

Virtual APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC)

Virtual APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) is a new and secure method for travelling on ABTC. The virtual ABTC has been developed to allow approved card holders from fully participating APEC member economies to securely display their ABTC on their smart device removing the need of carrying a physical ABTC.

It is important to note that the Virtual ABTC is simply a digital version of the physical card; therefore, current entry and exit processes remain the same regardless of whether the card holder is using a Virtual ABTC or the physical card.

From the 01st of March, 2021, all economies including transitional member economies have accepted the use of Virtual ABTC at the international ports of entry.

Note: Until further notice, all travellers holding a virtual ABTC will need to apply for a visa to enter the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China. This notice does not apply to travellers who are still able to present a physical ABTC.

Papua New Guinea as one of the member economies has successfully transitioned on the 30th of June, 2021, hence, we are no longer issuing physical cards.

The Virtual ABTC will only apply to new applicants and for those applying for renewal. Existing card holders will not have access to the Virtual platform until they apply for ABTC renewal.

A cardholder's virtual ABTC is linked to the ABTC System, hence, any changes and updates to his/her ABTC status will be reflected in real time on his/her virtual ABTC. So once pre-clearance to enter an economy has been approved, this will be immediately updated and displayed on the virtual ABTC. This allows the cardholder to begin using his/her virtual ABTC without having to wait for every economy to provide their approval.

As PNG has chosen to utilise auto-notifications - an automatically generated email will be sent to the applicant (*provided an email address is recorded in the ABTC System*) once the applicant's virtual ABTC has been issued.

Virtual ABTC Application can be downloaded using Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. Search for the 'APEC Business Travel Card', or 'ABTC', and install the application.

Links

More information of Virtual ABTC <https://www.apec.org/groups/committee-on-trade-and-investment/business-mobility-group/virtual-abtc>

Virtual ABTC FAQ for Cardholders https://www.apec.org/docs/default-source/groups/bmg/2021/virtual-abtc-faqs-for-cardholders.pdf?sfvrsn=4ec25cd6_1

Virtual ABTC Quick Reference User Guide https://www.apec.org/docs/default-source/groups/bmg/2021/the-virtual-abtc-quick-reference-user-guide.pdf?sfvrsn=90111201_1

Contacts

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