



**Maahanmuuttovirasto
Migrationsverket
Finnish Immigration Service**



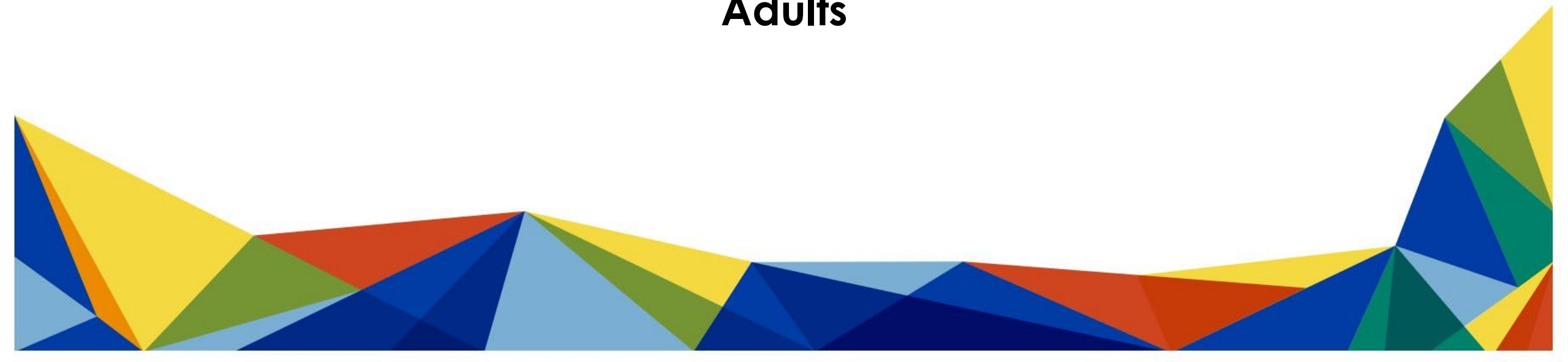
**ASYLUM, MIGRATION
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Information about the asylum process 2



Adults



During this session you will receive information on

- How is your application for asylum processed?
- What are your rights and obligations?
- What type of decision can you receive on your application for asylum?
- How can you appeal for the decision and how can you get legal aid?

