

Update on Immigration Process in Ghana



Introduction

Many countries and businesses around the world have been greatly impacted by the outbreak of the novel COVID-19 virus. In order to minimize the impact of this virus, countries continue to put in place the necessary measures and procedures to curb the spread of the virus.

Ghana, like other countries, is currently undergoing a third wave of the pandemic largely due to the introduction of the highly infectious Delta variant into the Country. The Government of Ghana in its response has initiated several measures to curtail the spread.

To supplement Government's effort, The Ghana Immigration Service (GIS), which is the principal regulatory agency responsible for migration, has expanded the scope of its mandatory medical examination to include a mandatory COVID-19 Test for foreign nationals who require certain categories of permits.

In this update, we provide highlights on the new measures instituted by the GIS.

Previous Requirement For Medical Examination

Foreign nationals seeking work and residence permits from the Ghana Immigration Service are required to undergo a mandatory medical examination only at the GIS Clinic for the issuance of the required permits to enable them stay and work in Ghana. Previously, COVID-19 test was not a requirement for the issuance of a work and residence permit.

New Requirement For Medical Examination

Foreign nationals seeking to obtain Work and Residence Permits, to renew their Work and Residence Permits and also to extend their Visitors' Permits are now required to undergo a mandatory COVID-19 Test at The GIS Clinic COVID-19 Testing Center in addition to the existing medical examination.

The official fee for the COVID-19 Test is currently GHS200.00 (approx. USD35).

This new directive became effective on 11 August 2021.

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