

# Lifting of COVID-19 measures

Due to the positive evolution of the pandemic and the high vaccination rates in Portugal, a law and a resolution have been issued lifting some of the current containment measures.

Labor Legal Flash

March 3, 2022



Decree Law 23-A/2022 of February 18, 2022, modifying COVID-19 measures

Council of Ministers Resolution 25-A/2022 of February 18, 2022, modifying COVID-19 measures

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## Lifting of COVID-19 measures

We highlight below the points of Decree Law 23-A/2022 and of the Council of Ministers Resolution 25-A/2022 that affect labor law:

- > Permission to take employees' body temperature for them to access and stay in the workplace is revoked.
- > Remote work is no longer recommended.
- Limits on occupancy in establishments, facilities, and other public premises no longer apply.
- Employers required to close their establishment or halt activity as a result of COVID-19 measures, as well as those that decided to close voluntarily, may waive the remaining period of special aid for the progressive resumption of activity if they are benefiting from it and apply for special aid for maintaining employment for the number of days their activity was suspended or their establishments were closed.
- In the situation described above, members of statutory bodies in management positions, with declared remuneration and a record of paying social security for their employees, are eligible to apply for special aid for maintaining employment in a business crisis.
- > According to the rules and guidelines of the Directorate-General for Health (DGS), the following may have to take SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic tests:
  - Healthcare workers and users.
  - Kindergarten workers.
  - Workers, users, and visitors at therapeutic and social integration communities, temporary accommodation and emergency centers, care homes, integrated continued care units in the National Integrated Continued Care Network, and other structures and centers for the elderly and those with disabilities, international asylum applicants and beneficiaries, and domestic violence and international trafficking victims.
  - Prison guards and other workers and service providers of the Directorate-General for Reintegration and Prison Services working in prisons, when carrying out their duties and as a result of them, to access and remain in the workplace, and when accessing other facilities in carrying out their duties and as a result of them, to transport and guard prison inmates, particularly in healthcare units and courts.

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