

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CITIZENS

BAN ON MOVEMENTS

Curfew Hours: Movement is prohibited from 23:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. of the next day.

Exemptions: Movement during curfew hours is permitted for the following reasons:

1. **going to and coming back from work, with the presentation of Form A**, filled in and signed by the employer.
2. **for imperative urgency**, i.e. going to a medical centre or hospital or pharmacy or veterinarian for medical emergencies or to provide urgent assistance to people who are unable to take care of themselves or who must protect themselves.

CITIZENS' MOVEMENT BY EXCEPTION

Number of Movements: The movement by exception shall be permitted **twice a day on weekdays (Monday-Friday) and three times per day on Saturdays and Sundays.**

Reasons of movement:

1. Going to a pharmacy or for blood donation or visiting a physician or going to a Medical Council or for laboratory testing for Covid-19 or for vaccination at the vaccination centres;
2. Going to a retail shop or catering service to buy or supply goods, including take away;
3. Going to the bank for transactions that are not available online;
4. Strictly necessary visits to public services or services of the wider public sector and local authorities;
5. Helping people who are unable to take care of themselves or must protect themselves or who are in self-isolation and/or in places of compulsory isolation or for visiting a residence or nursing homes, care for the elderly units, homes and hostels for vulnerable groups;
6. Physical activity or individual sports practiced in areas where access is permitted;
7. Going to church for mass or for other types of religious worship or for individual prayer or for attending a ceremony, e.g. funeral, wedding, christening;
8. Any other reason that may be justified under the lockdown measures (note);
9. Going to a business/organisation which operates without suspension, as per the Quarantine Decrees.

Note: Point 8 above shall also include the following:

- movement of divorced or separated parents, which is necessary for the uninterrupted communication between parents and children;
- going for specialised therapies for people with disabilities or chronic diseases, together with their carer;

- driving a soldier from and to his army camp;
- going to and coming back from Larnaka and Pafos Airports for the transport of persons upon presentation of proof (ticket) showing the day and/or time of arrival/departure;
- movement of farmers and livestock farmers, provided that they produce the CAPO form of hectare or animal subsidy or, in case this is not available, a relevant certificate by the District Agricultural Office;
- going to and coming back from animal shelters to take care or feed stray animals, provided that the person has a certificate validated by a recognised animal welfare organisation and the relevant notification to the Veterinary Services.
- going for tree planting authorised by the Department of Forests.

How to obtain authorisation for movement by exception:

1. People under 65: SMS to 8998/IVR operator;
2. People over 65 may use Form B for their movements by exception.

It is clarified that employees going to and coming back from work need not send a SMS. They should present Form A signed by the employer.

Moreover, no SMS is needed for:

- the movement of people with disabilities and persons falling within the spectrum of autism, together with their carers;
- transport of minor children from and to kindergartens, nurseries, day-care centres, pre-primary schools, primary schools and special education schools, as well as third-year Lyceum students;
- for walking a domestic animal (within a radius of 500 m from their residence), provided that they do not exceed two persons, except for minor children.

FORM A: CONFIRMATION FOR EMPLOYEE'S MOVEMENT

FORM B: DECLARATION OF CITIZEN'S MOVEMENT BY EXCEPTION (for people over 65)

SMS to 8998, free of charge

Structure of message:

X (number corresponding to the reason of movement) *space* **Identity Card or Passport No**
space **Home Postcode**

Where:

- **X**: stands for the number from 1 to 9 corresponding to the reason of movement.
- **Identity Card or Passport No** (up to 3 letters and up to 10 characters, numbers and letters in total) for:
 - o Cypriot citizens: the number of their Cypriot identity card;
 - o European citizens and third-country nationals: their ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER (ARC) of their registration certificate or residence permit;
 - o European citizens and third-country nationals who do not hold an ARC: the number of another identification document (foreign passport or identity card number, diplomatic passport number).
- **Home Postcode**: 4 numbers

There will be 4 kind of replies to the SMS: approval, rejection due to the structure of the message, rejection for exceeding the maximum number of movements allowed and rejection for non-compliance with the curfew hours.

It is noted that after sending the SMS a reply shall be received and the movement shall be valid for a reasonable period of time, not longer than three (3) hours, unless the person sending the message can prove the necessity of an extension.

Citizens must carry their identity card or passport for identification purposes in case of control by the competent authorities.

OPERATOR

For those connected with a foreign mobile telephony provider, as well as to facilitate those who are not able – for any reason whatsoever – to send a SMS to 8988:

- for Cypriot phone numbers: 80012012
- for foreign numbers: +357 22 285777

The above service shall be available to the citizens from 05:00 a.m. to 21:00 p.m., both in Greek and English language. It is noted that the citizens **shall be personally responsible** for the correctness of the details stated to the operator and shall be held liable for false statement.

Please note that the operator shall **only** serve mobile phone calls.

The website www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus provides comprehensive information on how to obtain authorisation for movement by exception.