

Students residing and working in Estonia

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Estonian Police and Border Guard Board



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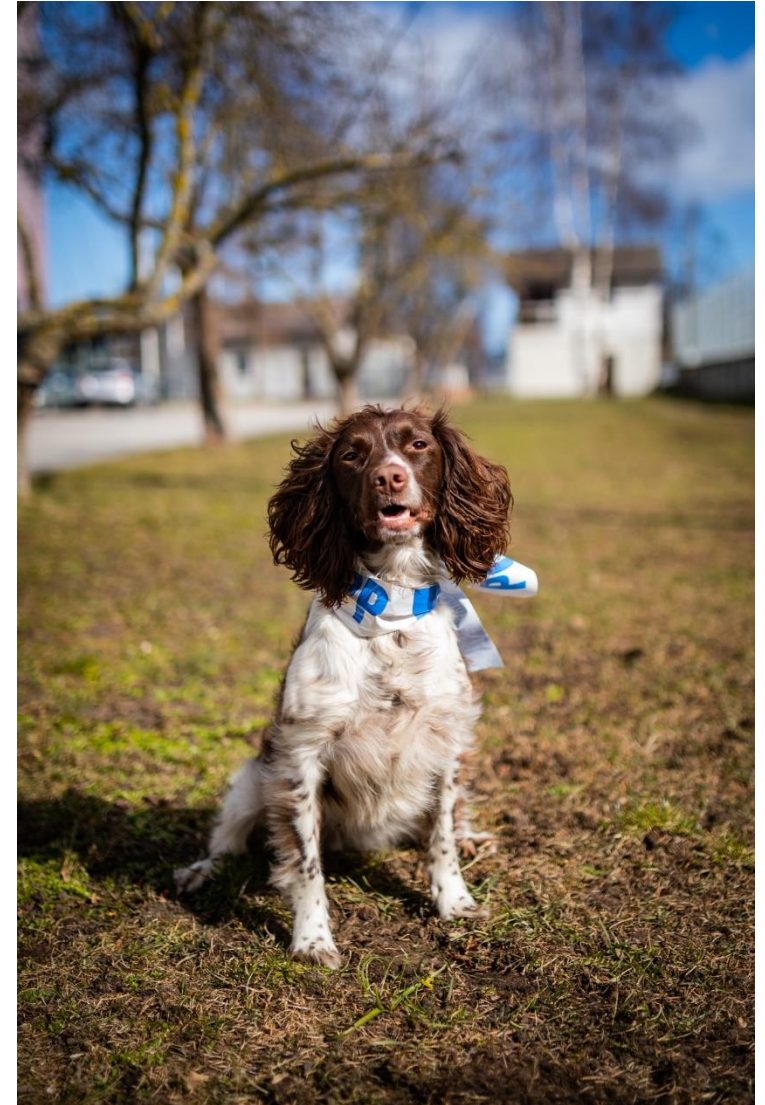


Non-EU citizens



Different legal bases of stay in Estonia

- **Short-term stay**
 - visa-free stay for up to 90 days (depends on your citizenship)
 - C-type visa for up to 90 days (can be applied for in embassies only)
 - D-type visa for up to 365 days (can be applied for in Estonian embassies or at the PBGB)
- **Residing**
 - Other country temporary residence permit or visa based on study purpose.
 - Temporary residence permit (up to 5 years)



Which basis to choose?

- General rule is, that if your stay lasts for up to 1 year, you may apply for the Estonian long-stay (D-type) **visa**.
- If you need to stay in Estonia for longer, then you should apply for the temporary residence permit (**TRP**).
- 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 bases 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 or visa has to be issued according to **EU directive 2016/801** and has to have **marking „Student“** on the residence card or visa
- If your employment will not interfere your studies, then it is allowed to work during that period without any additional applications



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 the long-stay (D-type) visa in Estonia?

NB! Has to be applied 10 working days before the legal bases to stay ends.

1. Before going to the service office, fill in the long-term (D visa) form in the visa pre-applications environment.
2. Go to the service office and bring all the necessary documents with you.

NB! No need to book an appointment beforehand, but you may, if you wish.

