



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture

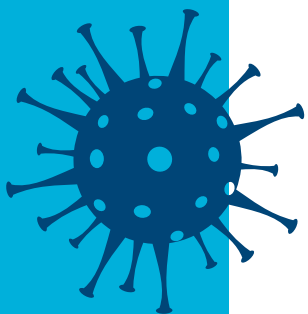


The Federal Government Commissioner
for Migration, Refugees and Integration
Office for the Equal Treatment of EU Workers



Seasonal work
during the
coronavirus
pandemic

This flyer will inform you about the specific conditions of seasonal agricultural work during the COVID-19 pandemic.



What do I need to do to travel to Germany?

- If you come from a basic risk area, high-incidence area, or areas where new strains of the virus have been detected (areas of variant of concern), you are required to register online at the www.einreisanmeldung.de travel portal before entering Germany.
- Take a COVID-19 test before entering the country. Taking a self-test without official certification is not sufficient.
Upload the certificate with the negative test result via the travel portal in German, English, French, Italian or Spanish.
- The rapid antigen test must have been taken no earlier than 48 hours before entry into Germany (in the case of areas of variant of concern it must have been taken no earlier than 24 hours before entry). PCR tests must have been taken within the last 72 hours. You need to pay for the test yourself. You can ask your employer whether he/she pays for the test on a voluntary basis.
- As an alternative to a COVID-19 test, proof of full vaccination or proof of recovery can be provided in German, English, French, Italian or Spanish. If you have stayed in a variant of concern area, only proof of testing will be accepted.

Do I have to quarantine on entering Germany?

- If you have been in a basic risk area or a high incidence area in the last 10 days before your entry and have uploaded a proof of vaccination or recovery via

the travel portal before your entry, you do not have to quarantine at all.

- If you do not have a vaccination card or proof of recovery, you can self-isolate in work quarantine for 10 days, provided you have uploaded a negative test result via the travel portal before entering Germany. During this work quarantine you are allowed to work but may otherwise not leave your accommodation except for going to work directly, not even for grocery shopping! Your employer will do your grocery shopping or he/she will cater for you during this quarantine period. During this time, you will be paid and therefore will be able to pay for your accommodation from your wage.
- If you have entered Germany from a high-incidence area, you can get tested after five days to terminate your work quarantine ahead of time. If you have entered Germany from a basic risk area, you are eligible for test-to-release immediately after entering the country. Your work quarantine ends or is no longer required as soon as proof of testing has been submitted.
- If you come from an area of variant of concern, you need to quarantine for 14 days. You are not allowed to work and you will generally not be paid during this period. You will, however, usually have to pay for your accommodation during this time.

How can I protect myself from COVID-19 at work and in my accommodation?

- When at work, keep a distance of at least 1.5 metres from other persons.
- Wear an FFP2 mask (also known as KN95, N95 or P2) or a surgical mask if you cannot keep the minimum distance of 1.5 metres, when walking in buildings and in all buildings and vehicles that are used by several persons at the same time.
- Change your mask regularly and whenever it is wet. Use a new mask at least once every day. Your employer will give you new masks for work free of charge.
- Your employer will decide who you will work together with. You will work permanently in fixed teams that

are as small as possible; you will spend your breaks together and will drive to the field together.

- If possible, you will only share your accommodation with persons who you also work with. The principle of “living together – working together” applies. Wearing a face mask is not mandatory in your team’s living and sleeping quarters.
- You can find out more details by contacting Fair Mobility or the Social Insurance for Agriculture, Forestry and Horticulture (SVLFG).

Can I get tested for COVID-19 in Germany?

- Your employer is required to offer you a COVID-19 test twice a week. The employer is required to pay for these tests.
- You can get tested free of charge in the test centres near where you stay and work unless you have any disease symptoms. You can get test certificates from these centres, which you might need for some stores.

What happens if I test positive for COVID-19 in Germany?



- If the result of a rapid test is positive, you must get a PCR test free of charge.
- The local public health authority decides whether and for what period of time you have to quarantine. As a general rule, you need to quarantine in your accommodation for at least 14 days.
- You may be entitled for compensation to the total of your wages if you have already worked.
- You will have to continue to pay for your accommodation.

What if I get ill? If I have to see a doctor, who pays the bill?


