

Effective September 1st, 2021, the Bulgarian Minister of Health has issued a new order, allowing students from red-zone countries who have a student visa (type 'D'), in addition to students with residency cards, to enter Bulgaria, fulfilling the health requirements for entry.

There is an updated list of **high risk ('red zone') countries** valid as of Sept 1st. Countries included in this list are: **Republic of India, People's Republic of Bangladesh**, Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Myanmar, Kingdom of Bhutan, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Republic of Maldives, Republic of South Africa, Republic of Botswana, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Seychelles, **Turkmenistan, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, the Republic of Colombia**, the Republic of Chile, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, the Republic of Argentina, **the Federative Republic of Brazil**, the Republic of Paraguay, the Multinational State of Bolivia, the Republic of Peru, Republic of Suriname, Republic of Panama, Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of Guatemala, Belize, Republic of El Salvador, Republic of Cuba and Dominican Republic, Republic of Cyprus, **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, Fiji, **Georgia, Israel**, Kingdom of Eswatini, **North Macedonia**, Montenegro, **the Republic of Kosovo**, **the Republic of Kazakhstan, the United States of America**, Saint Lucia, the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis and **Ireland**.

Travelers from these **red zone** countries to Bulgaria will be treated as follows:

1. Bulgarian citizens and non-Bulgarians with permanent or long-term (prolonged) residency (i.e. valid Bulgarian ID) card:

- will be allowed to enter the country with no restrictions, **only if they are able to present at the border BOTH a vaccination certificate AND a negative PCR test (not fast antigen test)** done 72 hours before the border crossing;
- will be allowed to enter the country, **but will be put under a 10-day quarantine, if they have only one of the two required documents** mentioned above. The **quarantine may be revoked** if s/he does a PCR test within 24 hours after arrival and it shows a negative result.
- will be allowed to enter the country, **but will be put under a 10-day mandatory quarantine with no option to revoke it, if the traveler has none of the documents.**

AUBG recommends to all Bulgarian citizens who are put under quarantine, to declare at the border the address of their home residency and spend their 24-day or 10-day quarantine time at home, instead of in the Residence Halls.

2. All students, who do not meet the above criteria (that includes non-Bulgarians with expired ID cards, those with only a D-visa, etc.),

- may enter Bulgaria **with BOTH a vaccination certificate AND a negative PCR test (not fast antigen test)** done 72 hours before the border crossing;
- will be allowed to enter Bulgaria, **but will be put under 10-day mandatory quarantine with no option to revoke it**, if they are missing one or both documents.

AUBG recommends to all non-Bulgarian and Bulgarian citizens residing abroad to come to Bulgaria before Sept 1st, when the new regulations become active. Also, check on a regular basis with the Bulgarian Embassy or Consulate in the country of your residency about changes in the entry requirements to Bulgaria.

AUBG strongly advises all students, traveling to Bulgaria from the **red-zone** countries to have **at least a PCR test with a certificate in English**. The test should be done in less than 72 hours before arrival. It would give you/us the option to work towards revoking the quarantine.

Travelers from **orange** and **green** zones countries:

- may enter Bulgaria by presenting **a vaccination certificate or an official proof of having a positive COVID-19 test within the last 6 months, or a negative COVID-19 test done 72 hours before the border crossing;**
- will be allowed to enter Bulgaria, but **will be put under 10-day quarantine**. The quarantine **may be revoked if s/he does a PCR test** within 24 hours after arrival and it shows a negative result.

Reminder: Upon check-in, each hybrid or on-ground student should present to the Health Center a vaccination certificate, or an official proof of having a positive COVID-19 test within the last 6 months, or a negative COVID-19 test from the last 72 hours. We also offer an antigen test at the Health Center for those of you who don't have these documents.