

FAQ RE: MEDICAL TESTS, FINGERPRINTING, AND PHOTOGRAPHING OF FOREIGNERS*

**The comments (including those related to timing) can be further adjusted taking into account the development of law enforcement practice.*

MEDICAL TESTS:

1. What kind of screenings do the medical tests include?

Foreigners who are subject to the new medical screening rules (s. 4 below) will have to undergo the following medical procedures:

- Drug use test
- HIV
- Tuberculosis
- Leprosy (Hansen's disease)
- Syphilis

2. What documents are required to undergo a medical examination?

- Original passport with a visa
- Original notary certified translation of the passport into Russian and a copy thereof
- Copy of visa (for countries so requiring)
- Original and copy of migration registration (including for HQS)
- Original and copy of migration card

Important: At the Sakharovo Multifunctional Migration Center (MMC), a notarized Power of Attorney is required for the person accompanying the HQS. Powers of Attorney on company letterhead will not be accepted.

3. Where can tests be done?

Each constituent entity of the Russian Federation determines at which clinics foreign citizens can undergo examinations. Below you can find details for Moscow and Moscow region:

Moscow

- a) [List of clinics](#) accepting foreign citizens in Moscow
- b) Moscow Center for Dermatovenerology and Cosmetology at the Sakharovo MMC (here all procedures can be undergone in one place; upon their first entry, foreign citizens arriving for work purposes have to take the tests here, while their family members can be examined at the [branches](#) of the Moscow Center for Dermatovenerology and Cosmetology located in Moscow)

Moscow Region

- a) The list of clinics approved by the Government of Moscow Region can be found [here](#).

4. Who has to undergo medical screening?

The requirement for medical examination applies to all categories of foreign citizens arriving in Russia for work purposes and to foreign citizens arriving in Russia for non-working purposes for a period exceeding 90 days. Foreign citizens who already work and stay in Russia have to undergo medical screening upon their next re-entry to Russia or receipt of a work permit, patent, or temporary / permanent residence permit), unless they are listed as exempted (s. 5. below). This includes:

- highly qualified specialists (HQS)
- foreign citizens from visa-free countries holding a work permit (WP)
- foreign citizens from visa-free countries holding a patent
- foreign citizens holding a residence permit (RP) / a temporary residence permit (TRP)
- citizens of the EAEU
- full-time university students

5. Who is currently exempt from medical testing requirements?

As outlined above, in principle all foreigners arriving or staying in Russia for work (staying for more than 30 days) or non-working purposes (staying for more than 90 days) are subject to medical testing requirements, except for the following categories:

- children under 6 years
- officials of international (interstate, intergovernmental) organizations
- employees of diplomatic and consular institutions and their family members (on the basis of reciprocity)
- foreigners staying in Russia for less than 90 (ninety) calendar days on the basis of visas not for the purpose of work, the validity of which does not exceed 90 (ninety) calendar days
- citizens of the Republic of Belarus
- scope of tests required for foreigners aged between 6 and 18 will be reduced (starting March 1, 2022):
 - a) chemical toxicology tests for narcotic substances (for persons over 13 years old)
 - b) fluoroscopy or X-ray or CT scan of the lungs (for persons over 18 years old)
 - c) immunodiagnosis with bacterial allergen with 2 standard dilutions of purified tuberculin units, i.e. Mantoux test (for persons from 6 to 7 years)
 - d) immunodiagnostics with recombinant tuberculosis allergen in standard dilution or optionally in vitro tests (for persons from 8 to 14 years old inclusive)
 - e) immunodiagnostics with standard dilution of recombinant tuberculosis allergen or lung X-ray (for persons from 15 to 17 years old inclusive)

Important: for holders of a temporary or permanent residence permit - medical examination is one-time procedure and is necessary only to obtain a document.

6. What is the timeline for undergoing medical examination?

Medical screening and submission of test results to the territorial department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs must be completed as follows:

- holders of work permits issued after October 31, 2021: within 30 (thirty) calendar days from date of entry in Russia
- holders of work permits issued before October 31, 2021: starting December 29, 2021, within 30 (thirty) calendar days from date of entry in Russia
- those who enter Russia for non-working purposes within 90 (ninety) days from the date of entry in Russia

7. When does the validity of medical test certificate expire?

The certificate and medical reports are valid for 12 months from the date of issue.

This is approved by Order of the Ministry of Health No. 1079-n of November 19, 2021 (as amended on February 21, 2022 No. 94n), which takes effect on March 1, 2022.

8. How to obtain medical certificates and submit them to the Ministry of Internal Affairs?

You can receive a certificate confirming that you have passed medical tests within 4–5 working days of the completion of a medical examination. A foreign citizen must personally submit copies of medical documents (the originals should remain with the foreign citizen) to the regional department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs within 30 (thirty) calendar days from the date of entry into the Russian Federation.

9. Consequences of not passing the medical tests or missing the deadlines

- cancellation of the work permit, patent, TRP, RP
- reducing the length of stay in the Russian Federation

10. Are medical certificates valid in several regions?

The issue, whether medical certificates are valid for several regions, in case several regions are indicated in a HQS's work permit, is not currently explicitly regulated by the legislation. Medical certificates can be submitted to any regional office of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, preferably at the place of issue of the work permit.

FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING

1. Who falls under the fingerprinting and photographing requirement?

Starting December 29, 2021, all foreigners arriving in Russia for work purposes must undergo fingerprinting and photographing. Foreigners arriving or residing in Russia for non-work purposes have to undergo fingerprinting and photographing only in case their stay extends beyond 90 (ninety) calendar days.

Important: it is only possible to undergo fingerprinting and photographing procedures after receiving the certificate confirming medical test results.

2. How often do you need to undergo fingerprinting and photographing?

Biometric fingerprint and photography registration is a one-time procedure, except for cases determined by the MVD.

3. Where will biometric registration of migrants and family members take place?

According to the [guidance](#) provided by the Ministry of Interior, the biometric registration can be carried out at the following locations:

- by the migration units of the territorial bodies of [the MVD](#)
- at the Federal State Unitary Enterprise "[Passport and Visa Service](#)" and its branches
- From 24.01.2022 migrant workers who have arrived in Russia after 29.12.2021 in visa order and who are working in Moscow on the basis of a work permit (on a quota, as an HQS or QS), can apply for a medical examination in the department of the Migration Center at the address: 18, Bakhrushina Street, Building 1. There one can also undergo dactyloscopy and photographing procedures. (The cost of the service is 10,000 rubles)
- at the [Sakharovo MMC](#)

4. Do the new rules apply to HQS holders of WP issued prior to December 29, 2021?

Yes, upon returning to Russia, this procedure needs to be undergone within 30 (thirty) days from the date of entry into the Russian Federation.

5. Who is exempt from fingerprinting and photographing requirements?

As outlined above, in principle all foreigners arriving or residing in Russia for work purposes, and non-working purposes are subject to biometric registration requirements, except for the following categories:

- children under 6 years
- officials of international (interstate, intergovernmental) organizations

- employees of diplomatic and consular institutions and their family members (on the basis of reciprocity)
- holders of a temporary or permanent residence permit need to undergo biometric registration when applying for the corresponding permit;
- foreigners staying in Russia for less than 90 (ninety) calendar days on the basis of visas not for the purpose of work, the validity of which does not exceed 90 (ninety) calendar days;
- citizens of the Republic of Belarus

Important: those who have already undergone the fingerprinting procedure do not have to go through it again.

6. What are the potential consequences of not passing biometric registration?

- cancellation of the work permit
- reducing the length of stay in the Russian Federation