20 January 2022

NOTICE ABOUT NEW VISA AND ENTRY PERMISSION

Considering the Covid-19 pandemic situation with the beginning of the circulation of Omicron variant in recent days, the Government of Nepal has issued, on 14 January 2022, a revised order with regard to the arrival and departure of foreign officials, tourists and other visitors in/from Nepal, which came into force immediately. The following are the new provisions:

Visa on arrival for foreign nationals having a completed vaccine course against Covid-19:

- 1. (a) All foreign nationals, other than the citizens of the countries mentioned in paragraph **6.** below, arriving in Nepal by air or through entry points between Nepal-India and Nepal-China borders without a visa will be eligible to obtain a tourist visa on arrival provided that they are able to submit the following documents to the immigration office at the airport or entry points situated between Nepal-China and Nepal-India borders:
 - (1) A visa application form;
 - (2) A copy of anti-Covid-19 vaccination certificate/s confirming the completion of 14 days after full vaccine shot/s (single or double doses as prescribed) taken;
 - (3) Covid-19 test (RT-PCR, Gene Expert, True NAAT or WHO accredited test) report conforming negative result, which should be obtained not before 72 hours from the check-in time if travelling by air or not before 72 hours from the time of arriving at border entry point;
 - (4) A printed copy of the *International Traveler Online Arrival Form* and its barcode.
 - (Please log in to www.ccmc.gov.np to access the form. Barcode is generated after submitting the duly filled-in online registration form. Visitors are advised to fill-in the Form soon after they receive the PCR report and well before they leave home for the airport to avoid last minute hassle.)
 - (5) Proof of a hotel reservation in Nepal; and
 - (6) A copy of trekking or mountaineering permit if visiting Nepal for these purposes.
 - (This is applicable only to those who are visiting for trekking or mountaineering purpose requiring permit. Information about trekking routes requiring permit can be obtained from www.immigration.gov.np);



(b) However, if the visitor is symptomatic to Covid-19 infection, he/she is required to go through an Antigen test at the entry point. If the test report come out positive, he/she must remain at isolation center or at the hotel prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Population. The visitor himself/herself will be responsible for the cost of the hotel.

Visa on arrival for foreign nationals without having complete vaccine course against Covid-19:

- 2. (a) Foreign nationals who are yet to administer full vaccine shots against Covid-19 (single or double doses as prescribed) or having incomplete shot or they are yet to complete 14 days from the date of last vaccine taken, can still obtain visa on arrival in Nepal. The following are the requirements:
 - (1) Documents mentioned in clauses (1), (2), (3) (4) and (5) under paragraph 1., subparagraph (a); and
 - (2) Documents mentioned in clause (6), under paragraph 1., subparagraph (a), if applicable.
 - (b) However, all the visitors, mentioned in paragraph 1., subparagraph (a), are required to go through *Antigen test* for Covid-19 at entry point. If the test result come out positive, they must remain in *mandatory quarantine* at the isolation centre or at the hotel prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Population.
 - (c) If the test result is negative, the visitors will be sent to a five-day quarantine at the hotel they already booked on their own. In the event that the Antigen test could not be conducted at the entry point, the visitors are required to have Covid-19 test at the hotel they will be staying. However, Antigen test of a symptomatic visitor will be conducted at the airport itself.
 - (d) Visitors who are at hotel quarantine are required to go through PCR test on 6th day. If the test result is negative, they will be allowed to get engaged in the planned activities. The **cost for Antigen and PCR test** will be the responsibility of the visitors concerned.
 - (All visitors are required to carry with them the documents mentioned in clauses (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) as applicable under paragraph 1. subparagraph (a) as well as the document mentioned in clause (3) under paragraph 2., subparagraph (a) for the purpose of submitting them to the immigration office at the entry point.)

Tourist visa from Embassy or Consulates of Nepal:

3. (a) Foreign nationals who are yet to administer full vaccine against Covid-19 (single or double doses as prescribed) or having incomplete shot or they are yet to complete 14 days from the date of last vaccine taken, can also obtain visa from the Embassy or Consulate of Nepal.



(b) All the requirements for obtaining visa, Covid-19 test and quarantine procedures to be followed and the documents to be carried to Nepal as mentioned in paragraph 2. will also be applicable to those who are visiting Nepal after obtaining visas from the Embassy or Consulate.

