

Asylum seeker: You may work only if your right to work is valid



When you find a job, you must check whether your right to work has begun and whether it is still valid.

You must tell your employer immediately if your right to work is terminated. You may be committing an offence if you are employed but do not have the right to work.

When does your right to work begin?

You are allowed to work to earn wages or other compensation as follows:

- You can start work three months after seeking asylum if you have presented a valid and authenticated passport or other travel document to the authorities.
- You can start work six months after seeking asylum if you have not presented a valid and authenticated passport or other travel document.

How long can you work for?

When you receive the decision on your asylum application, you must make sure that your right to work is still valid.

If your application is accepted,

- in most cases you can continue to work in Finland.
- Check your residence permit card or decision document that you have the right to work in Finland.

If your application is rejected,

- your right to work ends when your decision becomes enforceable.
- The decision will state when it becomes enforceable.
- Read more on the Finnish Immigration Service website: <https://migri.fi/en/refusal-of-entry>

Read more about asylum seekers' right to work on the Finnish Immigration Service website: <https://migri.fi/en/asylum-seeker-s-right-to-work>

How does a new application affect your right to work?

If you have submitted a new application, you can start working as follows:

- You can start work three months after seeking asylum if you have presented a valid and authenticated passport or other travel document to the authorities.

- You can start work six months after seeking asylum if you have not presented a valid and authenticated passport or other travel document.

The new application is an asylum application that you can submit after you have received a final decision on your previous application. If your previous decision cannot be appealed, it means it is final.

It is the employer's duty to check your right to work

Your employer has the duty to ensure that you have the necessary residence permit for an employed person or that you do not need to have a residence permit.

Your employer could be committing an offence if they deliberately or through negligence continue to employ you when you do not have the right to work.

According to the law, you do not need a certificate of your right to work

Your right to work as an asylum seeker is based on the Aliens Act. You can ask about your or your employee's right to work free of charge by email: migri.fi/en/certificate-of-the-right-to-work.

The decision by the Finnish Immigration Service states when it becomes enforceable. The police are responsible for the enforcement of the decision. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration oversees employers' duty to ensure your right to work: tyosuojelu.fi/web/en/employment-relationship/foreign-employee/the-right-to-work In matters concerning your right to work, your employer may contact the relevant authorities for guidance.