



# Students residing and working in Estonia

Project AMIF 2021-6



SISEMINISTEERIUM

Project co-funded by the European Union through Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and Ministry of the Interior

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31.08.2023



Police and Border Guard Board



# TOPICS

- ◆ European Union (EU) citizens;
- ◆ Students outside of EU:
  - a. Different legal bases to stay in Estonia;
  - b. D-visas;
  - c. Residence permits;
- ◆ Migration advisers.





# STUDENTS FROM EUROPEAN UNION (EU)



# Students from EU



- ◆ Right to stay up to 3 months without any registrations.
- ◆ For stays longer than 3 months, you should obtain the right of residence, which is issued for 5 years.
- ◆ Register your place of residence at the Estonian population register to obtain the right of residence.
- ◆ You have the right to work and study from the first day of arrival without any additional applications.





# ID-card for an adult

- ♦ For applying for the document (ID-card) which certifies the right of temporary residence, you need to address within the period of one month from the registration of your place of residence **in person** at the [Service Office](#). Please note that it is not required to book an appointment for this procedure, but we recommend booking an appointment (option nr 1 in the booking calender) in order to avoid the long queues.





# STUDENTS OUTSIDE OF EU





# Different legal bases to stay in Estonia

- ◆ visa-free regime stay for up to 90 days (depends on your citizenship)
- ◆ C-type visa for up to 90 days (can be applied for in the embassies only)
- ◆ D-type visa for up to 365 days (can be applied for in the Estonian embassies or at the PBGB)
- ◆ Other country temporary residence permit or visa based on study purpose.





## Which basis to choose?

General rule is, that if your stay lasts for up to 1 year, you need to apply for a long-term (type D) visa.

If your studies should last longer than a year, you will need to apply for a temporary residence permit (TRP) for studying.

For the degree students often used in combination, a D-visa is applied before arrival to Estonia at the Estonian representation and a residence permit while already here.





# Legal basis to stay with another EU TRP or visa



- ◆ It is allowed to stay on the basis of TRP or D-visa issued from another EU country for up to 360 days with the purpose of study in Estonia if a person is **accepted** to study in Estonian educational institution.
- ◆ TRP has to be issued according to **EU directive 2016/801** and has to have marking „student“ on the residence card or visa.
- ◆ Within this stay it is allowed to work, ***if your employment do not interfere the studies***





# Applying for the Estonian long-stay (D-type) visa





# Where to apply for the Estonian long-stay (D-type) visa?

A long-stay visa must be applied for in person:

- ◆ at an Estonian representation, which handles visa applications or
- ◆ at a service office of the Police and Border Guard Board in Estonia.





# How to apply for a long-term (D) visa in Estonia?

- ◆ Bring all the necessary documents with you.
- ◆ Keep in mind that you have to apply for a long-term (D) visa at least 10 business days before your legal basis to stay ends!
- ◆ The PBGB shall review the submitted application within 10 business days of the acceptance of the application.





# Documents required for applying long-term visa:

- ◆ completed and signed long-term visa application form pre-application [environment](#);
- ◆ one digital colour photo;
- ◆ a valid travel document (passport)
- ◆ a valid health insurance policy ensuring payment of treatment costs incurred through illness or injury of the applicant for the period of validity of the visa;
- ◆ The documents evidencing the purpose and cause for stay
- ◆ [a document evidencing the payment of a state fee \(100 euros\)](#)





# Long-stay D-visa

- ◆ By signing the application form You are confirming:
  - ◆ You have enough monetary substance
  - ◆ You have the accommodation
- ◆ If case handler will need to see these documents, then the documents will be asked from you.





# Applying for the temporary residence permit (TRP)





## Important to note:

- ◆ You need to apply for your residence permit **personally**.
- ◆ Reserve a time slot <https://broneering.politsei.ee/>
- ◆ Start the application process immediately, do not wait until the end of your right to stay, otherwise you may be obliged to leave the country.
- ◆ Processing your application may take up to 2 months (from the acceptance of the application or from the last submitted documents) or longer.
- ◆ Your residence card will be available to pick up within 30 days of the issue of the residence permit







## TRP for studying

- ◆ a completed temporary residence permit application form;
- ◆ a completed form of the details of your close relatives and family members;
- ◆ an identity document (copy of your passport);
- ◆ one digital colour photo;
- ◆ a document certifying payment of the state fee, e.g., a payment order.

An educational institution submits a digitally signed invitation form by e-mail to [ppa@politsei.ee](mailto:ppa@politsei.ee).





## Important to note

- ◆ NB! The first time application for the TRP does not grant you a legal basis to stay in Estonia!
- ◆ Therefore, until you receive your TRP, you must make sure that you can stay in Estonia based on the visa free regime or based on the visa.
- ◆ If necessary, apply for a D-type visa to fully cover the time until you receive your TRP.





# Right to work for students with the residence permit

- ◆ Students have a **right to work** during studies – no need for separate work permit!
  - *However, students need to continue studying for a full-time load.*
  - *Primary purpose for residence is to study.*





## Be aware, that:

- ◆ If an foreigner holds a TRP for study and has failed to complete the study program to the extent required to hold a residence permit for study or has interrupted studies, the validity of their temporary residence permit expires **30 days** after failure to complete the study program to the required extent or interruption of studies (Aliens Act § 173´1).



# Inviting family member (spouse)

- ◆ From the 1st of September 2022 there were changes in the Estonian Aliens Act and with this change the spouses can not apply for a long-stay (D) visa with the same requirements as a student. Spouse has to show monetary subsistence for full as in general requirements. It means the monetary subsistence has to be at least 70 euros per visa day.
- ◆ From the 1st of January 2023 the Estonian Aliens Act changed again and with this change student has to live at least 2 years based on temporary residence permit in Estonia before he/she can invite the spouse to join him/her in Estonia and obtain the residence permit for settling with the spouse.





# Staying in Estonia after TRP studies

- ◆ After the end of your residence permit for studying, **you have a right to stay** in Estonia for 270 additional days:
  - ◆ Does not apply when residence permit is revoked or ended!
  - ◆ You will no longer be a resident, this is a temporary stay!
  - ◆ You can work during this time of period without any additional permits from the PBGB!
- ◆ You have the **right to apply for a new temporary residence permit** in Estonia. The most common of them are:
  - ◆ For employment (issued for max up to 5 years)
  - ◆ For business (issued for max up to 5 years)
  - ◆ For settling permanently – ***for PhD holders only*** (issued for max up to 5 years)



# Visa sticker to formalize your stay during 270 days.



- ◆ A free-form application, including the applicant's forename or forenames, surname or surnames, personal identification code, contact information, the date of application and signature;
- ◆ a photograph;
- ◆ a travel document (your passport);
- ◆ a document that confirms the payment of state fee (30 €); the state fee should be paid at the service office but only in cash.





# Background about migration advice service at PBGB:

- ◆ **Project AMIF 2021-6**
- ◆ Project co-funded by the European Union through Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and Ministry of the Interior
- ◆ Service launched on **01.03.2017**







If you have any questions about your right to stay and/or work, please contact PBGB migration advisers



+372 612 3500 (M-F 9.00 – 15.00)



[migrationadvice@politsei.ee](mailto:migrationadvice@politsei.ee)



EstonianPolice\_MigrationAdvice



Tallinn

Tartu



Police and Border Guard Board



Thank you!

**QUESTIONS PLEASE**

