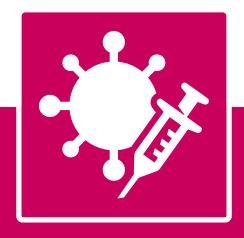


Coronavaccination of foreign workers



Questions and answers

alleen samen krijgen we corona onder controle

Now that the Dutch strategy for COVID-19 vaccination is known, we have been receiving questions about the vaccination of foreign workers and communication with this group. Our answers, below, are based on the current situation. They may be modified as the situation evolves.

Questions and answers

Is it possible for foreign workers to be vaccinated in the Netherlands?

Dutch vaccination policy takes account of the great numbers of foreign workers who live and work in the Netherlands. Under current policy, everyone who is registered in the Personal Records Database (BRP) can be vaccinated in the Netherlands. This includes people registered in the Non-residents Records Database (RNI). It is important that people are fully vaccinated. This usually requires two doses of vaccine, from the same manufacturer, administered within the recommended time interval.

When are labour foreign workers scheduled for vaccination?

The vaccination schedule for the general population also applies to foreign workers. They will be invited to get vaccinated by age group, from oldest to youngest (see https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/dutch-vaccination-programme/order-of-vaccination-against-coronavirus/order-of-vaccination-for-people-who-do-not-work-in-healthcare). If they fall in a medically at-risk group, they will receive an invitation from their general practitioner.

What age group is currently eligible for vaccination?

You can find the current birth year which is elligble at:

Prikuitnodiging en afspraak | Vaccinatie tegen het coronavirus | Rijksoverheid.nl.

How will foreign workers receive an invitation for the vaccination?

There are three ways of receiving an invitation:

- 1. Foreign nationals who are registered in the Personal Records Database (BRP) will receive an invitation at their home address from the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM).
- 2. Foreign nationals who are registered in the Non-residents Records Database (RNI) and have given permission to be sent information on the coronavirus by email (which has been possible since 10 January 2021) will receive an email from the government (in several languages). It will explain who is eligible for vaccination, which birth years are able to make an appointment and how they can make that appointment. People will only receive this email if they provided an email address when they registered with the RNI.
- 3. The Dutch government cannot directly contact foreign nationals who have not provided an email address through the RNI and are not registered in the BRP. We have asked employers' organisations and employment agencies to help us inform people in this category when they can make an appointment for vaccination (based on their birth year) and how. People in this category also still have the option of signing up for information by email, they can provide their email address/ subscribe through info@rvig.nl.

How will unregistered labour foreign workers be invited for vaccination?

Currently you must have a citizen service number (BSN) in order to be vaccinated free of charge in the Netherlands. The government is calling on employers of foreign nationals to inform them of the vaccination campaign and to alert them to the importance of getting vaccinated. Employers can use the public information resources developed by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) for this purpose. Employers are also being asked to stress the importance of a proper registration in the RNI or BRP in the municipality where they live. The authorities are considering other ways of informing labour foreign workers about the coronavirus vaccination, for example by way of targeted communication, NGOs, churches and trade unions.

How is easy-to-understand information about vaccination made available to foreign nationals?

To properly inform labour foreign workers about vaccination in the Netherlands, public information has been translated into the main languages spoken by labour foreign workers here, such as Polish, Romanian and Bulgarian. This information will be shared with the embassies of the home countries and on news and information platforms serving foreign nationals communities (such as Polonia.nl and Niedziela). Information will also be posted on www.workinnl.nl, which provides public information for mobile workers in their own languages. The government website www.coronavaccinatie.nl, www.government.nl and corona.steffie.nl also offers information on vaccination in several languages. The information will be expanded later to include information relevant specifically to labour foreign workers.

How can foreign nationals make an appointment?

That can be done through the regular channels. When people's age group is eligible for vaccination, they can either make an appointment on the web portal (using their DigiD) or phone the municipal health service (GGD) call centre. Persons who have a DigiD and a BSN can make their appointment through the webportal on www.coronavaccinatie-afspraak.nl. This can be done 24/7. Persons who have a BSN, but do not have a DigiD, can make an appointment through the national call center, 0800-7070`. They can only do so when their age group is eligible for vaccination. You can check who is eligible at Prikuitnodiging en afspraak | Vaccinatie tegen het coronavirus | Rijksoverheid.nl.

Will labour foreign workers receive proof of vaccination?

Foreign workers will also receive a proof of vaccination. This proof will contain the data about the vaccination. At the moment you don't have to show this proof in the Netherlands. The proof is therefore for personal use. It is important that you keep this proof. At this moment, the EU Digitial Corona Certificate (DCC) is in development, which will make it easier to travel in Europe during the covid pandemic. The DCC is a proof which will show that someone:

- Has been recently tested negative for COVID-19;
- Has been vaccinated against COVID-19 with a vaccine approved by the EMA;
- Has recovered from COVID-19.

If you have a specific question or need to discuss your personal situation, you can contact the FairWork Foundation.

T +31 (0)20 760 08 09

E info@fairwork.nu

M +31 6 517 712 49