



News Advisory  
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## Oman bans visa transfers for foreign workers

The Department of Foreign Affairs reported that the Omani government has prohibited the transfer of employment visa for expatriate workers in Oman who have not completed two (2) years of their work with their employers.

The ban, which was implemented on 1 June 2014, prevented foreign workers from changing employers in the middle of their contracts, even if they happen to find a more favorable work opportunity. It was seen to avert pirating of expats among Omani companies.

However, the ban will not completely prevent transfers of workers as they can request their current employers to issue a “no objection certificate” that would legally allow them to change workplaces.

The visa transfer ban will also affect foreign workers who have finished their respective contracts and went home with the intention of transferring to another company, in which case, they have to wait two (2) years before being allowed to re-enter Oman as expat workers.

The rule does not cover vacationing workers returning to their previous companies.

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