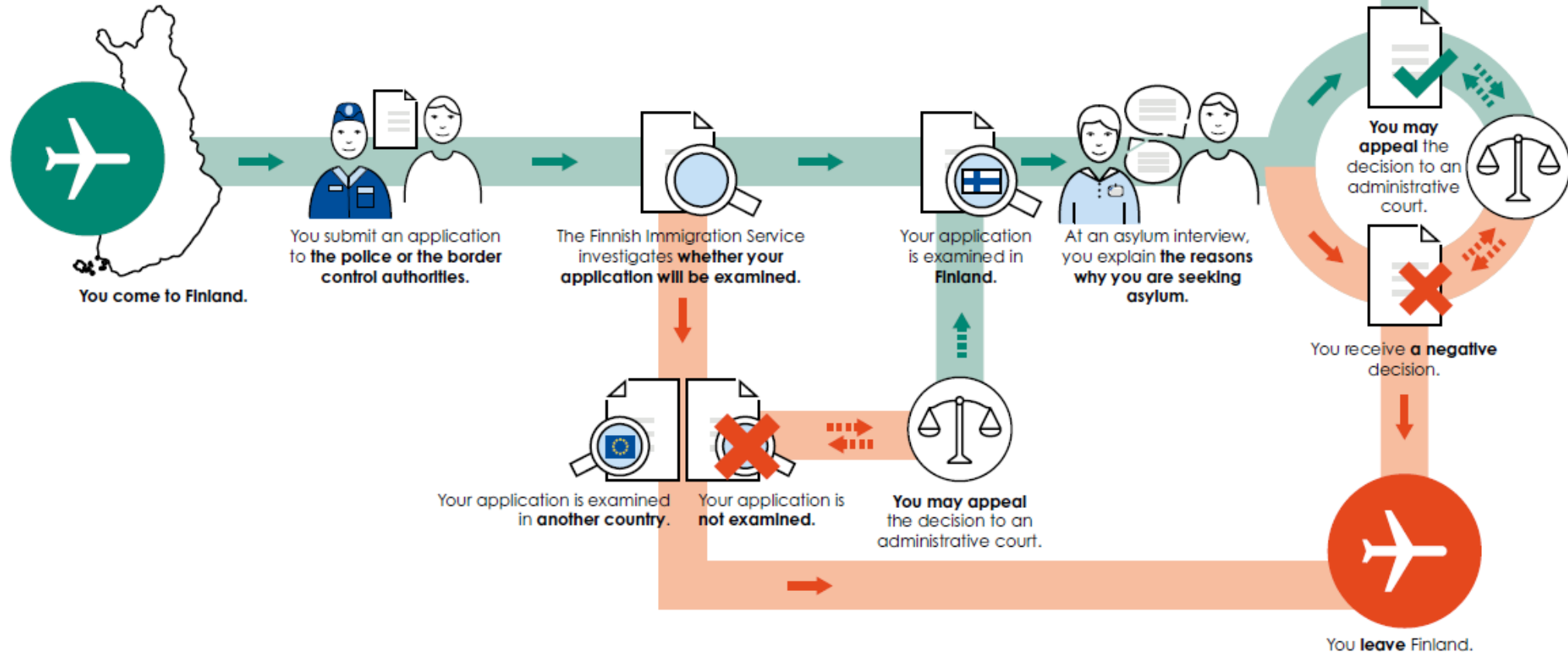


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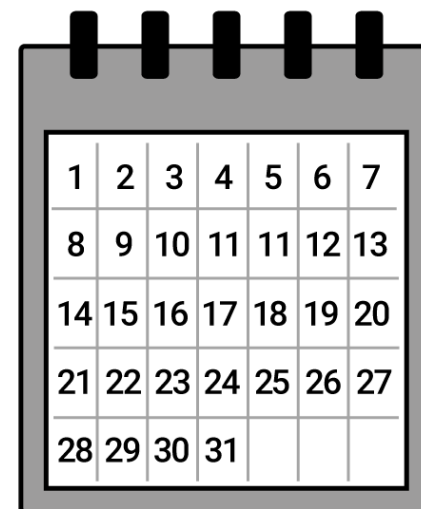
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Applying for asylum in Finland



Waiting for the decision

- It takes six months at most to process your application for asylum.
- Wait patiently for the decision.
- If your application can not be decided within six months, the Finnish Immigration Service will notify you of this and give you an estimate of when the decision will be made.
- If you want to submit additional information to the Finnish Immigration Service after your asylum interview, ask for advice from your legal counsel or the employees at your reception centre.



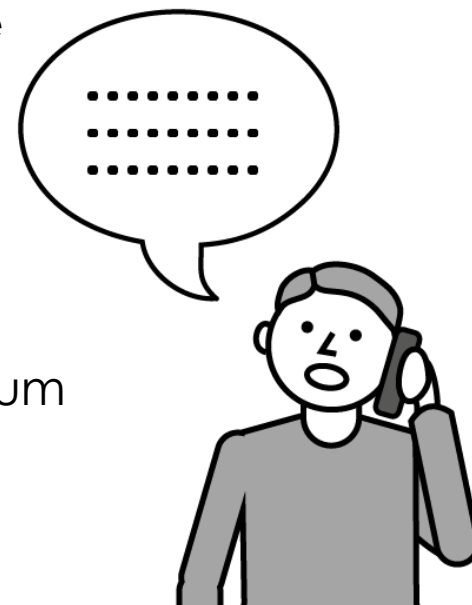
Work and studying

- During the waiting period you are obliged to participate in **the study or work activities** at the reception centre.
- You may study outside the centre without a separate permit.
- You have the right to work
 - after three months from submitting your asylum application if you have a passport, verified as genuine and you have presented it to the authorities.
 - after six months from submitting your asylum application if you do not have a passport.
- Your right to work ends when your decision is enforceable, it means you can be legally removed from Finland.



Important to remember while you are waiting for the decision

- **Be available.** Make sure that the reception centre and your legal counsel have your contact information and notify them of any changes in your contact details.
- **If you leave Finland** or you can not be contacted for at least two months, your application will expire meaning it will no longer be processed.
- You can **cancel your application** and return to your home country at any time. You can apply for financial assistance to return to your home country.
- You have the right to **access information on your case.** You may for example request documents concerning your asylum application from the Finnish Immigration Service. The requests are made in writing.



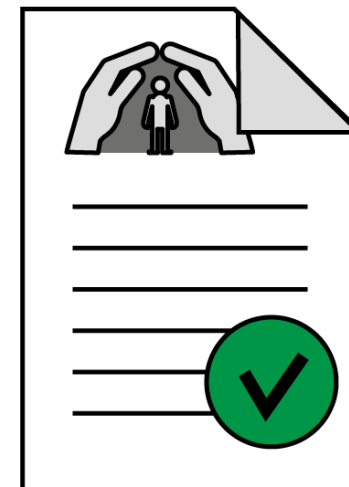
The Finnish Immigration Service will make a decision on your application

- The Finnish Immigration Service or the police will serve you with the decision. You may also receive the decision by post.
- If the decision is positive you are granted a residence permit which means that you can stay in Finland.
- If the decision is negative you are not granted a residence permit which means that you can not stay in Finland.
- In the decision you will find information on your right to work in Finland.



