

Integration Guide for Immigrant Families

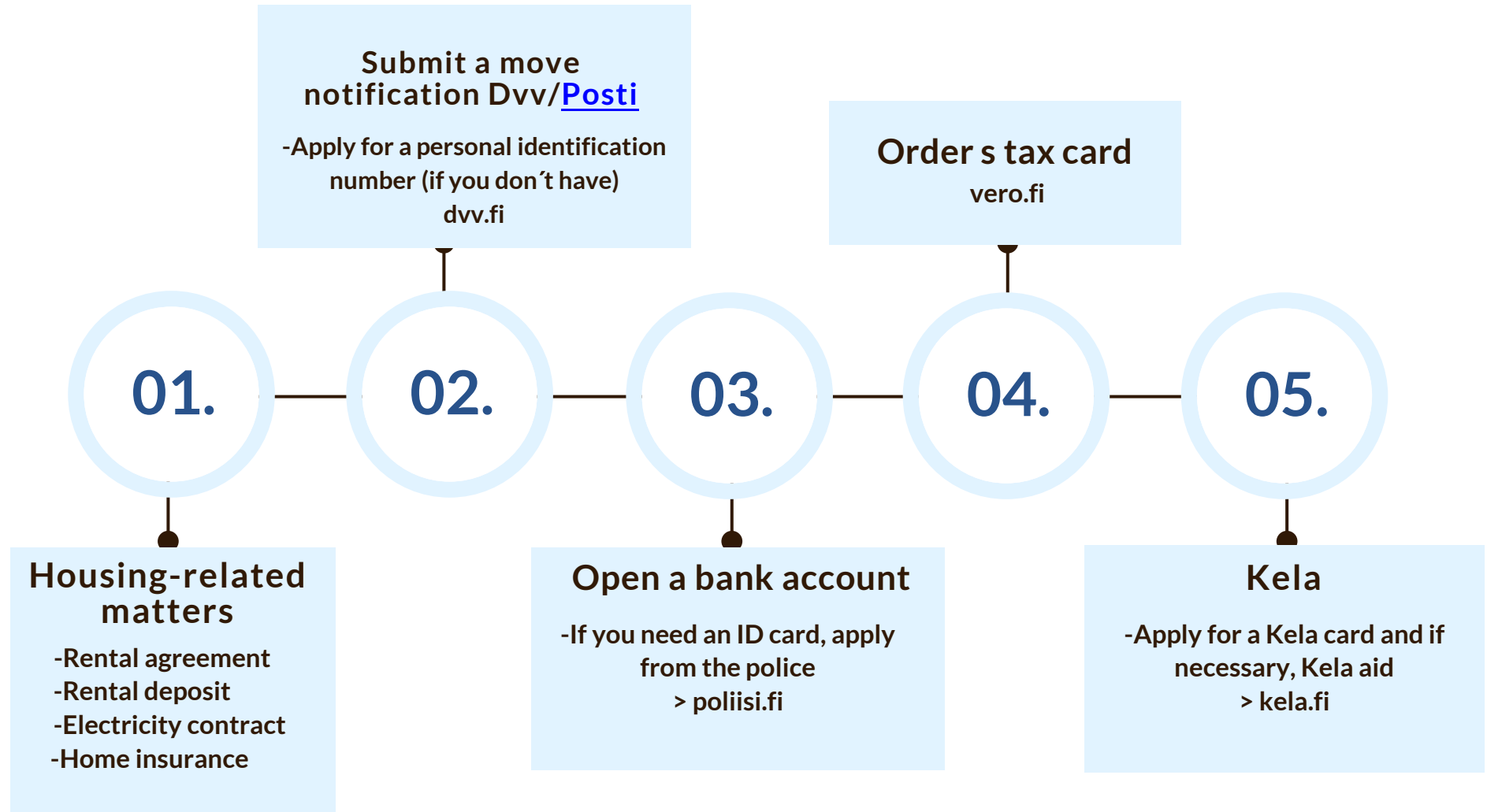


CONTENT

After moving to Finland	3
Residence permit types	4
Temporary protection	5
Work permit	6
Family residence permit	7
Student residence permit	8
Marriage in Finland	9
Divorce in Finland	10
A child born in Finland	11
Changing the driver`s license	12
Early childhood education in Finland	13
Finnish education system	14
Employment services	15
Health care	16
Public transport	17
Ylivieska	18
Nivala	19
Alavieska	20
Haapajärvi	21
Sievi	22
Useful links	23



