

## COUNTRY FACT SHEET

### SERBIA

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## I. CHECKLIST

### To do before the return

The returnee should:

- request documents from the German authorities that might be needed later on.  
He/She should bring all official documents they received during their stay in Germany, including certificates/diplomas from school, birth certificate etc.
- get information concerning the arrival at the airport and the onward journey.  
Serbia has two types of transport that cover up its entire surface: International (planes, buses and trains) and local transportation within the country (buses and trains)
- check vaccinations (especially for children).  
There is no specific vaccination needed to enter the country but depending on the age it is possible that vaccination will be needed upon return. For children, there is a list of vaccines needed in order to enrol in school, see <http://www.belmedic.rs/Bel-Medic/1877/Calendar-of-the-compulsory-vaccination-in-Serbia.shtml>
- find a temporary accommodation.  
There is no specific state institution providing social accommodation/housing or shelter for social cases, returnees etc. unless it concerns domestic violence cases and human trafficking. One of the possibilities is to rent an apartment and to pay rental costs.

### To do immediately after the return

The returnee should:

- register with relevant authorities.
  - The personal identity card (ID, lična karta) is a pre-condition for achieving any rights (health care, employment, university education etc.)
  - ID card is provided through the local police station
- (re-)register for the health insurance and the pension insurance system.
- apply for social welfare.
- contact services assisting with the search for jobs and housing.
- apply for child care, schools or other educational institutions.

## II. HEALTH CARE

### 1. Health care system

#### a. General information on the health care system

The health care and insurance system are divided into two groups: Public (free of charge) and private.

#### b. Access to public health insurance, especially for returnees

- Eligibility and requirements  
According to Law, all Serbian citizens that reside in Serbia have access to the Public Health Care System. There are two categories for eligibility: employed and unemployed. Employed people have health insurance at the expense of their employer (this is mandatory), unemployed people have health insurance at the expense of the State. In both cases, if one family member has health insurance, the rest of the family are automatically insured. There are no defined coverage levels.
- Registration procedure  
Returnees have to fill the registration form and submit valid personal documents to the Public Health Fund, and in case the returnee is employed the company does the registration.
- Required documents  
Serbian ID card, birth certificate and citizenship

#### c. Costs

Depending on the type of health insurance and eligibility and it can be free of charge or partially covered.

d. **Benefits**

All medical costs as well as the treatment itself can be covered by a medical insurance, depending on the type/eligibility.

**2. Medical treatment and availability and costs of medication**

a. **Medical facilities and doctors**

Basic medical facilities are available all over the country (most of the villages and all cities). Contact of main health facilities in Serbia are:

- Klinicki Centar Vojvodina, Hajduk Veljkova 1, Novi Sad
- Klinicki Centar Beograd, Pasterova 2, Belgrade
- Klinicki Centar Kragujevac, Zmaj Jovina 30, Kragujevac
- Klinicki Centar Nis, Bulevar Dr Zorana Djindjica 48, Nis

b. **Procedures of admission**

The patient has to contact the health center in his town and if needed he will be referred to further examination in one of the main medical centers. In order to be treated free of charge, the patient needs to have state health insurance.

c. **Availability and costs of medication**

All medication is available and for most of the medications, prices are similar to the prices in other European countries. There is a list of essential medicines that guides the procurement and supply of medicines in the public sector. The list can be found here: [http://www.who.int/selection\\_medicines/country\\_lists/SRB\\_fully\\_covered\\_2010.pdf?ua=](http://www.who.int/selection_medicines/country_lists/SRB_fully_covered_2010.pdf?ua=1)

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**III. LABOR MARKET AND EMPLOYMENT**

**1. Labor market situation and assistance to find employment**

a. **Labor force**

The Labor force in Serbia comprises 2,981,000. Most of the labor force is working in the public sector. The labor force is divided into three major groups: agriculture >30%, industry >45% and services >25%.

b. **Average income**

The average income depends on the region of the country but for all of Serbia it is 45,000 RSD (around 370 Euro).

c. **Unemployment rate**

The unemployment rate is at 20.6 %.

d. **Distribution of employment according to sex, age, specific sector of work**

The largest group of the work force is working in public sector. The highest unemployment rate can be found in the group of 30-45 year olds.

**2. Ways / assistance to find employment**

Assistance can be found through the National Employment Service (counseling and additional vocational training) or through different websites. Available positions are announced on different websites and in newspapers.

- <http://www.nsz.gov.rs/live/trazite-posao/svi-poslovi>
- <http://www.infostud.com>

**3. Unemployment assistance**

a. **General information on public and/or private unemployment assistance**

There is no financial assistance for the unemployed. But some support is available through the National Employment Service which provides counseling and if needed additional vocational training.

b. **Access, especially for returnees**

All returnees can access support through the National Employment Service.

- Eligibility and requirements  
There is no specific requirement in order to register in the National Employment Service.
- Registration procedure  
Unemployed persons are obliged to register themselves in the National Employment Service in his/her place of residence.
- Required documents

The returnees must submit their ID card, working booklet, and education certificate (of the last educational degree obtained).

c. **Benefits and costs**

There is no financial assistance for the unemployed.

4. **Further education possibilities and vocational trainings**

Further educational possibilities and vocational trainings are available through the National Employment Agencies in every town or village.

#### IV. HOUSING

1. **Housing situation**

a. **Average rent, running costs/utilities** (e.g. electricity, water, etc.)

