Immigrants' social services and health care are now provided by the Wellbeing Services County of Lapland

Some of the services aimed at immigrants that were previously provided by local authorities became the responsibility of the Wellbeing Services County as of 1 January 2023.

The Wellbeing Services County of Lapland took over the responsibility for providing immigrants' social services and health care on 1 January 2023. Integration services are still the responsibility of local authorities.

Social and health care services for immigrants

If you have been granted a residence permit in Finland, you are entitled to the same social and health care services as all Finns.

This means that you can, for example, seek

- medical treatment in the event of an illness or an injury,
- help for mental health problems,
- income support, and
- assistance for everyday living.

In the case of social services, you will first undergo a needs assessment. The services that you need will then be provided to you. Your integration advisor can refer you to social services if necessary.

Social services for immigrants are mostly geared towards the needs of resettled refugees, asylum seekers who have been granted a residence permit, returnees from the territory of the former Soviet Union and family members of the above. Other immigrants who need temporary assistance or advice from social services are also welcome, however.

Health care services for immigrants are provided in close cooperation with integration and immigration experts.

For details about the range of <u>social services</u> and <u>health care</u> available to immigrants in your local authority, visit the website of the Wellbeing Services County of Lapland.

Integration services are still the responsibility of local authorities

Each local authority has a team of integration experts who provide advice and help you to settle in your new community. For more information about integration services, visit your local authority's website or offices.

Examples of integration services provided by local authorities:

- A needs assessment based on your employability, educational background and other integration capabilities
- A personalised integration plan (if required based on the needs assessment)
- Language classes and other services to promote integration