

FEBRUARY 2021 |

MIGRATION UPDATE



About the Migration Agency

In Sweden, the Migration Agency is the authority that considers applications from people who want to live in Sweden, visit or work in the country, seek protection from persecution or be granted Swedish citizenship.

The Swedish Migration Agency is commissioned by parliament and government, who set the Swedish asylum and migration policy.

Brexit update

After the UK left the EU last year, Brits living in Sweden have until September to apply for a residence permit.

Applications opened on December 1st, but processing only began in January as there was not enough funding to begin before this.

As of January 29th, the agency had received 5,179 applications and made decisions on just over ten. Brits who have not yet applied for their permit can do so at any point until September 30th.

During the time that British applicants are waiting on a decision, they have the same status as other EU nationals. This means they can continue to live and work in Sweden, as long as they moved before December 31st.

You do not need to be physically present in Sweden at the time of application, as long as you can prove you had right of residence.

The current legislation of registering all posted foreign workers that aren't locally hired and work in Sweden for more than 5 days remains. SWEA doesn't replace a work permit.

*Do you have a questions about life in Sweden post-Brexit?
Don't hesitate to contact us!*

Sweden proposes new rules for work permit holders

On Tuesday, February 2nd Sweden's government made a proposal aimed at making it easier for highly qualified workers to move to Sweden and stay there.

The proposal suggests introducing a talent visa, which would allow foreigners with a postgraduate degree to get a nine-month visa to come to Sweden and look for work – rather than finding a job and applying from abroad. The report also proposes removing the time limit on how many times a work permit holder is allowed to apply for a new temporary permit before they have to apply to have it turned into a permanent residence permit.

It will also be compulsory for work permit holders who want to bring their family to Sweden to prove that they can financially support them (usually referred to as the 'maintenance requirement').

The proposed date for the changes to come into effect are January 1st, 2022.

Swedish language tests for citizenship

Sweden's government has proposed making formal Swedish language tests part of the process for gaining Swedish citizenship. Unlike many of its European neighbours, Sweden currently has no language or civics tests for people applying for citizenship. At present, completing the final level of the Swedish for Immigrants (SFI) classes or passing the TISUS exam used to test Swedish proficiency for university admission would be sufficient.

The proposal is now out for consultation with an aim for a parliamentary vote before the next election in September 2022.



*We are here to help.
Navigating an
immigration process
with all that it takes
to bring talents to
their new assignments
on time is difficult
enough even without
a pandemic.*

*Behind every number
is a human being...*

How can expats get tested for Covid-19 in Sweden without a personal number?

We've been getting a lot of questions from expats living in Sweden about how to get tested for Covid-19 without a personal number or BankID.

In Sweden, most people book a test by logging in to the regional pages of Sweden's online primary care guide www.1177.se, which requires you to have a BankID or Mobile BankID, one of a handful of foreign e-legitimation services, or Telia e-legitimation (which was included on identify cards issued by Skatteverket until 2017).

People who are only visiting Sweden, or who don't yet have residency permits, can still get tested for Covid-19 by phoning a primary health care clinic. You can find the number by filling in your address at 1177.se "[Find Healthcare](#)" section – there may be several options (make sure to choose the correct region).

Here's a [video](#) put together by Sweden's regions on how to get tested.

Do expatriates living in Sweden have to pay for the vaccine and how will they get it?

If your expats have a personnummer or if they are EU citizen with an EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) they are entitled to healthcare on the same basis as Swedish residents.

Expats living in Sweden should not have to pay for the Covid-19 vaccine; the Public Health Agency and the Swedish government say it will be free to everyone living in Sweden who wants it.

Negative Covid-19 test requirement on entering Sweden

The Swedish Government has decided on an entry ban for all foreign citizens who cannot show a negative Covid-19 test (no older than 48 hours). The new rules come into force on Saturday, February 6th.

The requirement does not apply to those transporting goods – nor to Swedish citizens. However, the recommendation of the Public Health Agency of Sweden still applies, i.e. that everyone who has been in the UK should get tested for COVID-19 immediately upon arrival to Sweden, remain at home and get tested again after five days.

Questions? Call +46 (0)31-405966 or send us an email: info@keyrelocation.se