AFTER MOVING TO FINLAND (CHECK LIST)



RESIDENCE PERMIT TYPES AND FINNISH CITIZENSHIP

The residence permit type is marked on the residence permit card with a letter code.

temporary

B-PERMIT

under 1-1 year

- have a temporary residence permit
- when you move to Finland for temporary work, internship or studies

A-PERMIT

1-4 years

- a residence permit issued for a specific period of time
- is intended for moving to Finland for a longer period of time

P-PERMIT (PERMANENT)

- you have lived in Finland for 6 years (since 8.1.26) with a continuous residence permit (A-permit) without interruption.
- you have sufficient knowledge of Finnish or Swedish skills and two years of work history.

Finnish citizenship

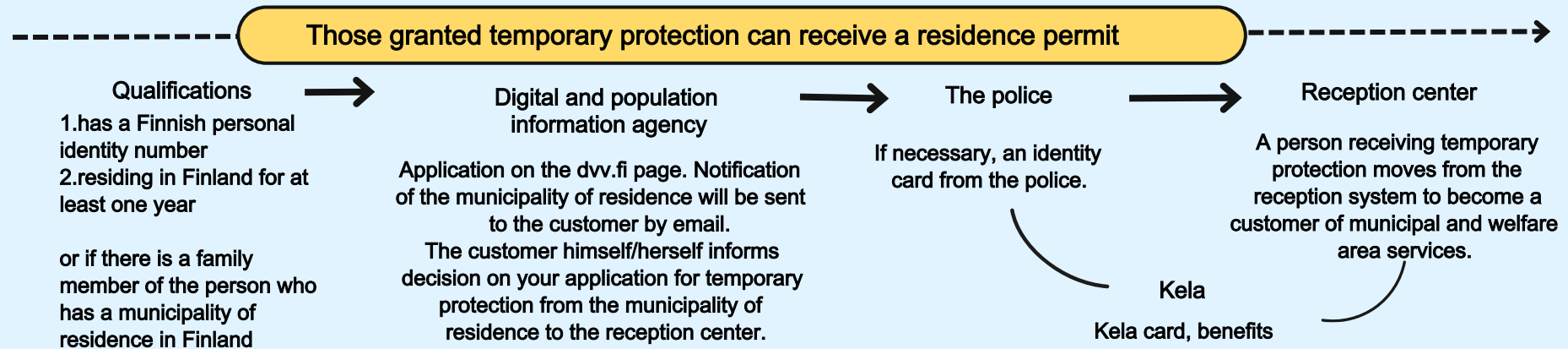
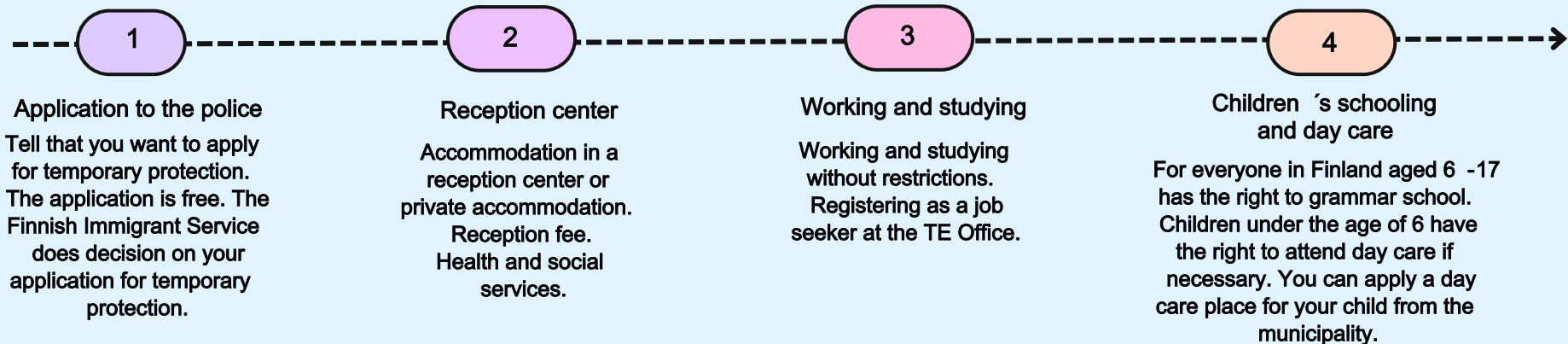
Requirements:

