

Latvian Covid-19 restrictions to be eased

On 15 February, the Government of Latvia approved a three-step plan proposed by the Ministry of Health to remove Covid-19 restrictions, taking into account the complicated healthcare situation and the growing spread of the virus.

See more about the easing of restrictions [here](#) (in Latvian).

Although the first step in removing of restrictions will take effect on 16 February, more significant easing of restrictions is planned for **1 March** as part of the second step of the plan.

The removal of restrictions related to the need for Covid-19 certificates after 1 March is summarised below:

Covid-19 certificates for work

Certificates for on-site work will still be required for employees:

- whose work involves close contact with people
- who provide essential services to the public
- who have to work in an epidemiologically safe environment

Certificate requirement retained for:

- teachers and childcare workers
- social care and health care workers
- public sector employees who serve customers on a daily basis, or in prisons
- the provision of services (for which the client must present a certificate, if there is contact with the client)

The employer has the right to assess responsibilities during the performance of which there is an increased risk of infection. The employer is entitled to oblige workers to whom this applies to work only with a certificate confirming vaccination against Covid-19 or recovery from the virus.

As the number of infections decrease, it is planned to move to the **implementation of the third step of the plan from 1 April**, removing all restrictions.

Covid-19 certificates for services

Certificate requirement waived:

- outdoors
- in retail outlets/centres
- in churches, at religious events

At the same time, service providers remain free to choose whether to provide services in an epidemiologically safe manner.

This does not apply to services that are essential for human rights and public security, for example:

- postal services
- public transport services
- financial services

Certificate requirement retained for:

- public events (sports, cultural events, etc.)
- discos, nightclubs, tourist attractions
- sports and amateur activities, including choir and dance rehearsals
- catering, for example, cafes, restaurants
- the provision of personalised services without the use of masks or FFP2 respirators without a valve, including beauty and wellness services