

1. Work permits for foreigners

The Malopolska Voivodeship is responsible for issuing work permits:
https://www.malopolska.uw.gov.pl/default.aspx?page=zezwozenie_na_prace_cudzoziemca

Due to the increased risk associated with the spread of SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus in the interest of safety of the office's clients and employees in-person customer service regarding foreigners' affairs is suspended from March 16, 2020 until further notice

Administrative decisions will be sent by post.

Scheduled appointments for application submission, formal defect correction, briefings, and document reviews have been cancelled.

Applications regarding invitations, registration of residence of European Union citizens, replacement of residence cards, and others need to be submitted via Polish Post or be subjected to postponement.

Applications and documents regarding legalization of stay of foreigners need to be submitted via Polish Post or be put off, if possible.

Applicants need to mail temporary, permanent, and EU long-term resident residence permit applications at a post office not later than on the last day of legal stay within the territory of the Republic of Poland and wait for further instructions from the office.

Mailing address:

Department of Civil Affairs and Foreigners of the MUW in Krakow
Przy Rondzie 6
31-547 Kraków

Applications and documents regarding work permits need to be submitted via post or be put off, if possible. Applications may also be submitted without leaving your home or office via www.praca.gov.pl

Email and phone information regarding foreigners' affairs available Monday to Friday 8 AM – 3 PM

general information:

12 39 21 804, 12 39 21 868
email: info.opt@muw.pl

information for urgent cases:

12 39 21 983

2. Health checks

The **opinion of the Chief Labor Inspector** regarding the **obligations of timely referring employees for preventive medical examinations** of March 13, 2020:

Considering the epidemiological situation in Poland, the publication of the Regulation of the Minister of Health of March 13, 2020 regarding the announcement in the territory of the Republic of Poland of the state of epidemic threat in connection with SARS CoV 2 virus infections and the position of the Ministry of Health regarding the performance of preventive examinations of employees arising from Article 229 of the Act of June 26, 1974, the Labor Code (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1040, as amended) I am suggesting:

1. suspending the obligation to conducting periodic medical examinations of employees until the epidemiological threat by the SARS-CoV-2 virus is canceled while maintaining

the obligation to issue a referral for periodic medical examinations within the deadlines resulting from medical declarations determining the absence of contraindications to work received by employees during previous preventive examinations . **The timely issuance of referrals will confirm that the employer is ready to fulfill the obligation set out in Article 229 of the Labor Code.** Employees should be obliged to immediately go to an occupational medicine unit with which the enterprise has a contract for the provision of services in the field of preventive medical care for employees, after the removal of the epidemiological threat:

2. maintaining the obligation does not to allow employees to work without a medical certificate, specifying the absence of contraindications to work in a specific workplace, received by the employee during initial preventive medical examinations.

3. **Employment contracts & social security matters**

ZUS documents have been in electronic circulation for some time - ZUS website: <https://lang.zus.pl/en/>

As of today, the issue regarding the conclusion of employment contracts is subject to the current regulations, **which clearly indicate the need to have paper documents (Labor Code).**

4. **Local hospitals and healthcare in Krakow.**

The city of Krakow supervises two hospitals in Krakow:

1. Stefan Żeromski Specialist Hospital
2. Gabriel Narutowicz Specialist City Hospital

None of the above hospitals appeared on the list of "hospitals for patients with the coronavirus" announced by the Ministry of Health here: <https://www.gov.pl/web/koronawirus/od-dzis-wprowadzimy-stan-zagrozenia-epidemicznej>.

In Krakow, the Independent Public Health Care Center at the University Hospital at Jakubowskiego 2 became a "hospital for patients with the coronavirus, <https://www.su.krakow.pl/>

The University Hospital has launched the social campaign **#grunwald2020**. If companies want to support the University Hospital in activities related to the fight against coronavirus, we encourage you to get involved. Most importantly, **personal protective equipment** is needed in all quantities: medical protective visors, goggles and face masks with Ffp2 and Ffp3 filters. The hospital accepts any quantities of the materials. Items can be delivered to the following places:

1. **Center of Krakow** - Mikołaja Kopernika St. 36, 31-501 Krakow - in the administrative building, on the ground floor, next to the **security post**
2. **Prokocim** - Jakubowskiego St. 2, 30-688 Krakow - at the **cash desk**, entrance No. 3, building A

If you can help the hospital with a **financial donation**, we are encouraging you to make a bank transfer to:

**Mikołaja Kopernika 36, 31-501 Krakow,
Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego 85 1130 1150 0012 1143 8620 0006
with the title: KORONAWIRUS/CORONAVIRUS.**

For information on materials and donations, please contact Ms. Maria Włodkowska, hospital spokesperson, e-mail address: mwlodkowska@su.krakow.pl, tel. 785 790 31

5. **The state of epidemic**

The decision to lock down the city or part of it, as well as to separate different zones in it and introduce certain rules of behavior of residents (including permits to move people around the city) can be taken **by the central authorities** (the government). Such a decision may be taken by the government in the event of an **epidemic or epidemic emergency of a nature and in sizes**

exceeding the capabilities of the relevant government administration bodies and local government bodies.

The state of epidemic, introduced in Poland on March 20th, marks a higher degree of threat, and remains in force after the previous state of epidemic emergency. It offers additional options for protection, primarily the institution of the so-called zero zones. These are areas directly surrounding a source of viral infection, where additional restrictions and control are in force. Zero zones may cover cities and/or entire regions. The government may define multiple types of zones. The zero zone may be surrounded with a buffer zone: an area in which limitations may include prohibition of movement of people. A threat zone covers the area, where the risk of the state of epidemic is high; such a zone covers one or multiple regions in the country, and quarantine locations cover individual buildings and premises earmarked for temporary stay of people who have or may have contracted the illness, where they undergo quarantine.

