

**State chancellery**  
Government spokesman

Heinrich-Mann-Allee 107  
14473 Potsdam

Managing editor  
Call number: (03 31) 8 66 – 12 51  
(03 31) 8 66 – 13 56  
(03 31) 8 66 – 13 59  
Fax: (03 31) 8 66 – 14 16

Internet: [www.brandenburg.de](http://www.brandenburg.de)  
E-mail: [presseamt@stk.brandenburg.de](mailto:presseamt@stk.brandenburg.de)

**Potsdam, 03.11.2020**

## **Press release**

Government spokesman Florian Engels commented on the results of the cabinet meeting:

### **Together against Corona: Cabinet approves new quarantine regulation - General quarantine period reduced to 10 days**

**New quarantine rules for people arriving and returning from abroad Corona risk areas: The Cabinet today held a video conference to approve the new SARS-CoV-2 quarantine regulation. It will enter into force on 9 November and will initially apply until 15 December 2020. Brandenburg is thus implementing the new federal quarantine regulation of 14 October.**

Compared to the previous regulation, the main new aspect is that **the general quarantine period is reduced from 14 to 10 days**. Besides: **The quarantine ends at the earliest five days after entry**. The precondition is that the person presents a negative test result confirming that there is no infection with the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. This test must be taken at the earliest on the fifth day after entry into the country. If symptoms typical of Covid-19 appear within ten days after entry, the person is obliged to undergo a further test.

Another new aspect is a **digital registration of entry**.

There are also **numerous exceptions** from the quarantine obligation, for example for **commuters**, for pupils, trainees and students, for **local border traffic** (stays of up to 24 hours) and for visits of first-degree relatives or life partners.

Health Minister Ursula Nonnemacher explained after the cabinet meeting:

“It is important that the federal states have a consistent approach to the rules on quarantine measures for travellers entering and returning from foreign risk areas. This is why we in Brandenburg are fully implementing the model ordinance of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. In view of the second wave of corona it is **important to avoid all non-essential travels**. This is particularly the case for journeys to risk areas.”

The new quarantine regulation is a further component in the implementation of the resolution of the Ministerial Conference with Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel of 28 October in regional state law.

# **SARS-CoV-2 quarantine regulation from 9 November**

## **Who has to be quarantined?**

Persons who are entering the country by land, sea or air from abroad to Brandenburg and who at any time during **the last ten days before entering** stayed in a risk area for SARS-CoV-2 infection. This also applies to persons who have first entered another federal state of the Federal Republic of Germany.

They are obliged to immediately contact the local health authority and to indicate to the quarantine obligation. The responsible local health office is determined by the place of isolation.

## **What does quarantine mean?**

Persons are obliged to proceed into quarantine immediately and directly after entering the country in their own home or another suitable accommodation. They are obliged to remain there permanently for a period of 10 days after their entry. During the quarantine they are not allowed to receive people who do not belong to their household.

## **How can the quarantine obligation be shortened?**

Domestic quarantine ends at **the earliest on the fifth day after entry** provided that the person has a negative test result with regard to an infection with SARS-CoV-2 virus. The result can be in paper form or in an electronic document in German, English or French and must be presented immediately to the responsible health authority, but at the latest within ten days after entry. The underlying **test must be taken at least five days after entry** into the Federal Republic of Germany and meet the requirements of the Robert Koch Institute (<https://www.rki.de/covid-19-tests>). The test result must be kept for at least 10 days after entry.

Important: **If symptoms appear within ten days after entry** that indicate a disease with COVID-19, persons with a shortened period of isolation must consult a doctor or a test centre to take a test.

## **Who declares risk areas?**

The Federal Ministry of Health, the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry of the Interior decide on the classification of risk areas. It is published by the Robert Koch Institute: <https://www.rki.de/covid-19-risikogebiete>.

## **How and where to report when entering from a risk area?**

As soon as the digital entry form is available, travellers must register electronically before their entry into Germany at <https://www.einreiseanmeldung.de>, if they come from a corona risk area.

Incoming and returning passengers must carry the saved and/or printed confirmation of the successful digital entry registration with them in order to present it to the carrier or the border authority on request.

With the digital entry registration, the local responsible health authorities have all the necessary information to monitor the legal quarantine obligation.

If the digital registration is not possible, **in exceptional cases** a written substitute registration (**exit ticket**) is to fill out and to hand in to the carrier or the border authority or immediately after entry to the competent public health department.

