

**Legal basis for the recent modifications regarding valid visas issued by other countries that allow entry into Panama.**

Specifically, we are sharing Executive Decree No. 521 of August 6, 2018, and Executive Decree No. 196 of October 28, 2024, which modifies Article 2 of Decree No. 521. Both documents are attached for your reference.

**Executive Decree No. 521 of August 6, 2018 – Article 1:**

*“Any person of nationality that requires a visa to enter the Republic of Panama, who holds a valid visa or residence, duly issued by Canada, the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Republic of Korea, the State of Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Republic of Singapore, and any of the States that make up the European Union, may enter the national territory.”*

This means that citizens of countries that require a visa to enter Panama, but who already have a valid visa or residence from one of the countries listed, can enter Panama without needing an additional visa.

**Executive Decree No. 521 of August 6, 2018 – Article 2 (original):**

*“The visa granted by the countries mentioned in the previous article must be a multiple-entry visa, have been previously used in the territory of the issuing State, and its validity shall not be less than six months at the time of entry into Panamanian territory.”*

Previously, to enter Panama, the visa had to have been used at least once in the issuing country.

**Executive Decree No. 196 of October 28, 2024 – Modification of Article 2 of Decree 521:**

*“Article 2 of Executive Decree No. 521 of August 6, 2018, is hereby amended as follows:*

*Article 2: Upon entering Panamanian territory, foreign citizens must hold a valid visa issued by one of the countries listed in Article 1 of Executive Decree No. 521 of August 6, 2018.”*