The state of epidemic may, but does not have to, mean the following duties:

- temporary restriction of specific forms of movement
- temporary restriction or ban on the use of specified objects and/or foods
- temporary restriction of operation of specific institutions or businesses
- ban on organising events and other gatherings
- obligation to carry out specific sanitary procedures, if their performance is connected to the functioning of specific production, service, commercial, or other facilities
- order to provide access to estates, premises, and spaces, and provision of means of transport for particular actions countering an epidemic envisaged in epidemic-fighting plans
- obligation to conduct specified protective vaccinations, and definition of groups of people to be subjected to such vaccinations, definition of the type(s) of protective vaccination conducted – accounting for the paths of transmission of contagious diseases and the epidemic situation within the zone of epidemic emergency or epidemic
- temporary restriction of specific scopes of business activity
- temporary control and/or limitation of sales of specific goods
- obligation to undergo medical examinations and apply other preventive means and procedures by the ill
and potentially ill
- obligation to undergo quarantine
- obligation to notify about the place of quarantine
- prohibition of leaving the place of quarantine
- temporary restriction on the use of premises and/or estates, and the duty to protect them.

6. City infrastructure & utilities

The Waterworks of the City of Krakow is the largest water and sewage company in the Malopolska Region, serving over one million users. Over one hundred years of experience, continuous development and continuous improvement of the quality of services rendered have allowed the Company to achieve the highest global standards and the position of the industry leader. For the sake of the comfort of living of the inhabitants and for the natural environment, the City of Krakow's waterworks implement large scale investments, effectively apply for EU funds, implement the latest technologies and obtain energy from natural sources.

Water supplied to the inhabitants of Krakow meets all the quality requirements set out in the Regulation of the Minister of Health on the quality of water intended for human consumption and the requirements of the European Union Council Directive concerning the quality of water intended for human consumption - it is completely safe for one's health, and in particular does not contain any pathogenic microorganisms.

Current information on the operation of the City of Krakow's Water Supply: <https://wodociagi.krakow.pl/aktualnosci/biezace-informacje.html>

Both **electricity and telecommunications services** are provided by various operators. All information on the activities of these entities is available on their respective websites.

Main power suppliers:

Tauron - <https://www.tauron.pl>

PGE - <https://www.gkpge.pl/>

Enea - <https://www.enea.pl/>

Energa - <https://www.energa.pl>

The largest telecommunications operators in Poland:

Orange (the operator of the Orange network is Orange Polska SA)- <https://www.orange.pl/>

Play (the operator of the Play network is P4 Sp. z o.o.) - <https://www.play.pl>

Plus (the operator of the Plus network is Polkomtel Sp. z o.o.)- <https://www.plus.pl>

T-Mobile (the operator of the T-Mobile network is T-Mobile Polska S.A.) -<https://www.t-mobile.pl>

7. Public transportation net

Due to the reduced demand for transport in Krakow, changes have been introduced in the functioning of public transport. The timetable is adapted to individual routes and course hours, depending on the filling of buses and trams.

You can follow changes in the schedule on a regular basis at: <http://kmpkrakow.pl/> or <http://www.mpk.krakow.pl/pl/>.

8. Schools, preschools, nurseries closure

Schools, preschools (kindergartens), nurseries (crèches), and children's clubs and centres, both private and run by local authorities, will remain closed until 10 April.

Educational activities of culture centres are also suspended. However, the time of suspending traditional classes and kindergarten routines is not holiday time, which is why teachers introduce remote methods of work and use the available tools and means of communication, including electronic ledgers, email communication, and other electronic media. According to the guidelines, the number of people staying in schools and kindergartens should be reduced as far as possible, however, with all the institutions continuing their operation. Individual directors decide about the operation of their units and the duties of individual members of the staff.

The Małopolska Education Authority (Polish: kuratorium oświaty) encourages teachers to support students in their education and deliver materials for home study, especially to those who are revising for the eighth-grade, maturity, and vocational examinations. The Ministry of National Education has granted free access to the website epodreczniki.pl with e-materials that teachers and students can use for home learning.

Psychological and educational consulting centres, and special educational centres, educational centres for youth as well as schools operating in correction institutions and remand centres have also decided to suspend their operation.

The recent developments have also enforced modification of the principles of recruitment to Kraków kindergartens: – a statement from the parents and vaccination book records are considered valid and sufficient to confirm that the child meets the vaccination criterion (no medical statement is needed). Universities, other institutions of higher education, and academies of artistic education are also closed. Students staying in dormitories who can find other accommodation have been requested to leave the dormitories, and the persons staying in are recommended to limit contacts.

9. Disinfection activities

The Municipal Transport Company in Krakow regularly and thoroughly cleans and disinfects buses and trams, especially those elements touched by passengers, such as buttons, handles and handrails.

The Municipal Cleaning Company in Krakow (MPO) is successively disinfecting the most important points in the city - sidewalks and squares where most people walk, as well as pedestrian crossings, bus stops and street baskets.

In addition, MPO will receive PLN 3 million transferred from the special-purpose reserve for the purchase of disinfectant liquid for cleaning streets and squares of the city.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are also encouraging all of you to **support local entrepreneurs** - restaurateurs, bar owners who, due to the state of epidemic threat, were forced to suspend their activities. By buying take-out we are supporting local entrepreneurs during this time.

A constantly updated list of active dining options can be found here:

https://www.krakow.pl/aktualnosci/238275,26,komunikat,z_dowozem_lub_na_wynos_powstala_lista_czynnych_lokali.html?_ga=2.129739470.334365486.1584606158-1388858916.1574253527