



Guidelines for Workers Housing

The following Guidelines are generally based on the [R115 – Workers' Housing Recommendation, 1961 \(No.115\)](#) and [Workers' Minimum Standards of Housing and Amenities Act 1990 \(MSHA\)](#).

Employee accommodation can either be provided by the employer itself or by a centralised accommodation provider. An employer or a centralised accommodation provider has the duty to ensure that every accommodation and centralised accommodation provided for employees comply with minimum standards and that decent and adequate amenities are provided. The latest requirements under the [Employees' Minimum Standards of Housing, Accommodations and Amenities \(Accommodation and Centralised Accommodation\) Regulations 2020](#) are as follows:

Dormitory Accommodation	Non-dormitory Accommodation
1 x rest area	1 x rest area
1 x dining area with chairs and table	1 x dining area with chairs and table
1 x kitchen	1 x kitchen
1 x bathroom and toilet for 1:15 employees	1 x bathroom and toilet for 1:6 employees
Fans for each rest area, dining area and sleeping area	Fans for each rest area, dining area and bedroom
Lights for each rest area, dining area, sleeping area, kitchen area, bathroom and toilet	Lights for each rest area, dining area, bedroom, kitchen area, bathroom and toilet
Space to hang clothes	Space to hang clothes
1 x first aid kit in proportion to the number of employees in the accommodation	1 x first aid kit in proportion to the number of employees in the accommodation
Dustbin	Dustbin
Water supply and electricity supply	Water supply and electricity supply
Fire prevention system	Fire prevention system
Sleeping area with floor area not less than 3.0 square meters per employee	Bedroom with floor area of not less than 3.6 square meters per employee

Based on the same Regulations, the employer and centralised accommodation provider must provide non-shareable basic amenities as follows:

- (i) Single bed with a measurement of not less than 1.7 square meters/Double-decker bed with the space between two beds of not less than 0.7 meters;
- (ii) Mattresses not less than 4 inches thick;
- (iii) Pillow;
- (iv) Blanket; and



(v) Locked cupboard of not less than 0.35 meters length x 0.35 meters width x 0.9 meters height (for the safe custody of the employee's valuables such as passport).

In addition, [R115 – Workers' Housing Recommendation, 1961 \(No.115\)](#) requires that where accommodation for single workers or workers separated from their families is collective, the competent authority should establish housing standards providing, as a minimum, for;

- a) a separate bed for each worker;
- b) separate gender accommodation;
- c) adequate drainage and sanitary conveniences;
- d) adequate ventilation; and
- e) common dining rooms, canteens, rest and recreation rooms and health facilities, where not otherwise available in the community.

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Commented [SC1]: Can change the word to standard instead?

Commented [SS2]: Which law? [OSH Act](#)