

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AS A STUDENT WITH TEMPORARY RESIDENCE IN SLOVAKIA

## 1. You can work, but with restrictions.

Temporary residence for the purpose of studies allows you to work:

- if you are a university student: 20 hours per week or the equivalent number of days or months per year;
- if you are not a university student: 10 hours per week or the equivalent number of days or months per year.

You can work under an employment contract or under agreements on work performed outside the employment relationship.

## 2. You can run a business.

With temporary residence for studies, you can start a business (e.g. on the basis of a trade license) or become a statutory body of a company (e.g. managing director of a limited company) without having to apply to change your purpose of residence..

## 3. You must have health insurance for the entire duration of your stay.

You must take out health insurance no later than within three working days of receiving your residence card. You do not have to send the proof of health insurance to the Foreign Police, but you must be able to prove you have it if checked.

If you are studying in Slovakia on the basis of an international treaty, under a scholarship programme of the Slovak Government, the European Union, or the Slovak Ministry of Education, or if you are a Slovak living abroad, you are entitled to public health insurance paid by the state in one of the three insurance companies (Všeobecná zdravotná poisťovňa, Union, Dôvera). Otherwise, you must take out individual (private) insurance.

## 4. You must notify the Foreign Police of any changes during the validity of your residence.

Once you have obtained residency, you must notify the Foreign Police of any change in your name, surname, personal status and replacement of your travel document within five working days of the date on which the change occurred. You are also obliged to apply for a new residence card within five working days if the data have changed. You are obliged to inform the Foreign Police within three working days of the cessation of the purpose of your stay (interruption, dropout, expulsion from studies and successful completion of studies).

## 5. If you are a student of language or vocational training for university studies, you cannot change the purpose of your residence in Slovakia.

Language or vocational training students may not apply to change the purpose of their residence (e.g. to employment/business) at the Foreign Police. If you do not want to continue your studies and want to pursue another activities in Slovakia, you will have to submit your application for a different type of residence at the Slovak Embassy/Consulate abroad. →

## 6. Your temporary residence can be cancelled before the expiry date indicated on your residence card.

Even if your residence card is valid until a certain date (e.g. until the end of August), the Foreign Police can cancel your stay earlier – if they find that the purpose for which you were granted your residence has ceased to exist. The purpose of your stay ceases when you stop being a student – if you interrupt your studies, drop out (leave without finishing), get expelled or successfully complete them.

## 7. Your school is obliged to report changes in your student status to the Foreign Police.

The school where you are studying in Slovakia must inform the Foreign Police not only that you have become their student, but also if you interrupt, drop out (leave without completing), are expelled or successfully complete your studies. Any change of status may affect your temporary residence.

## 8. Interruption/dropout/expulsion from studies means an immediate loss of the purpose of your residence.

If you decide to interrupt your studies, if you drop out (leave without interruption/successful completion) or if you are expelled, you cease to be a student and the purpose for which you were granted your temporary residence permit ceases.

The Foreign Police can start cancelling your residence as soon as they become aware about your loss of the purpose. They will first send a notice to your address of your residence to inform you that your temporary residence is about to be cancelled. If you want to stay in Slovakia, for example to work or run a business, you must apply for a change in the purpose of your residence.

## 9. Upon successful completion of your studies, you will not lose your residency immediately.

You also lose your student status when you pass your last state exam/defend your thesis. However, the Foreign Police will not start to cancel your residence until 30 days after this happens (unless your residence expires in the meantime).

## 10. If you do not have a job immediately after graduation, you can extend your residence for nine months to look for a job

After graduation, you can apply to renew your temporary residence for nine months to look for work or start a business. This type of temporary residence allows you to work for a maximum of 10 hours per week. As you are no longer a student during this period, you cannot work under a student temporary work agreement. As a graduate, however, you have free access to the labour market, which means that you do not need any other permit to work apart from a valid temporary residence.

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You can find the list of documents required to apply for and renew temporary residence for the purpose of studies in our Fact Sheet: Temporary Residence – Studies