



Instructions for employers regarding the accommodation of seasonal workers and in organising SARS-CoV-2 testing

- The building must be compliant with the latest requirements which are applicable to buildings.
- The premises, sanitary installations, and equipment as provided to seasonal workers must be functional, clean, and safe for the user if they are being used for their intended purpose.
- The premises must be supplied with electricity and safe drinking water that meets current standards. The hot water supply should advisably provide hot water of a temperature of at least 65°C around the clock.
- Proper waste removal and wastewater treatment must be ensured.
- The rooms, bathrooms, and toilet should advisably be ventilated by natural or mechanical means of ventilation.
- There should be an optimum air temperature in the dwellings (of at least 18°C).
- General lighting should ensure uniform, diffused lighting in public areas, the dwelling themselves, and in bathrooms and toilets.
- The place of accommodation for seasonal workers should advisably be equipped with access to a kitchen. The number of people who use the kitchen at the same time should be restricted so that kitchen users can maintain safe social distancing (a distance of approximately two metres between two individuals), which could be achievable in several ways such as, for example, by drawing up a schedule for using the kitchen. Dishes should be washed in a dishwasher at a temperature of 90°C. If there is no dishwasher available then those people who are accommodated in the premises should advisably avoid sharing their dining utensils.
- The place of accommodation for seasonal workers should advisably be equipped with laundry facilities. The personal laundry of an individual who is suspected of having contracted the virus must be machine-washed at a temperature of at least 60°C.
- The minimum permitted surface area for the accommodation premises is 4m² per bed or bunk bed.



- There must be a gap of at least two metres between beds. If it is not possible to ensure the required two-metre gaps between beds then gaps of at least one metre must be left between them and the beds must be separated by using partition walls and screens.
- If possible there should be at least one bathroom for every twelve beds within any accommodation for seasonal workers. The number of people who use the bathroom at any one time should be restricted so that bathroom users can maintain their social distancing (a distance of approximately two metres between two individuals), which could be achievable in several ways such as, for example, by drawing up a schedule for using the bathroom.
- If possible there should be at least one toilet for anything up to six beds within any accommodation for seasonal workers.
- If there is enough room within the place of accommodation, it would be advisable to accommodate together in one room those people who have arrived together and who will work on the same shift.
- The employer or individual who has invited seasonal workers must ensure - before the arrival of any such workers - that during their stay and following their departure the accommodation premises have been properly cleaned. The advice of the Health Board where it relates to efficient cleaning and disinfection can be found here: www.terviseamet.ee/et/COVID-19-trukised#JUHENDID.
- The employer must notify all employees of the requirements which have been established and advice which has been issued by the state in connection with the spread of COVID-19 (www.kriis.ee; <https://www.terviseamet.ee/et/uuskoroonaviirus>).
- The employer should think in advance about the conditions and circumstances that may be required in terms of the potential temporary isolation of an employee who exhibits the symptoms of an infectious disease.
- If a seasonal worker falls ill, the employer must observe the instructions entitled '*What to do if you suspect that you may have been infected with the 2019 coronavirus*', which are available on the Health Board's website: www.terviseamet.ee/et/COVID-19trukised#JUHENDID

Testing seasonal workers for SARS-CoV-2

- Pursuant to order No 282 by the Government of the Republic of Estonia dated 16 May 2020 which is entitled '*Restrictions on freedom of movement and on holding meetings and organising public events that are necessary for the prevention of the spread of COVID-19*', any individuals who arrive in Estonia from third countries where such third countries have experienced a rate of new cases over the last fourteen days that has exceeded sixteen for



every 100,000 people must be tested twice for SARS-CoV-2, first upon their arrival in Estonia and again on the fourteenth day of their stay in Estonia, and at the earliest possible instance in connection with those timings.

- Various providers of healthcare services who supply paid coronavirus testing services can be approached in order to organise testing (such as Medicum, Synlab, Confido, Corrigo, Qvalitas, and Fertilitas).
- The service provider will organise testing at their reception or testing points. In certain cases the involved parties can agree on a testing location for a group of employees which is convenient for all parties.
- The cost of one test is approximately 90 euros but prices may vary to some extent, depending on the service provider. The prices are published on the websites of the service providers themselves.