



Non-EU students residing and working in Estonia

Project AMIF.1.02.23 0001 „Migrationadvice“



Co-funded by the
European Union



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

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

Oksana Finogenova

Migration adviser

30.08.2024



Police and Border Guard Board

TOPICS



- ◆ Students outside of EU:
 - ◆ Different legal bases to stay in Estonia;
 - ◆ D-visa;
 - ◆ Residence permit;
 - ◆ Working while studying
 - ◆ Student obligations
 - ◆ Inviting family member (spouse)
 - ◆ Staying after Graduation
- ◆ Ukrainian citizens
- ◆ Migration advisers





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 Embassies only)
- ◆ D-type visa - for up to 365 days (can be applied for in Estonian embassies or at the PBGB)
- ◆ Other country temporary residence permit or visa based on study purpose.





Legal basis to stay with another EU TRP or visa

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





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 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.





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 (PBGB) in Estonia.





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

- ◆ Legal basis to stay in Estonia in order to submit the application in Estonia
- ◆ Book an appointment <https://broneering.politsei.ee/> and 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 will review the submitted application within 10 working 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

- ◆ The documents evidencing the purpose and cause for stay:
 - ◆ Monetary substance
 - ◆ Students must have legal income which covers all the expenses in Estonia. The minimum amount of income has to be 800 € per month.
 - ◆ Accommodation
 - ◆ University invitation





Applying for the temporary residence permit (TRP)





Important to note:

- ◆ Make a reservation online:
<https://broneering.politsei.ee/>
- ◆ You need to apply for your residence permit in person.
- ◆ Processing of your application may last 2 months (from the acceptance of the application or from the last submitted documents) or even longer.
- ◆ Your residence permit card will be available to pick up within 30 days after getting the positive decision





TRP for studying

- a completed temporary residence permit application form
- a completed form of the details of your close relatives and family members
- biographical data
- additional form (if necessary)
- 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.





TRP for studying

By signing the application applicant confirms that :

- ◆ the copy appended to the application complies with the original document, it does not contain false data and it has not been forged and
- ◆ applicant has adequate legal income
- ◆ applicant has health insurance contract. The requirements regarding the [medical insurance policy are listed in section 120 \(“Insurance cover”\) of the Aliens Act.](#)

The processor of the application may ask you to submit additional information or documents, if necessary.





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 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
- ◆ After receipt of the residence permit, you must register your place of residence in the [Population Register](#).





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 of residence is to study.*





Be aware, that:

- ◆ If a foreigner holds a temporary residence permit 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)

- ◆ Please note, that 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 (2100 euros per month).
- ◆ The 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 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 permit

- ◆ 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 name, surname, 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.





Useful links

- ◆ <https://www.politsei.ee/en/instructions/residence-permit-for-study-for-a-foreigner>
- ◆ [Student guide for applying residence permit](#)



Ukrainian citizens and temporary protection



- ◆ The legal right to stay in Estonia arising from [Aliens Act § 309¹⁴](#) applies only to Ukrainian citizens who were already in Estonia before the war started, and whose legal bases for staying have expired. Additionally, this right is also granted to those who were living in Ukraine before the start of the war and came to Estonia after the war began, but do not have any protection or a residence permit in Estonia or another country.
- ◆ Temporary protection in Estonia can be applied by those Ukrainian citizens who lived in Ukraine until 24.02.22 and fled the country because of hostilities on or after 24.02.22.
- ◆ Temporary protection applied for from 1 August 2024 is valid until March 2026.





Background about migration advice service at PBGB

- ◆ Project **AMIF.1.02.23 0001 „Migrationadvice“**
- ◆ 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 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

ONLINE consultations available upon request

Face to face meetings

International House of Estonia



Tere!
Hello!
Здравствуйте!



Tallinn

Tartu





Thank you!

QUESTIONS PLEASE

