

New coronavirus regulations in Germany

As from Wednesday, 24 November, new coronavirus regulations apply in Germany:

- * Employees, owners and operators are only allowed to enter workplaces (where close physical proximity with other people cannot be ruled out) if they have been tested, vaccinated or have recovered (German: 3G, English: TRV, EC: DCC) and if they do not currently exhibit typical symptoms or indications of infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.
- * On entering the workplace, they must possess proof of vaccination, proof of recovery or proof of testing. Rapid antigen tests must be no older than 24 hours, and PCR tests must be no older than 48 hours.
- * Please note the requirements for proof of vaccination, especially regarding the permissible vaccines, which can be found on the following page:
https://www.pei.de/EN/newsroom/dossier/coronavirus/coronavirus-content.html;jsessionid=7BA5D4D82A18FB60A4D8E46A78C8AAA2.intranet211?cms_pos=3
- * Violating the regulations is a misdemeanour and can be punished with a fine.

Please note the following specifically in regard to jobs in the logistics sector:

- * Lorries, cargo ships, etc. are not considered workplaces.
- * However, lorry drivers are subject to the TRV rule as soon as they reach a factory, warehouse, etc. Lorry drivers are exempt from this obligation if physical contact with third parties can be ruled out at the operating site. This is the case if either no other persons are present or contact can be ruled out by the respective hygiene plans of the operating sites.
- * German business owners have the option of setting up test facilities on their premises. If this is the case, personnel without proof of vaccination or recovery may enter the premises for immediate testing on site. It is therefore advisable to ask German business partners beforehand whether they have set up hygiene plans that rule out physical contact to other persons or whether test facilities are available on arrival.

Additional information:

- * 'Proof of testing' means proof of the absence of infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus issued in written or digital form in German, English, French, Italian or Spanish, where the underlying test was performed using in vitro diagnostic medical devices, which are intended for direct pathogen detection of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus and which are marketable on the basis of their CE marking or on the basis of a special approval granted in accordance with section 11(1) of the Medical Devices Act (MPG) and
 - a) is carried out on site under the supervision of the person who is subject to the respective protective measure; or
 - b) is carried out as part of in-company testing in the course of occupational safety measures conducted by staff who have undergone the necessary training or have the necessary knowledge and experience for such testing; or
 - c) is carried out or supervised by a service provider in accordance with section 6(1) of the Ordinance on Coronavirus Testing.
- * Hotel accommodation and restaurant visits may be restricted to vaccinated and recovered persons in certain federal states, depending on the local hospitalisation rate. It is therefore highly advisable to contact hotels and restaurants in advance or ask business partners for further information.

Please note in addition that, as from November 24, long-distance and local public transport can only be used if passengers possess proof that they have been tested, recovered or vaccinated and wear a medical mask (FFP2 or comparable). This rule previously applied to flights.