

Mobility: Immigration alert

June 2021

Vietnam

Vietnam launches COVID-19 Vaccine Passport Pilot Program in July 2021

Executive summary

The Vietnamese Government will launch a pilot program (the program) during the month of July that would allow vaccinated individuals traveling by air to the country's northern province of Quang Ninh to quarantine for seven days on arrival, down from 21 days, under certain circumstances. New entrants must test negative for COVID-19 upon arrival to be eligible for the shortened quarantine period. Individuals entering to work for a period of 14 days or less are ineligible for the program.

Eligibility criteria

The pilot program, which is scheduled to start on 1 July 2021 and end on 31 July 2021, is aimed at three groups of travelers in particular: (1) vaccinated Vietnamese nationals who are outside of the country and seeking to return, (2) non-Vietnamese nationals seeking to enter to work, and (3) other travelers such as diplomats, students, athletes. Individuals permitted to enter for business and investment purposes include foreign experts (e.g., technical experts), managers and executive directors, and their accompanying immediate family members. The list of eligible family members who may enter under the program has not been announced. However, it is expected that spouses and children of eligible travelers will be admissible under the program. Foreigners entering Vietnam to study or compete in athletic events, as well as diplomats, are also eligible for admission under the pilot program.

In order to be eligible for entry under the program, entrants must have received the final dose of an approved vaccine at least 14 days, and no more than 12 months, prior to their

arrival. Approved vaccines include those that are approved by the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Medicines Agency (EMA), the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or the Vietnamese Government. Vaccinated individuals entering Quang Ninh under the program must present an official certificate confirming that they are fully vaccinated. They must also complete a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to travel and carry proof that they tested negative. They must also take an antibody COVID-19 test, and test positive, upon arrival, in order to be admissible under the program.

The pilot program has also been extended to travelers who recovered from COVID-19 no more than 12 months prior to their desired arrival. While no explicit instructions have been announced as to the type of documentation that these travelers should carry when entering Vietnam, it is expected that the Vietnamese authorities will accept certificates issued by recognized medical authorities or institutions in the travelers' home countries, confirming that they recovered from COVID-19, are fit to travel and are not a risk to transmit COVID-19 to others. Travelers who recovered from COVID-19 who are seeking to enter under the program must take a PCR COVID-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to travel and carry proof that they tested negative. In addition, they must take an antibody COVID-19 test, and test positive, upon arrival.

All travelers entering under the program must complete an online health declaration no more than 36 hours prior to

travel, and register details pertaining to their planned accommodations in Vietnam during and after their quarantine period. A Vietnamese version of the health declaration can be accessed [online](#). The declaration can also be completed in English using the Vietnam Health Declaration App (available [here](#) and [here](#)) or the Bluezone app (available [here](#) and [here](#)). After completing the registration, travelers will be issued a QR code, which they must save on their mobile devices, as this will be used to monitor their health status while in Vietnam.

Travelers who arrive in Quang Ninh and are found not to have met the eligibility criteria for the program may be allowed to quarantine for 14 days, in lieu of 21 days, at the discretion of the Vietnamese border authorities.

Next steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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