- 8 years of residence in Finland
- proof of language proficiency
- not having committed a crime
- income
- valid passport

More information
<https://migri.fi>

TEMPORARY PROTECTION (B)

Temporary protection for Ukrainians fleeing war continues until 4.3.2027

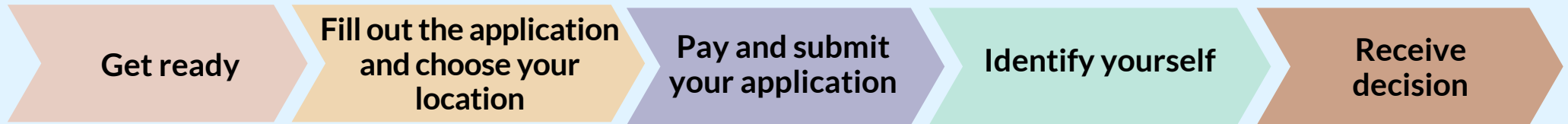


HOW GETTING A DOMESTIC NAME AFFECTS YOUR LIFE IN FINLAND



EMPLOYEE RESIDENCE PERMIT (A)

if you are coming to work in Finland



1. Valid passport
2. Employment contract - salary 1600 EUR/month gross
3. Your employer fills the employment conditions in your application

- Fill out the application form at Enter Finland or the paper form (EnterFinland.fi) and add the necessary attachments.
- Choose your location

migri.fi/ajanvaraus

Price of electronic application: First permit €590 / extension permit €170

Remember to bring your passport photo.

- Right to work only after a positive decision
- There may also be restrictions on the right to work.
- Apply for a renewal permit before the first permit expires

The employer fills in the information about the employment relationship (EnterFinland or on a paper form).

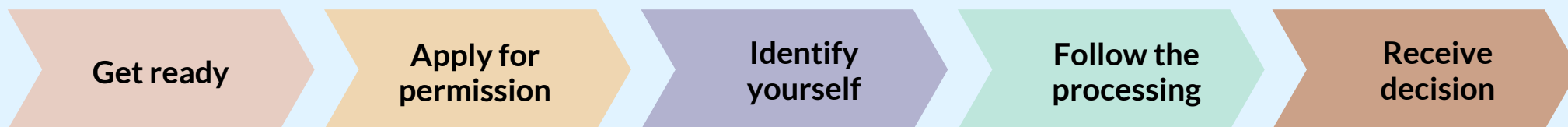
A person working in Finland with a work-based residence permit has three or six months to find a new job if the employment relationship ends prematurely.

source: migri.fi

FAMILY MEMBER RESIDENCE PERMIT (A)

If your family member lives in Finland and you want to move to live with them, you need a residence permit based on family ties.