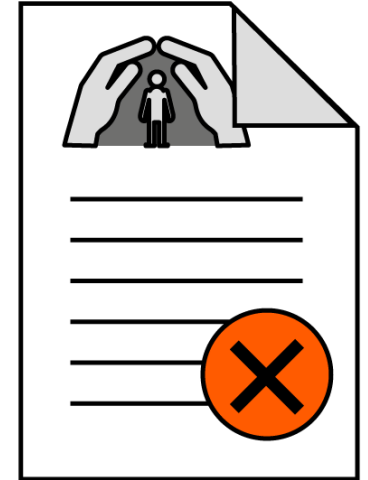
Positive decision

- You are granted a residence permit and you can stay in Finland. A residence permit may be granted on different grounds. Your decision will state the grounds on which you have been granted a residence permit.
- You will receive a residence permit card together with the decision. The card is valid as long as your residence permit is valid.
- You move from the reception centre to a municipality. The employees at the reception centre will advise you on matters you need to take care of when you move.
- You have the right to appeal against the decision to an Administrative Court. Discuss this with your legal counsel.



Negative decision

- You are not granted a residence permit.
- Together with the negative decision the Finnish Immigration Service issues you with a decision ordering that you must leave the country.
- If you do not want to appeal against the decision you can return to your home country voluntarily. In this case you may apply for assisted voluntary return. You receive more information on voluntary return from the employees at the reception centre.
- You have the right to appeal against the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service to an Administrative Court.



Expedited processing

If your application is considered manifestly unfounded by the Finnish Immigration Service it can be processed in an accelerated procedure. Your application is considered manifestly unfounded if, for example:

- the reasons for your application are not related to international protection
- your claims are clearly implausible
- you have deliberately given false information
- you have submitted your application only to avoid leaving Finland
- your home country is safe and you can return there.

In expedited processing the Finnish Immigration Service must decide on your application within five months. You can also be refused entry to Finland quicker than in ordinary processing. You may appeal against the decision.

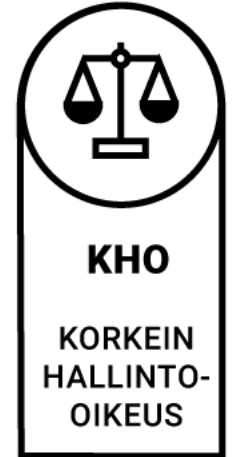
Appeal

- If you want to appeal against the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service, you need a legal counsel.
- When you receive the decision, deliver it to your legal counsel **immediately**. The legal counsel does not receive your decision directly from the Finnish Immigration Service.
- If you do not have a legal counsel, ask for advice from the employees at the reception centre. You can select a counsel either from a public or private legal aid office.
- **There is a deadline for the appeal!** If the appeal is not submitted before the deadline the negative decision becomes final.
- The legal counsel will review the decision with you.
- Then your legal counsel prepares the appeal to the Administrative Court.



Appeal procedure

- An appeal against the decision is always made to the Administrative Court first.
- The Court may
 - refer your case to be re-examined
 - change the decision by the Finnish Immigration Service
 - reject your appeal.
- If the Administrative Court rejects the appeal you may apply to the Supreme Administrative Court for leave to appeal. The Court will not accept all appeals for hearing. At this situation you can be removed from the country unless the Supreme Administrative Court specifically orders otherwise.
- **Please note that when the appeal is pending only your legal counsel can inform you about the processing!**
- The decision is sent to your legal counsel who will inform you about it.



Removal from the country

- If the final decision is negative, you must leave Finland.
- If you return voluntarily, you may apply for assisted voluntary return.
- If you do not return voluntarily, the police will remove you from the country.
- If the police have reason to believe that you will try to prevent your removal from the country, the police may oblige you to report at regular intervals at a police station or at the reception centre. The police may also decide that you are to be held in detention. The detention units are closed areas which you can not leave.
- If you have new grounds for asylum, you can submit a new asylum application.



Where to find more information?

- Brochure: Information for asylum seekers
- Brochure: Asylum seeker's right to work
- Brochures on Dublin procedure
- Asylum interview instructions for clients
- The Finnish Immigration Service videos on Youtube
- migri.fi (Finnish, Swedish, English) and Chatbot Kamu
- the employees of the reception centre
- your legal counsel



Videos on the asylum process

1. Applying for asylum in Finland
2. On what grounds can you receive a residence permit?
3. Who does what in the asylum process?
4. Legal aid in the asylum process
5. Asylum interview
6. Waiting for the decision
7. Positive decision
8. Negative decision

You can watch the videos in the following languages: Finnish, English, Arabic, Dari, Persian, Turkish, Russian, Somali, Sorani.

Link: migri.fi/videot-turvapaikanhakijoille



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You can always ask for more information at your own reception centre!

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Photos: Photo bank of Papunet,
papunet.net, Kuvako
Pic 2 modified from the original