Conditions to be to fulfilled by Nepali and foreign nationals of Nepali origin (NRNs) for entry permission:

- 4. (a) Nepali and foreign nationals of Nepali origin (NRNs) and their dependent family members (Nepali or foreigner) who are fully vaccinated against Covid-19 (single or double doses as prescribed) and have completed 14 days from the last vaccine taken will be permitted to enter Nepal on submission of the documents/fulfilling the conditions mentioned below:
 - (1) A visa application form (for foreign nationals only);
 - (2) Documents mentioned in clauses (2), (3) and (4) under paragraph 1., subparagraph (a); and
 - (3) They are asymptomatic to Covid-19 infection.
 - (b) If a visitor appeared symptomatic, he/she is required to go through an Antigen test at entry point. If the test result come out negative, he/she will be allowed to enter Nepal on condition of a five-day home/hotel quarantine. In case of positive result, he/she will be sent to the isolation centre or to the hospital prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Population.
 - (c) Visitors, referred in paragraph 4. subparagraph (a), who are yet to administer full vaccine shots against Covid-19 (single or double doses as prescribed) or having incomplete shot or they are yet to complete 14 days from the date of last vaccine taken are required to go through Antigen test at the airport whether or not they appear symptomatic. They will be permitted to enter Nepal if the Antigen test result come out negative. They are required to submit the following documents:
 - (1) A visa application form (for foreign nationals only); and
 - (2) Documents mentioned in clauses (3) and (4) under paragraph 1. subparagraph (a).

Visa for foreign mission officials and their family members and other foreign dignitaries and delegation members:

(a) Diplomats and officials of foreign missions based in Nepal and their family members who are fully vaccinated against Covid-19 (single or double doses as prescribed) and have completed 14 days from the last vaccine taken can apply for visa at the Embassy or Consulate of Nepal or on arrival at entry point in Nepal.



Requirements for obtaining visa from Nepali missions:

(1) Documents mentioned in clauses (1) and (2) under paragraph 1. subparagraph (a).

Requirements for obtaining visa on arrival at entry point:

- (1) Documents mentioned in clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4) under paragraph 1., subparagraph (a).
- (b) However, if the visitor, referred in subparagraph (a), is symptomatic to Covid-19 infection, he/she is required to go through an Antigen test at the airport. If the test result come out negative, he/she will be allowed to go the place of residence. In case of positive result, he/she will be sent to the isolation centre or hospital for quarantine/ medical treatment.
- (c) Entry permission to the diplomats and officials of foreign missions based in Nepal, foreign nationals working in Nepal in public sectors and their dependent family members who are yet to complete full vaccine course against Covid-19 or having incomplete vaccine course or yet to complete 14 days from the date the last vaccine taken will be granted entry permission under the following conditions:
 - (1) For diplomats and foreign mission officials and their family members at the recommendation of the respective mission; and
 - (2) For health professionals who are coming to Nepal to work in the areas of preventing Covid-19 pandemic at the recommendation of the Ministry of Health and Population.
- (d) However, foreign mission officials, referred in clause (1) and their dependent family members are required to remain in quarantine for five days at the residence specified by the missions they belong to.
- (e) Foreign mission officials and their family members, referred in clauses (1) and (2), are required to go through Antigen test at the airport. In case the test result come out positive, they will be sent to the designated isolation centre.
- (f) Foreign dignitaries and delegation members arriving in Nepal at the invitation of the Government of Nepal to attend an official meeting are required to go through Antigen test at the entry point. In case the test result come out positive, they need to remain in designated isolation centre.

Visa to be obtained only from Embassy or Consulate:

6. (a) Nationals from Nigeria, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Cameroon, Somalia, Liberia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Palestine, Afghanistan and Syria and all visitors holding travel documents or emergency passports must obtain a

tourist visa from the Embassy or Consulate of Nepal before arriving Nepal. They will not be able to obtain visa on arrival at entry points in Nepal irrespective of their anti-Covid-19 vaccine status.

Provision for Indian nationals arriving through land border:

- 7. (a) Indian nationals arriving Nepal through entry/exit immigration check points situated between Nepal-India borders are required to submit the following documents to ensure arrival permission although no visa required:
 - (1) Documents mentioned in clauses (3) and (4) under paragraph 1., subparagraph (a).
 - (b) However, each visitor is required to submit an Antigen test report confirming negative result if he/she seemed symptomatic to Covid-19 infection.

Provision regarding minors:

8. (a) Vaccination against Covid-19 or testing is not required for the minors below five years. Vaccinations is not mandatory for the children above five and below 18 years of age but all other requirements mentioned under paragraph 1., subparagraph (a) will be applicable to them as well.

Requirement for travelling out of Nepal for foreign nationals:

- 9. (a) Foreign nationals travelling out of Nepal are required to submit the following documents at the immigration exit point:
 - (1) Covid-19 (PCR) test report issued by authorized health laboratory in Nepal confirming negative result. The report should be obtained within the periods as specified by the country of destination. If not specified, it should be taken not before 48 hours from the check-out time;
 - (2) A printed copy of the *International Traveler Online Departure* Form. This Form can be obtained after completion of online registration (*Please log in to www.ccmc.gov.np to access the form*).