Documents necessary for application

- completed long-term visa application form
- [one colour photograph](#)
- applicant's valid travel document
- a valid insurance contract ensuring payment of treatment costs incurred through illness or injury of the applicant for the period of validity of the visa being applied for, unless set forth otherwise in legislation or treaty
- the purpose of the stay = invitation letter from institution
- document certifying the payment of state fee (100 euro)

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.

Long-term (category D) visa

You can find more
information here:

<https://www.politsei.ee/en/instructions/visa-and-extending-period-of-stay/long-term-visa>





Applying for the temporary residence permit (TRP)

How to apply for a residence permit?

If you are staying in Estonia with a visa free status or you have a visa, then you can apply for the residence permit at the PBGB service office.

NB! Prebooking required:

- broneering.politsei.ee/



Important to note:

- You need to apply for your residence permit personally.
- 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).
- Your residence card will be available to pick up within 30 days of the issue of the residence permit.

Documents needed to submit:

- [a completed temporary residence permit application form](#)
- [a completed form of the details of your close relatives and family members](#)
- an identity document
- [digital 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 .

Applicants' confirmations

By signing the application you confirm that:

- the copy appended to the application complies with the original document, it does not contain false data and it has not been forged;
- You have concluded an insurance contract - (some examples from Estonia: Inges, ERGO, Salva, Iff etc);
- You have sufficient legal income

PBGB has the right to ask additional documents (included documents about legal income and insurance contract).

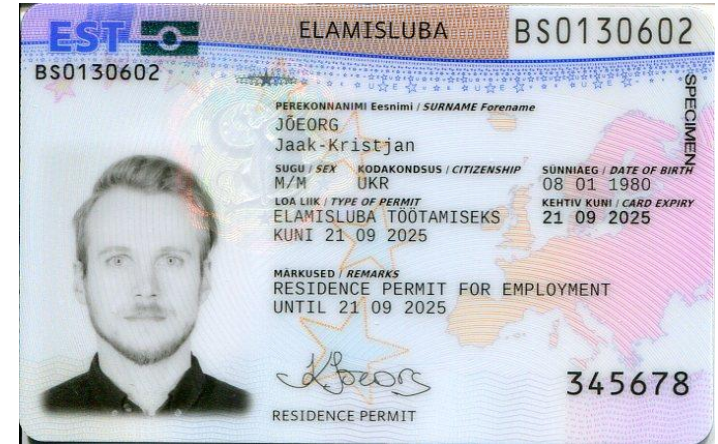


Important to note:

- **The first time application for the TRP does not grant you a legal basis to stay in Estonia.**
- Therefore, until you receive your residence permit, 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.

Residence permit for study

- Residence permit for study can be issued for nominal study time, but not longer than 5 years.
- If needed the permit can be extended until the end of your studies.
- Residence permit is issued for full time/load study!



Residence permit card

- Due to the digital component of the card, it is convenient, easy and secure to use online banking and other electronic services.
- The residence permit card is not a valid travel document, but must be carried along with the passport of the country of citizenship in order to return to Estonia.



After receiving your residence permit

- After receiving your residence permit, you need to register your place of residence in the Population Registry within 1 month.
- Bring your passport and tenancy agreement!



Inviting family members (spouse and children)

- From the 1st of September 2022 there was changes in 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 was 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 or her in Estonia and obtain the residence permit for settling with the student.



Right to work for students

Employment based on the visa for studies

- If visa was issued for studying, then you are allowed to work in Estonia.
- Your main purpose in Estonia is to study!

Employment based on the TRP for studies

- Students have the right to work during their studies – no need for separate work permit!
- However, students need to continue studying **full time/load!**
- Primary purpose for residence is to study!
- If student falls to part-time study load or stops learning, then the residence permit ends automatically 30 days from falling behind with the studies.

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!
- 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)



Migration advisers



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Contact

If You have questions about your right to stay and/or work, please contact PBGB Migration Advisors:

- Phone: +372 612 3500 (Mon-Fri 9.00-15.00)
- E-mail: migrationadvice@politsei.ee
- Skype: [EstonianPolice_MigrationAdvice](https://www.skype.com/en/contacts/voice/EstonianPolice_MigrationAdvice) (prior booking required)



Aitäh! / Thank you!



MIGRATSIOONINÕUSTAJAD

Politsei- ja Piirivalveamet nõustab välismaalaste Eestisse elama asumise, õppimise, töötamise ja värbamise teemadel eesti, inglise ja vene keeles.

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