

FAQ – Tourist Accommodation and Regulations

What is changing with the introduction of the new Act and regulations?

The definition of a tourist accommodation in the new Act is more in line with the modern range of available accommodations. The Act also removes the requirement for accommodations to be licensed by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (TCAR). Instead, the Act requires all accommodations (traditional and short term rentals who list/market on online platforms) to register with the department. Accommodations will no longer be required to have a Canada Select rating.

Who has to register under the New Tourist Accommodations Act and regulations?

All short term rental accommodations, campground operators and outfitters must register with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation. Examples of short term rentals are:

- apartments, condos, houses and vacation homes
- bed and breakfasts
- cottages, cabins and tiny homes
- dormitory-style rooms and hostels
- hotels, motels and inns
- resorts
- self-contained secondary suites (like a basement apartment or a loft above a garage)
- unique lodgings (like yurts, domes, glamping pods, and boats)
- campgrounds (for tents, trailers, recreational vehicles or other temporary seasonal structures)
- outfitter

What is a short term rental?

A short term rental provides accommodation for compensation to an individual or group of individuals for overnight lodging for a period of 30 days or less.

How do I register my accommodation?

Register through the NL Tourism Operator Portal. For more information or assistance, please contact NLTourismOperatorPortal@gov.nl.ca or 729-5599.

What is the deadline to register?

Registration is a one-time process. All tourist accommodations operating in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador must be registered by March 31st, 2024.

What is the cost to register?

There are no fees associated with registering a tourist accommodation.

I am a licensed accommodator/campground operator or outfitter. Do I need to register under the new ACT and regulations?

No. If an operator is already licensed by TCAR, they will automatically be registered under the new regulations. If you would like to participate in marketing activities, for example have a listing and travel offer on NewfoundlandLabrador.com, annual renewal is required.

I submitted an application to become licensed but did not complete it. Do I need to register under the new Act and regulations?

If an operator has applied to be licensed before April 4, 2023, but the licence had not been issued, their application will now be considered an application for registration. Department staff will contact those operators to assist with their registration. If your property is no longer in operation please email NLTourismOperatorPortal@gov.nl.ca to have your application cancelled.

Under registration, do I submit municipal and provincial approvals with my application?

No. An operator will attest that they have all the necessary licenses and permits required by law to operate in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and that all municipal, provincial and federal laws applicable to the business will be observed.