



## **Immigration developments in the MENA Region**

Please visit our dedicated microsite <https://www.fragomen.com/about/news/immigration-update-coronavirus> for more details on worldwide immigration and travel restrictions.

### **United Arab Emirates**

The government of Abu Dhabi has introduced a dedicated [website](#) which allows students residing and studying in the Emirate to verify that they have been nominated for the Student Golden Visa.

The Student Golden Visa is a long-term residency permit for select outstanding student graduates and their families. It was introduced in [November 2020](#), when a decision to expand the categories of eligible individuals for a long-term residency permit was approved. The visa validity period has since been extended and is now valid for 10 years, instead of five years.

According to the regulations, students who have achieved 95% or higher in the UAE Ministry of Education curriculum final exams qualify for the Student Golden Visa.

Eligible candidates can apply for the visa online through the [Federal Authority for Identity & Citizenship website](#), or by visiting any TAMM or Tasheel Service Centre.

### **Saudi Arabia**

On September 8, 2021, the Ministry of Interior of Saudi Arabia lifted entry restrictions imposed on travelers coming from the following countries: Argentina, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates. The entry restrictions were in place since February 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Travelers must meet all applicable entry conditions and abide by the precautionary measures that have been adopted in the Kingdom, including COVID-19 PCR testing requirements, [COVID-19 vaccine registration](#) in case of those who have been vaccinated, and quarantine requirements, if applicable.

## **Bahrain**

On September 1, 2021, the second phase of the Wage Protection System, applicable to employers in the private sector with 50 to 499 employees, was implemented, according to an announcement by the Labour Market Regulatory Authority. It is expected that no penalties will be imposed on employers who fail to meet their obligation due to technical issues in the first six months of their use of the program. For further details regarding the Wage Protection System, please [read here](#).

## **ABOUT FRAGOMEN**

*Fragomen is the world's leading single-focus provider of immigration services and support. Our firm is comprised of law practices and immigration consultancies that work together to support our clients across all regions globally. At Fragomen, we leverage our collective immigration experience to offer clients targeted and trusted solutions that help them achieve their local, regional and worldwide business goals.*

*Fragomen's team of dedicated immigration professionals has extensive experience in working with multinational businesses, local employers, start-ups and individual investors. We have a deep understanding of the region and maintain strong professional relationships with immigration authorities. Our MENA immigration team is supported on a global basis by over 3,800 immigration professionals in more than 50 offices worldwide. Together, we provide comprehensive immigration support in over 170 countries.*

*All we do is immigration, a sole focus that makes a considerable difference. Unlike many other providers, all of our thinking, passion and resources are dedicated to improving the immigration experiences of our clients and their employees. We have the track record, region specific experience and know-how to provide you with a streamlined and compliant immigration solution.*

*Visit our website [www.fragomen.com](http://www.fragomen.com) or contact us at [dubaiinfo@fragomen.com](mailto:dubaiinfo@fragomen.com) to learn more about our company and services.*