### **What about symptoms?**

Incoming and returning passengers are obliged to report any symptoms that indicate a disease with COVID-19, immediately to the responsible public health department.

### **What are the exceptions?**

The quarantine regulation provides for exceptions. These concern among other things transits, border traffic, private visits, professional activity / training / study, cross-border commuters and special professional groups.

#### **Exceptions for transit:**

Persons who only enter for transit must leave the territory of the Land Brandenburg directly and without any delay. This means, that no stopovers, overnight stays or visits are permitted. A short break (e.g. for eating or refuelling) is permitted.

#### **Exceptions for border traffic:**

As already regulated since 24 October: Persons who are travelling under the "local border traffic" with neighbouring countries **less than 24 hours** in a risk area or enter the state of Brandenburg for up to 24 hours.

#### **Exceptions for private visits:**

Persons intending to visit first-degree relatives who are not spouse or partner or registered partner belonging to the same household or by virtue of shared custody or rights of access for up to 72 hours in the Land Brandenburg or have stayed for less than 72 hours in a risk area for that purpose.

#### **Exceptions for stays of less than 72 hours and in compliance of adequate protection and hygiene concepts:**

- persons whose work is urgently necessary and indispensable for the maintenance of public health; the employer must certify the urgency and indispensability

- persons who transport for professional reasons cross-border persons, products, mail or goods by road, rail, sea or air
- high-level representatives of the diplomatic and consular service, elected representatives and governments.

**Exceptions for professional activities, trainings, studies and in compliance with appropriate protection and hygiene concepts:**

Persons,

- who mandatory have to travel for professional purposes
- for the purpose of their studies, schooling or vocational training, or
- making use of educational opportunities, training courses and advanced vocational training for professional purposes

Those who move from their place of residence in the Land of Brandenburg to a risk area and regularly return to their place of residence (**border commuters**) or who move from their place of residence in a risk area in the Land of Brandenburg and regularly return to their domicile (**frontier workers**).

**The compelling necessity and compliance with appropriate protection and hygiene concepts are to be certificated by the employer, principal or the educational establishment.**

This also applies to all border commuters and frontier workers who spend **up to five days in a risk area for an absolutely necessary** and are entering the Land of Brandenburg or entering from a risk area in the Land of Brandenburg.

**Exceptions for persons who have a negative test result:**

There are further exceptions to the quarantine obligation, but these only apply if the person has **a negative test result** on paper or in an electronic document in English, French or German and present it to the competent health authority without delay, but at the latest within 10 days of entry. The underlying test either must have been taken no more than 48 hours before entry or must be taken on entry into the Federal Republic of Germany. The underlying test must meet the requirements of the Robert Koch Institute (<https://www.rki.de/covid-19-tests>). The test result must be kept for at least ten days after entry.

The following persons are covered by this exception in particular: persons whose activity is indispensable for the maintenance of

- the functioning of the health care system, in particular doctors, nurses, supporting healthcare staff and 24-hour care staff,
- public safety and order,
- the maintenance of diplomatic and consular relations,

- the functioning of the administration of justice
- the functioning of popular representation, government and administration of the federal, state, local authorities and municipalities, or
- the functioning of the institutions of the European Union and of international organisations

The indispensability is to be certificated by the employer or principal.

In addition, **the exemption applies to persons** who are entering the Land of Brandenburg

- to **visit first or second degree relatives**, not belonging to the same household, of the spouses or **life partner** or registered partner or to exercise shared custody or rights of access
- for the purpose of **urgent medical treatment**, or
- to fulfil the tasks of assistance or to **care of people in need of help**,

and for the following persons:

- **police officers** who are returning from a mission or from equivalent obligations from abroad,
- persons who are accredited by the respective organising committee for the preparation, participation, implementation and follow-up of **international sporting events** or who are invited by a federal sports association to participate in training or course measures, or
- **persons returning from a risk area as holidaymakers** and who, **immediately before returning undergo a test** with a negative result in relation to infection with SARS-CoV-2-virus in the holiday destination, provided that special epidemiological precautions (protection and control measures) have been taken on the spot on the basis of an agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the respective national government, the infection situation in the respective risk area is not opposed to the non-compliance with the quarantine obligation and the Federal Foreign Office do not issue a travel warning because of an increased risk of infection under <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ReiseUndSicherheit/-reise-und-sicherheitshinweise> for the affected region.

#### **Other exceptions:**

If there is good reason to do so, the competent health authority may allow further exceptions in individual cases on application.