



The Didi app for download on the Apple App Store is seen on a smartphone. — CFP

Changing gears as Didi gets approval to register new users

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Didi's official statement

Car-hailing and mobility service platform Didi has resumed new user registration after receiving the nod from China's cyberspace authorities.

The ride-hailer, launched in Beijing in 2012, has been awaiting approval to resume new user registrations and downloads of its 25 banned apps in China as a key step to return to normal business since its regulatory troubles started in mid-2021.

“We have fully rectified and overhauled our security measures following the national security inspections lasting more than a year,” it said in an official statement.

The company has received the approval from the Cyberspace Administration to resume the new user registration process, Didi added.

Cyberspace authorities launched the probes in 2021 and Didi announced its delisting plan from the New York Stock Exchange at the end of 2021.

A joint team, from the Cyberspace Administration of China, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of

State Security, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Transport, the State Taxation Administration and the State Administration of Market Regulation, was sent to the ride-hailing company to conduct an on-site cybersecurity review.

Didi was fined 8.03 billion yuan (US\$1.19 billion) in penalties last July for data security breaches, due to the “egregious nature” of the offenses and other “grave violations.”

The company paid the fine last year, the largest regulatory penalty imposed on a Chinese tech firm since Alibaba and Meituan were fined US\$2.75 billion and US\$527 million, respectively, in 2021 by the State Administration for Market Regulation.

The company filed its delisting notification with the Securities and Exchange Commission in May after receiving shareholder approval.

Didi added that it will also take effective measures to safeguard data security and national cyber-safety in the future.

(Reuters/Shanghai Daily)

Key events since Didi announced US listing plans

- JUN 11 2021** Didi makes public the filing for its US listing, setting the stage for what is expected to be the world's biggest initial public offering of 2021.
- JUN 30 2021** Didi raises US\$4.4 billion in its IPO, pricing it at the top of its indicated range and increasing the number of shares sold, giving it a valuation of US\$73 billion on a fully diluted basis.
- JUL 4 2021** The CAC orders Chinese app stores to stop offering Didi's app after finding that the firm had illegally collected users' personal data.
- JUL 5-6 2021** Didi shares fall as much as 25 percent in the first US trading session since Chinese regulators ordered its app off mobile app stores in China.
- OCT 29 2021** CAC publishes draft guidelines that will subject companies with more than 1 million users in the country to a security review before they can send user-related data abroad.
- DEC 3 2021** Didi announces plan to delist from New York, and list in Hong Kong.
- MAY 23 2022** Didi said it will delist from the New York Stock Exchange, after a majority of the company's shareholders voted in favor of the plan.
- JUL 21 2022** China's cybersecurity regulator fined Didi US\$1.2 billion.
- JAN 16 2023** Didi resumes new user registration after receiving the nod from China's cyberspace authorities.