



COVID 19 - CORONA VIRUS IMMIGRATION UPDATE

GETTING A VISA AND RESIDENCE



Cromwell Wilkes

As the world adjusts to COVID19 - Corona Virus and the international restrictions, economic down turns, and medical constraints become more apparent it is important to consider its impact on Immigration processes here in the United Kingdom.

Here is a guide that covers the major areas of concern during these changing times. Please note that these items may change at any time so be sure to check with us often.

Are immigration visas still possible?

Yes. At this time there is no mandate or stop on the legal immigration process.

I have already applied. Is my immigration application still being processed?

Yes, however due to mandates for self isolation and social distancing work across all sectors in judiciary and government agencies has reduced significantly. Most workers are at home or with limited access, however as much as possible is being done. Knowing this it is normal to assume that immigration application processing time-lines will become longer. It is also safe to assume that there might be changes to the medical requirements as well as documentation of places travelled, current place of residence, and medical history.

We currently have not received any changes or special instructions to these effects, but we are preparing for the possible outcomes.

How long could my immigration visa be delayed?

This is impossible to say with any accuracy at this time. However, all involved parties in the UK immigration process are committed to it returning to a normal process as soon as possible. This means each agency and our legal team are working to make sure that all the requirements are fully met and no time is wasted on clerical errors.

We encourage you to make sure that your immigration application is complete and that all the information is accurate and reliable.

Do I need to be tested for COVID19 - Corona Virus with my immigration application?

No. At this time there are no specific instruction to provide COVID19 - Corona Virus testing / screening with your current medical requirements.

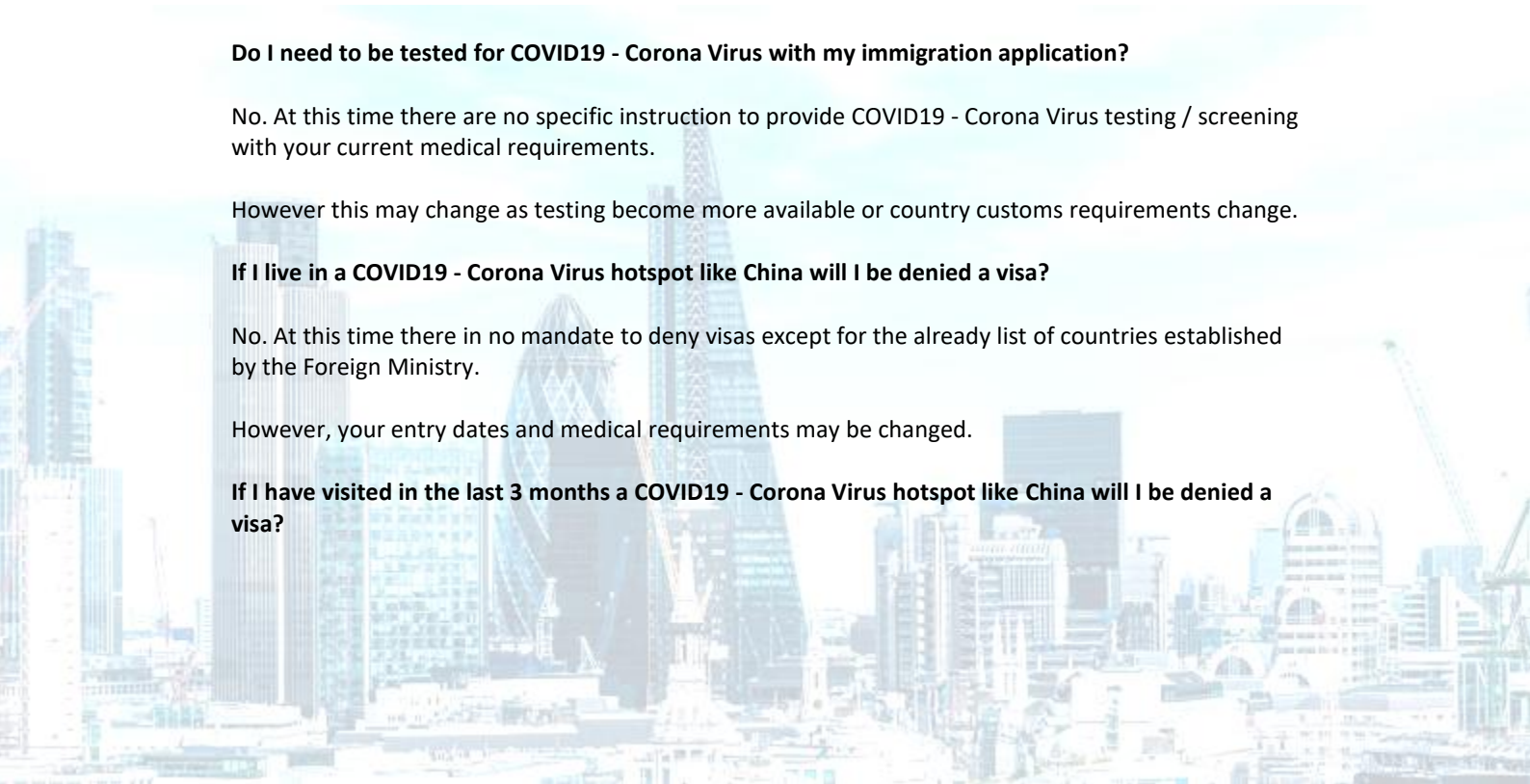
However this may change as testing become more available or country customs requirements change.

