplementary information for applications they do not find complete, for example where the contract only contains e-signatures.

INCREASED FEE

On June 1, the Migration Agency made an unannounced increase of the application fee for main applicants. The fee is now 2 200 SEK compared to 2 000 SEK. The application fees for accompanying adults and children remain the same, 1 500 SEK and 750 SEK.

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