Depending on the area it can range from EUR 150 to EUR 1,000 per month for rent and utilities.

b. **Supply and demand**

Availability depends on the specific areas but there are flats/houses or apartments for rent in almost every part of Serbia.

2. **Ways / assistance to find accommodation**

Accommodation can be found through real estate agencies (more expensive) or through internet and advertisements in newspapers.

#### V. SOCIAL WELFARE

1. **Social welfare system**

a. **General information on the welfare system**

Social welfare office is available in all Municipalities in Serbia. It is in charge of assistance to individuals or families with no income, disabled persons, elderly who are not able to take care of themselves, children without parents, families with drug- or alcohol-dependent, or convicted family members, parents who are still minors, families with 3 or more children and for prevention of violence and help to the victims of family violence.

b. **Access, especially for returnees**

- Eligibility and requirements

Social Welfare system is available for everyone.

- Registration procedure for social security/insurance (person must be citizen of Serbia with valid personal documents (ID card), unemployed and registered in the National Employment Agency in his/her place of residence, or employed with the minimum salary)

- Required documents

The person must be a citizen of Serbia, possess a valid ID card (place of residence in the municipality in which he/she will realize his/her right to the social benefit), unemployed and have medical insurance. The other conditions depend on the type of social benefit the person applies for.

c. **Costs**

Free of charge

d. **Benefits**

Social Security is covering Health Care and provides financial assistance (including child allowance) to vulnerable groups.

2. **Pension system**

a. **General information on the pension system**

Most common type of pension system in Serbia is the Public Pension Fund

b. **Access, especially for returnees**

- Eligibility/Requirements

The conditions to receive the pension:

- 65 years for men and for women 60 years and at least 15 years of work (and all paid taxes)
- 40 years of work for men and 35 years for women and at least 53 years old
- 45 years of work (all paid taxes)

- Registration procedure for social security/insurance  
The returnee needs to go to the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of Republic of Serbia and check their status.
  - Required documents  
Serbian ID card and working booklet
- c. **Costs**  
There is no beneficiary participation. Participation is paid on a monthly basis by the employer.
- d. **Benefits**  
Once the returnee is eligible to receive the pension, he will receive the monthly pension and will have health insurance free of charge.
- 3. Vulnerable Groups**
- a. Vulnerable groups are families with no income, disabled persons, elderly who are not able to take care of themselves, children without parents, families where one family member is drug- or alcohol dependent, or where one family member is a convict., parents who are still minors, families with three or more children and for prevention of violence and help to the victims of domestic violence.
- b. Access to public services (health insurance, pension), assistance and integration is provided through the Center for Social Welfare.

## VI. EDUCATION

### 1. Educational system

#### a. General information on the system

In Serbia there is public and private education.

Educational level	Age
Child care / nursery school	0-3
Kindergarten	3-7
Primary level	
e.g. elementary school, etc.	7-14
Secondary level	
e.g. high school, vocational training, professional school etc.	15-19
Higher education	
e.g. college, university, etc.	from 19

### 2. Access and registration procedure, especially for returnees

If children were already enrolled in school, the returnee should contact the Ministry of Education in order to validate the diploma and continue education upon return. If children are not enrolled in school, the returnee will need to provide (a) birth certificate(s) for the child/ren and valid Serbian ID cards of parents in order to register.

### 3. Costs, loans and stipends

#### a. General information on tuition fees

There are no tuition fees in the primary and secondary education level. In the higher education level, paid scholarships are available for outstanding students at public universities.

#### b. Access and requirements to stipends and/or loans for covering tuition

There are no stipends and loans for university education.

### 4. Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

Verification is undertaken by the Ministry for Education and the returnee should provide a certificate/diploma from Germany.

## VII. CONTACT INFORMATION AND USEFUL LINKS

<b>Main Hospitals</b> Klinicki Centar Vojvodina, Hajduk Veljkova 1, Novi Sad  Klinicki Centar Beograd, Pasterova 2, Belgrade  Klinicki Centar Kragujevac, Zmaj Jovina 30, Kragujevac  Klinicki Centar Nis, Bulevar Dr Zorana Djindjica 48, Nis	<b>Employment search:</b> <a href="http://www.nsz.gov.rs/live/trazite-posao/svi-poslovi">http://www.nsz.gov.rs/live/trazite-posao/svi-poslovi</a> <a href="http://www.infostud.com">http://www.infostud.com</a>
<b>Health insurance:</b> <a href="http://www.rfzo.rs/">http://www.rfzo.rs/</a>	<b>Pension Fund:</b> <a href="http://www.pio.rs">http://www.pio.rs</a>
<b>International Organization for Migration (IOM)</b> Skenderbegova 3 PO Box 104 11000 Belgrade, Serbia Tel: + 381 11 3282 075 Fax: + 381 11 3281 425  Kneginje Ljubice 9 11000 Belgrade, Serbia Tel: +381 11 3283 109 Fax: + 381 11 3281 425 Email: <a href="mailto:iombeograd@iom.int">iombeograd@iom.int</a>	<b>Vaccinations:</b> <a href="http://www.belmedic.rs/Bel-Medic/1877/Calendar-of-the-compulsory-vaccination-in-Serbia.shtml">http://www.belmedic.rs/Bel-Medic/1877/Calendar-of-the-compulsory-vaccination-in-Serbia.shtml</a>
<b>Ministry of Interior</b> <a href="http://mup.gov.rs/wps/portal/sr/">http://mup.gov.rs/wps/portal/sr/</a>	<b>Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development</b> <a href="http://www.mpn.gov.rs/">http://www.mpn.gov.rs/</a>