

Family reunification for unaccompanied minors who have received international protection

These instructions apply to you, if you were under 18 years of age when you applied for asylum and you have been granted asylum or subsidiary protection.

Your family members can apply for a residence permit in Finland on the basis of your Finnish residence permit. A family member of a minor child, that is, a person under 18 years of age, is the child's guardian.

Situations in which you are a minor and your guardian is your family member:

If you are still under 18 years of age when the Finnish Immigration Service makes a **decision on your guardian's residence permit application**, the guardian is your family member.

If you have reached the age of 18 before **the decision on your guardian's residence permit application**, the guardian is your family member if:

- you were under 18 years of age on the date when you applied for asylum
- you arrived in Finland alone to apply for asylum without your guardian, and
- your guardian applied for a residence permit based on family ties **within three months** from the date when **you were notified about the decision to grant asylum or subsidiary protection**

If you reached the age of 18 before a decision was made on your guardian's residence permit application, and your guardian only applied for a residence permit in Finland **after the deadline of three months had passed**, your guardian is no longer legally considered your family member.

How your family members can submit an application during the three months:

Your family members submit their residence permit applications before arriving in Finland. An application can be submitted on paper at a mission (embassy or consulate) or a Residence Permit Application Centre, or electronically in the Enter Finland service.

Submitting an application on paper

The preparation for applying for a residence permit should start immediately after you have been granted a residence permit. For example, your family members may need a visa to submit their applications at an embassy, consulate or Residence Permit Application Centre. Your family members must make sure that they can submit their applications on time.

Your family needs to visit the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland's website finlandabroad.fi to find out where and in what way they can submit the application, as well as how to make an appointment to submit the application. The Finnish Immigration Service cannot change



where and when your family can submit the application. Everyone who is applying for a residence permit must be present, including the children.

If it is not necessary to make an appointment to submit the application:

If making an appointment to submit the application is unnecessary, the applications must be submitted within three months. The time limit may be waived only if there is a particularly compelling reason for doing so.

If it is necessary to make an appointment to submit the application:

If making an appointment to submit the application is necessary, your family must contact the embassy, consulate or Residence Permit Application Centre where they are submitting the applications as quickly as possible, or within three months at the latest. They must make an appointment to submit the applications.

When they make the appointment, they must list all the persons who are going to apply for a residence permit at that time.

They must state:

- the whole name, exact date of birth and citizenship of each applicant
- your name, date of birth, citizenship and Finnish Immigration Service customer number.

If your family follows the advice given above, but they cannot get an appointment to submit the application within three months because there is a waiting time for appointments, they can still apply for a residence permit as your family members. Your family must still make the first appointment possible and submit the application at the appointment.

The time limit of three months may be waived only if there is a particularly compelling reason for doing so.

Submitting an application in the Enter Finland service

Your family can also apply for a residence permit in the Enter Finland online service (enterfinland.fi) of the Finnish Immigration Service. The electronic application must be submitted within three months. The time limit may be waived only if there is a particularly compelling reason for doing so.

After your family members have submitted the application in the Enter Finland online service, they still need to provide proof of their identity abroad. They can find instructions on how to do that in the Enter Finland service.

Applications are subject to a fee

The applications are subject to a fee. The application price rates can be found on the website of the Finnish Immigration Service at migri.fi



More information is available on the website of the Finnish Immigration

You can find more information on how to apply for a residence permit on the website of the Finnish Immigration Service at migri.fi.