

Global BRIEF



Your professional link to global immigration news

JULY 2005

VOLUME I: No. 7

IN THIS ISSUE:

IRELAND: MINISTER ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IRISH NATURALIZATION AND IMMIGRATION SERVICE.

CANADA: NO HIV DISCLOSURE REQUIRED FOR TEMPORARY VISA.

MALAYSIA: HEALTH CHECK WITHIN 30 DAYS FOR NEW FOREIGN WORKERS

U.K. FIVE YEAR PLAN TO CHANGE ENTIRE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM TO A POINTS BASIS

INDONESIA: STARTING 2006 ALL NEW FOREIGN WORKERS NEED TO PASS INDONESIAN LANGUAGE TEST

Visit our website at

www.pro-linkglobal.com

Contact us:

Tel: +1 602 938-0797

Fax: +1 480 247-5152

IRELAND: MINISTER ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IRISH NATURALIZATION AND IMMIGRATION SERVICE.

The Government has approved the establishment of the Irish Naturalization and Immigration Service (INIS) as an executive office within the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

The Service will incorporate the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform's current structures dealing with asylum, immigration and citizenship.

The Visa Section of the Department of Foreign Affairs will transfer to the Service in the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. Responsibility for the provision of visa services at diplomatic and consular missions abroad will remain with the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Service will be tasked with developing a cohesive system for the issuing of work permits and visas through a virtual link between the work permit system in the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and the INIS. The overall effectiveness of these arrangements will be reviewed within 2 years.

The economic migration policy function will remain with the Minister for Enterprise Trade and Employment.

CANADA: NO HIV DISCLOSURE REQUIRED FOR TEMPORARY VISA

However, there is still concern about the discretionary power of Canadian visa officers abroad who can order medical examinations if suspicions arise about the applicant's health. Until last month those who had been treated for communicable and chronic disease were asked to disclose their related medical history and treatment in a temporary visa application.

The department of Canadian Citizenship and Immigration has removed the question at issue from the "temporary resident visa" application form.

A new set of questions specify that applicants report if they suffer from either tuberculosis and physical or a mental disorders that require health or social supports.

The change brings the temporary visa application form in line with Canadian immigration policy that, in general, doesn't bar temporary entry to a person diagnosed with AIDS or the infection that causes it, HIV.

MALAYSIA: HEALTH CHECK WITHIN 30 DAYS FOR NEW FOREIGN WORKERS

Effective August 1 2005 all new foreign workers will have to undergo a health examination within a month of arrival in Malaysia to stem the spread of infectious diseases like hepatitis B and tuberculosis. The new rule will apply to all sectors. Currently, foreign workers are only required to undergo health checks upon visa and work permit renewal each year

U.K. : FIVE YEAR PLAN TO CHANGE ENTIRE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM TO A POINTS BASIS

There will be four "tiers" within the points scheme within which people applying to work in the UK would be categorized.

Tier One: Highly skilled

The most skilled professionals will automatically have enough points to come to the UK without a job offer and seek work or set up a business.

This group would include doctors, engineers, IT specialists and top-flight graduates in key sectors, such as business and finance. Workers in this category will have the most flexibility in the UK and greatest opportunities to settle for good.

Tier two: Skilled

This covers people with qualifications or important work-related experience in a huge range of sectors from health service workers to white collar jobs and the trades.

People in this category will be given points on their talents and will be allowed into the UK if they have a job offer in a "shortage area".

Tier three: Low skilled

The government currently allows temporary migration to jobs in hospitality, food processing and agriculture from all over the world.

It will start to phase out these permissions in favor of workers from the expanded EU, although it adds that it may allow controlled quotas in certain sectors.

Workers in this category must find an employer as a sponsor. The employer will also have some responsibility for ensuring someone remains within the terms of their visa.

Tier four: Specialists and students

This final group covers those where there is "no significant issue of competition" but an economic benefit resulting from someone's presence. This includes students paying for tuition in the UK, foreign government representatives and may include professional sports people and ministers of religion.

INDONESIA: STARTING 2006 ALL NEW FOREIGN WORKERS NEED TO PASS INDONESIAN LANGUAGE TEST

Foreigners will be tested on grammar, reading comprehension, vocabulary and oral comprehension. According to the Manpower Department, this is an effort to limit the number of foreign workers entering Indonesia and protect local jobs.