

To: Client-facing teams

New Visa and Entry Requirements for Business Travelers to China

With China lifting its quarantine-upon-arrival requirement as part of its COVID-19 policy, interest in travel to China is soaring. Although the mandatory quarantine requirement has been dropped, business travel to China can still pose risks and challenges to corporate travel managers.

The guidelines below outline the changes to foreign national admissions to China and new visa issuance.

- All visas issued *prior to March 2020* are currently suspended. This includes existing 5- and 10-year visas, even those with remaining validity.
- Currently, the government of China is granting visas for Business Travel (M visa), Work Permits (Z visa), Family Visit/Family Reunion visas, and some student visas. **New tourism visas are not being issued at present time**.
- Travelers entering China will need to present a negative PCR (nucleic acid test) taken no earlier than 48-hours prior to departure, along with a valid visa, or a reason for visa-free entry.
- Chinese consulates in Japan and South Korea have resumed issuing visas to Japanese and South Korean citizens to visit China.
- While visa issuance and processing times are fluid and changing, the government of China indicated it will work with its consulates to process visas in an expeditious manner. CIBT recommends budgeting ample time for visa processing before your expected travel date.

<u>Please note:</u> 22 governments (including Australia, Canada, France, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States) currently require individuals coming from China to provide a negative PCR test to enter their countries.

Entry requirements to China are rapidly evolving. Travel managers should advise traveling employees that specifics on applying for a new visa, and up-to-date visa requirements are available on the travel portals of our partners, and on the <u>CIBT website</u>.

What you need to do:

Please share the message above directly to your clients.