- If you have taken out medical insurance in your home country and if you have a European Health Insurance Card, you are covered by your insurance. Your health insurer will cover the costs.

- If you are an employed person subject to compulsory social insurance in Germany, you are also covered in case of illness.
- If you are employed on a short-term basis - which is possible for up to 102 days until 30 October 2021 - you are not covered by the statutory health insurance.
- Unless you have another type of health insurance, your employer should take out a private group insurance so that your doctor's bills will be covered. Your employer is required to pay for private group health insurance.

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Suggestion: Please make sure you find out about your health insurance status before entering Germany.

What if I have an accident at work?

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- You need to report the accident to your employer.
 - If the accident happens at work, the agricultural accident insurance will cover treatment costs and possible follow-up costs.

Can I get vaccinated against the coronavirus in Germany?

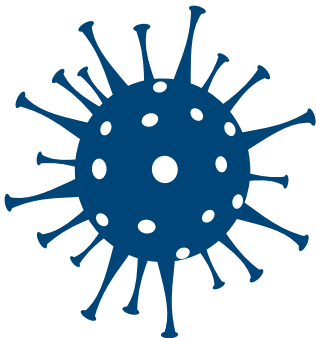
- As a harvest worker, you can also get vaccinated in Germany.
- To find out whether and how you can register for vaccination, call the service number **116 117** free of charge (in German).
- To get vaccinated, you either need your signed work contract or a certificate by the employer, and also your valid identity document.
- Talk to your employer ahead of time when you have an appointment. The time needed for the vaccination is not counted as working time.

I am vaccinated against COVID-19 / I have had a COVID-19 infection. Are there any special rules for me?

- Yes. If you have proof that you have been fully vaccinated or have recovered and this proof is no more than 6 months old, you do not need any additional negative Covid-19 test.
- However, the specified protective measures, for example mask-wearing requirements and social distancing rules, continue to apply to everyone.

What do I need to bear in mind regarding my contract of employment?

- Please make sure that you have a printed copy of your employment contract with you, if available, so that you can, for example, provide proof that you are entitled to vaccination.
- As a harvest worker, you are subject to German labour and occupational health and safety law. There is information available in your language about how much your employer may charge you for your accommodation and what rules on working hours apply for agricultural workers at www.faire-mobilitaet.de/landwirtschaft
- The minimum wage is EUR 9.50 gross per hour (EUR 9.60 gross from 1 July 2021). Piecework wage is possible, but at least the minimum wage must be paid for each hour worked in the respective month.
- We would recommend that you make a note of your contacts and the number of hours you worked every day.



If you have any further questions or if you need further clarification, you can contact for further information and advice:

The Social Insurance for Agriculture, Forestry and Horticulture (SVLFG) provides information and advisory services on health and safety at work free of charge for harvest workers (more languages available):



www.agriwork-germany.de/webapp-saisonarbeit/
www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxhmJE7PYUHSx-0wGe8YJbol0-flgUQV-F

www.svlfg.de/auslaendische-saisonarbeitskraefte

www.svlfg.de/information-saisonarbeitskraefte

German hotline: +49 561 78510010

The “Fair Mobility” (Faire Mobilität) project offers information and advisory services on labour and social law for seasonal workers (more languages available):



www.faire-mobilitaet.de/landwirtschaft

www.fair-arbeiten.eu

Hotline in English, Polish: +800 0005780

To find the nearest advice centre from your location in your language, please go to:



www.eu-gleichbehandlungsstelle.de/beratungsstellersuche

Further information by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (in German, Polish, Romanian and English) on occupational health and safety in the agricultural sector can also be found at:



Federal Ministry
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[bmel.de/rahmenbedingungen-saisonarbeitskraefte](https://www.bmel.de/rahmenbedingungen-saisonarbeitskraefte)

You can find up-to-date government information on the COVID-19 pandemic in your language on the website of the Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration:



The Federal Government Commissioner
for Migration, Refugees and Integration
Office for the Equal Treatment of EU Workers

www.integrationsbeauftragte.de/corona-virus
and twitter.com/integrationBund and
[instagram.com/Integrationsbeauftragte](https://www.instagram.com/Integrationsbeauftragte)

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www.bmel.de/flyer-saisonarbeitskraefte or
www.eu-gleichbehandlungsstelle.de/flyer-saisonarbeitskraefte

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