If I live in a COVID19 - Corona Virus hotspot like China will I be denied a visa?

No. At this time there in no mandate to deny visas except for the already list of countries established by the Foreign Ministry.

However, your entry dates and medical requirements may be changed.

If I have visited in the last 3 months a COVID19 - Corona Virus hotspot like China will I be denied a visa?



No. At this time there is no mandate to deny visas except for the already list of countries established by the Foreign Ministry.

However, your entry dates and medical requirements may be changed.

How do I apply for a visa?

The same way as before by working with a qualified here at Cromwell Wilkes. We have the knowledge and experience to ensure that your application is handled properly and legally.

What changes have you made in your processes?

We are continually and successfully working for our current clients everyday and we are actively receiving new clients each month. The only real changes we have made to day to day operations is stopping all face to face meetings and doing more work via video conferencing and remote offices.

How can I talk to you directly or receive a consultation?

We would be happy to talk to you via email, chat, Whatsapp, Facebook, Zoom, etc... to answer all your questions and determine the best path forward.

You can begin by filling out our online web form with your details and we contact you promptly.

Corona Virus – COVID 19

A Statement from Cromwell Wilkes to our clients (and future clients)

Cromwell Wilkes remains open for business.

We are ready to ensure that all legal rights are protected during this difficult period.

The Corona Virus pandemic is a major cause of concern for all of us, and Cromwell Wilkes expresses its best wishes to all our clients and their families. We urge you to follow (as we do) the official advice on staying safe, and to reducing the risk of passing on the virus to those who may be more vulnerable than others.

This statement seeks to offer reassurance about what will happen regarding your legal case.

Many hundreds of thousands of immigration applications remain outstanding nationally and internationally and we will be following closely all advice from the Home Office regarding any interruption or delay in the processing of applications, and from the Tribunal Service in the holding of appeals.

In the meantime, much of our work can and will continue remotely wherever possible. Deadlines will continue to be met and advice and consultations will still be delivered via email, telephone, Skype and WhatsApp.

And new cases can still be taken on behalf of those who are facing deadlines to make applications in this country – either to extend, renew or change their immigration status – and we can ensure these are still completed effectively and on time. And we will deliver the same quality of service and attention to detail that we have always done.

In the highly unlikely event that all work has to cease for a period, or if the Home Office takes steps to suspend in full or in part its casework operation then we would expect provisions to be made to protect people's rights so that they suffer no legal detriment due to this crisis. We shall certainly be ensuring that all our clients are protected in this regard.

For those of our clients who are regarded as vulnerable – for reasons of age, physical or mental health, or economic hardship, we shall be taking additional measures to remain in close contact and will be suspending any payment of legal fees that may fall due during the period of the crisis. Please be assured though that work on the cases will not be interrupted where fees are deferred until the crisis is over.

All our clients, especially those who are elderly, alone, or unwell, are always welcome to contact any of us if you need reassurance, advice, or simply need a person to talk to. We cannot of course give practical advice on the virus, but we remain ready to offer whatever other support we can to our clients and their families for as long as this situation continues. You should all have personal contact details for me and Jessica, and maybe also Justin, Alex, and Lucy also. If you have mislaid them then please let us know and these can be provided.

We will continue to update clients as the situation develops. For now, we shall ensure that all necessary steps are taken so that you can be sure your legal matters are in safe hands while you focus for now on looking after yourselves and your families.

Richard Roberts and Jessica Bishop

On behalf of Cromwell Wilkes

16th March 2020



NEXT STEPS >>>

Now that you know some of the typical issues and questions that need to be answered to immigrate to the UK to understand the entire process, in relation to your specific needs, please do the following...

1. Gather your documentation and that of your partner.
2. Begin to write out the answers to these questions (if they apply) and any other questions that are relevant to the process.
3. Contact us for a FREE, No Obligation consultation.



Cromwell Wilkes
One Lyric Square
London
W6 0NB

Phone

[0203 178 2008](tel:02031782008)

Email

lawyers@cromwellwilkes.co.uk

Online

<https://www.cromwellwilkes.co.uk/contact-us/>



For advice on applying for a Innovator and Start-Up visa and preparing for visa interviews, contact [Cromwell Wilkes Lawyers](https://www.cromwellwilkes.co.uk/contact-us/) today.