

State Streamlining Registration Rules

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A new government order aims to stream the procedure for Russians seeking permanent registration for their places of residence.

Applicants for permanent registration will be able to e-mail the necessary documents to migration authorities instead of presenting them in person, according to the <u>order</u> published in Rossiiskaya Gazeta on Wednesday.

People will have to collect the same number of documents as before and will still have to visit the local migration office to obtain the registration stamp in their passports, Federal Migration Service spokesman Kostantin Poltoranin told The Moscow Times on Thursday.

But people previously had to go to migration authorities twice, first to submit papers and then to collect them, he said.

The new rules take effect on Jan. 1.

Poltoranin also said internal passports might be replaced with electronic identification cards after permanent and temporary registration requirements are abolished altogether, but foreign passports will remain, Interfax reported.

By law, the absence of permanent or temporary registration or failure to carry an internal passport is punishable by a fine of up to 2,500 rubles (\$80). A new government order aims to stream the procedure for Russians seeking permanent registration for their places of residence.

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