

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General Enquiries

1. Which sectors and pass types does the new pre-entry housing check requirement apply to?

All new non-Malaysian Work Permit holders from the Construction, Marine shipyard and Process sectors entering Singapore from 19 September 2023 onwards will be affected.

Workers from other sectors such as Services and Manufacturing or holding other pass types such as S Pass or Employment Pass, will not be affected.

2. How long would the measure be in place for?

We will monitor the dormitory bed supply situation and review the measure periodically.

Processing time related

3. I need to bring my workers in for an urgent project. I am unable to build temporary worker's quarters due to space constraints, and I have been unable to secure bedspaces at any commercial dormitory, what should I do?

You should not bring new workers into Singapore until you have secured acceptable accommodation for them.

It is the responsibility of employers to ensure that they can house their workers properly before bringing their workers into Singapore. Employers should therefore consider accommodation availability when taking on new projects.

If you are facing difficulties securing bed spaces, you may wish to contact the [Dormitory Association of Singapore Limited \(DASL\)](#).

4. I am unable to secure bedspaces at a commercial dormitory and need to put up my workers at private residential premises, hostels or hotels. What is the processing time for the pre-entry housing check approval?

Your application will take 6 weeks or more if you house your workers in accommodations such as private residential premises, hostels or hotels, due to additional checks required.

5. I am meeting a tight deadline, can I request for the pre-entry housing check approvals to be expedited?

To be fair to all employers, pre-entry housing check approvals will be processed on a first come first served basis and subject to verification checks based on accommodation type. We will not be able to expedite any requests. However, employers may wish to note that workers housed in commercial properties or employer-run dormitories will be approved quicker.

Bedspace related

6. Can I house my workers at private residential premises, hostels or hotels if I am unable to secure bedspaces at a commercial dormitory?

Yes. You will need to provide documentary proof that the bedspace has been secured for the worker. The accommodation arrangements should cover the worker for most of the duration of their Work Permit. Do also note that processing time for private residential premises, hotels or hostels will take around 6 weeks or longer due to additional checks involved.

Supporting documents to be submitted for verification

7. My workers would be residing at my own employer-run dormitory, what supporting documents should I submit?

Please provide the latest nominal roll of your dormitory to prove that there are available bed spaces for the new workers. If the workers are replacing existing workers who are leaving, please highlight them in the nominal roll for our information.

Application related

8. Is there a limit to the number of pre-entry housing check applications I can submit?

No.

9. Can I submit a single application for multiple workers?

Yes, as long as they are residing at the same address.

10. My workers are scheduled to arrive before the implementation of the pre-entry housing check, will I still be required to apply for pre-entry housing check?

If your workers are scheduled to arrive on 18 September 2023 or before, there is no need to apply for pre-entry housing check. Workers will be able to enter Singapore as usual.

11. I will house my workers at a self-built temporary worker's quarters. It is still under construction, and I have yet to attain approvals from all technical agencies. Can I still apply for pre-entry housing check for my workers?

Employers are required to ensure that the accommodation is approved and ready for their foreign workers before bringing the workers into Singapore. This is to ensure that workers are housed properly upon entry.

Pre-entry housing check for self-built dormitories will be completed within a week. Employers can plan the workers' arrival accordingly when the dormitory is ready.

12. I have already purchased air tickets for my workers but have not received the approval for their pre-entry housing checks. What should I do?

You will need to reschedule the flights. Employers are reminded to cater for the pre-entry housing checks in your planning before arranging workers to enter Singapore.

The pre-entry housing check is mandatory. Employers who bring their workers in without going through the pre-entry housing check may have their work pass privileges suspended.

13. Can I try to secure a booking at the Onboard centre without a pre-entry housing check approval, or while my application is still pending?

No, you will need the pre-entry housing check approval from MOM before securing a booking at the Onboard centre. This is to ensure that Onboard centre slots are not taken up by workers who may not enter Singapore eventually.

In-Principle (IPA) related

14. How do I extend my worker's IPA if I am unable to secure a pre-entry housing check approval, or my application is still pending?

For the first IPA extension, employers are able to self-help via WPOL.

Rejection of pre-entry house check

15. My application for pre-housing check is rejected, can I appeal?

There is no appeal process. You should re-apply using the same online form once you have addressed the reasons indicated in the rejection letter.