



National Office for Identity Data  
Ministry of the Interior and  
Kingdom Relations

# Registration in the Dutch Register of Non-Residents (RNI) for a short-term stay in the Netherlands

You will be in the Netherlands for a short stay and you will register or have registered in the Dutch Register of Non-Residents (RNI) at one of the 19 service desks.

This brochure explains the registration procedure.

If you come to the Netherlands for a few months, for instance for work or studies, you need a Dutch social security number (Burgerservicenummer, BSN). In order to get a BSN, you need to register in the Register of Non-Residents (RNI). The RNI is part of the Personal Records Database (Basisregistratie Personen, BRP).

You will be registered in the RNI if:

- during a period of 6 consecutive months, you want to live in the Netherlands for less than 4 months;
- you live across the border but work in the Netherlands;
- you used to live in the Netherlands but are now living abroad, for instance because you are retired.

There are 19 RNI service desks in the Netherlands where non-residents can go to register, report changes or request extracts from the population register. You will be asked to show proof of your identity at the desk.

## Burgerservicenummer (BSN)

When you register in the RNI, you will get a Burgerservicenummer (BSN). In the Netherlands, you need a BSN to work, to buy or rent a house, to register your children at school, to see your family doctor, or to get hospital care. Your BSN is your own personal number for your contacts with the government. One of the purposes of this unique number is to prevent cases of mistaken identity.

When you start working, you will need to give your employer your BSN so that they can take care of a number of formalities with institutions like the Tax and Customs Administration (Belastingdienst) and your pension fund. Having a BSN does not imply that you are permitted to work in the Netherlands. Registration in the RNI does not entail the right to residence and employment in the Netherlands.

## Frequently asked questions

### *What details are recorded when I register?*

- Burgerservicenummer (BSN);
- name, date of birth, place and country of birth, gender;
- nationality;
- home address outside the Netherlands;

### *How should I report changes in my details?*

You can report a change in the recorded details at a municipality with an RNI service desk. If you want to change or add personal details – for instance, if your place of birth is missing – you need to show identification. The change will be processed free of charge within a few days.

### *What will happen with my details both now and in the future, also if I leave the Netherlands?*

The details we have recorded for you will be kept permanently, and you will retain your BSN. This means that you will not need to apply for a new BSN or go to an RNI service desk if you return to the Netherlands for another short stay at a later time.

### *What should I do if I will be staying in the Netherlands for more than 4 months?*

If you are planning to stay in the Netherlands for more than 4 months, you have to register as being resident in the Netherlands in the Dutch municipality where you will be living. You are obliged to do this within 5 days of your arrival in the Netherlands. If your partner and/or children also wish to stay in the Netherlands for more than 4 months, they have to register in person with the municipality as well.

### *What should I do if I want to continue my stay after 4 months in the Netherlands?*

In that case, you also have to register as resident in the Netherlands in the Dutch municipality where you live. If your partner and/or children also wish to stay in the Netherlands for more than 4 months, they have to register in person with the municipality as well.

### *Do I need a work permit?*

Not if you are a citizen of:

- a member state of the European Union (EU)
- Liechtenstein
- Norway
- Iceland
- Switzerland

### **General**

- When you register for the first time, you will be provided with a free copy of your registration document.
- Once you have registered, you can view your details free of charge at any time. You can also request a certified extract from the Municipal Personal Records Database/Basic Municipal Registry (BRP). There is a charge for this service. To view your details, you will need to show identification.
- Registration agencies can provide a list of the organisations to which personal details have been disclosed in the last 20 years. You will need to show identification before you can view this information. This list is provided free of charge.
- You can ask for non-disclosure of personal information recorded in the database.

### **Obligation to carry a valid identity document**

In the Netherlands, you must be able to show a valid identity document, such as a passport or identity card, at any time, including at work. Your employer will make a copy but is not allowed to keep your identity document.

### *When are you obliged to show identification?*

- In the street. Only when asked by a police officer or special investigating officer (BOA).
- In public transport. When asked by the conductor, ticket inspector or driver.
- In shops, banks or other public buildings. When asked by security.
- At work. When asked by your employer, an inspector from the Social Affairs and Employment Inspectorate (SZW), or a tax inspector. Your employer will always make a copy of your identity document.

If someone asks to see your identity document, you may also ask that person to show their own. Never give your identity document to someone else.

If you have any questions after reading this leaflet, please contact one of the 19 RNI municipalities or call the Government Information line on telephone number 1400 / +31 774 65 67 67.

### **More information about registration of non-residents (RNI)**

[www.rijksoverheid.nl/brochure-inschrijven-kortdurend-verblijf](http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/brochure-inschrijven-kortdurend-verblijf)  
[www.government.nl/register-of-non-residents](http://www.government.nl/register-of-non-residents)

All municipalities with an RNI service desk are listed at the website of the National Office for Identity Data: <https://www.rvig.nl/brp/rni>

### **More information on residence and employment in the Netherlands**

For more information on visa and residence permits, go to [www.ind.nl](http://www.ind.nl).

You may also find it helpful to refer to the New in the Netherlands brochure, which can be found [www.newinthenetherlands.nl](http://www.newinthenetherlands.nl) (available in several languages). The brochure includes information on your rights and obligations in the Netherlands as well as on healthcare and taxes.