Family member: spouse, common-law partner, child under 18 years of age



Prepare your documents:

- your valid passport
- certificate of marriage or civil partnership registration (legalized)
- your spouse's bank statements for the last six months
- a copy of your spouse's employment contract
- income requirement (e.g. 2 adults + child 1030+520+520 e/month net income)

- Fill out the application form at Enter Finland or the paper form (Enterfinland.fi) and add the necessary attachments.
- Choose your service location
migri.fi/ajanvaraus

- Go to a Finnish mission abroad or a Finnish Immigration Service service point in Finland to prove your identity.
- Remember to bring a passport photo.
- Pay for your application: 1st permit (530 €). Extension permit 170€ / child 180 e.

- Processing time can be 6-9 months

NOTE!

NO INCOME IS REQUIRED FOR:

-FAMILY MEMBERS OF A FINNISH CITIZEN

-A CHILD BORN IN FINLAND WHEN BOTH GUARDIANS HAVE VALID PERMITS

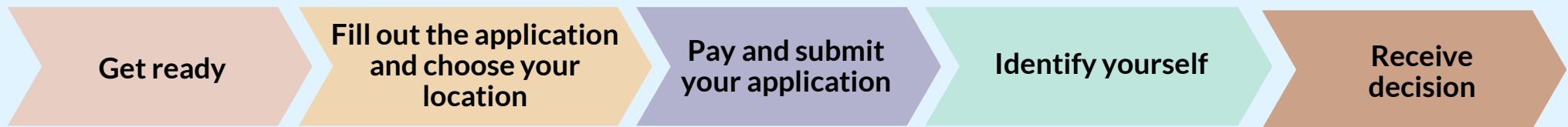
UNLIMITED RIGHT TO WORK AND STUDY

source: migri.fi

STUDENT RESIDENCE PERMIT (B)

You can get a residence permit if you have been accepted as a student at an educational institution in Finland. An educational institution can be a university, university of applied sciences, upper secondary school or vocational school.

With a student residence permit, you can work for an average of 30 hours a week in any field.



1. valid passport
2. certificate of acceptance from the educational institution
3. proof of income
4. proof of tuition fees or scholarship, if necessary, health insurance certificate

- Fill out the application form in Enter Finland and add the necessary attachments.
- Choose your service location

migri.fi/ajanvaraus

- Electronic application €450,
 - minor applicant €270
- Remember to bring your passport photo.

Income requirement for students:

9600 euros/year or 800 euros/month (if your studies last less than a year)

- If the educational institution arranges free housing, **400 euros/month**.
- If you receive free housing and free meals from the educational institution, **270 euros/month**.

source: migri.fi

MARRIAGE IN FINLAND

NOTE!

You cannot obtain Finnish citizenship through marriage.

RESEARCH ON OBSTACLES TO MARRIAGE

Order a civil status certificate from your home country's authorities or your home country's embassy or consulate in Finland. Foreign certificates usually need to be legalized and translated into either Finnish, Swedish or English. A certificate issued by an embassy or consulate in Finland does not need to be legalized.

PRE-NATIONAL AGREEMENT A prenuptial agreement is voluntary.

CONSECRATION Book your wedding ceremony in advance with the Digital and Population Information Service. Civil weddings are free of charge.

RECOGNITION OF A MARRIAGE CONTRACTED ABROAD

Countries that have joined the Apostille agreement

-Original marriage certificate Apostille legalized translation (English, Finnish or Swedish)

The country is not on the list of countries that are party to the Apostille agreement

-Original document, legalization is first done by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country that issued the document and then by the Finnish representation (legalized translation (Finnish, English or Swedish).

-Bring the documents to the DVV service point
- the service is free of charge.

Source: <https://dvv.fi/ulkomailla-solmittu-avioliitto>

DIVORCE IN FINLAND

MARRIAGE IS REGISTERED/RECOGNIZED IN FINLAND

1. Fill out the divorce petition > suomi.fi
2. Wait 6 months (consideration period) and make a final application
3. Family mediation
4. Receive the decision

THE MARRIAGE IS REGISTERED ABROAD

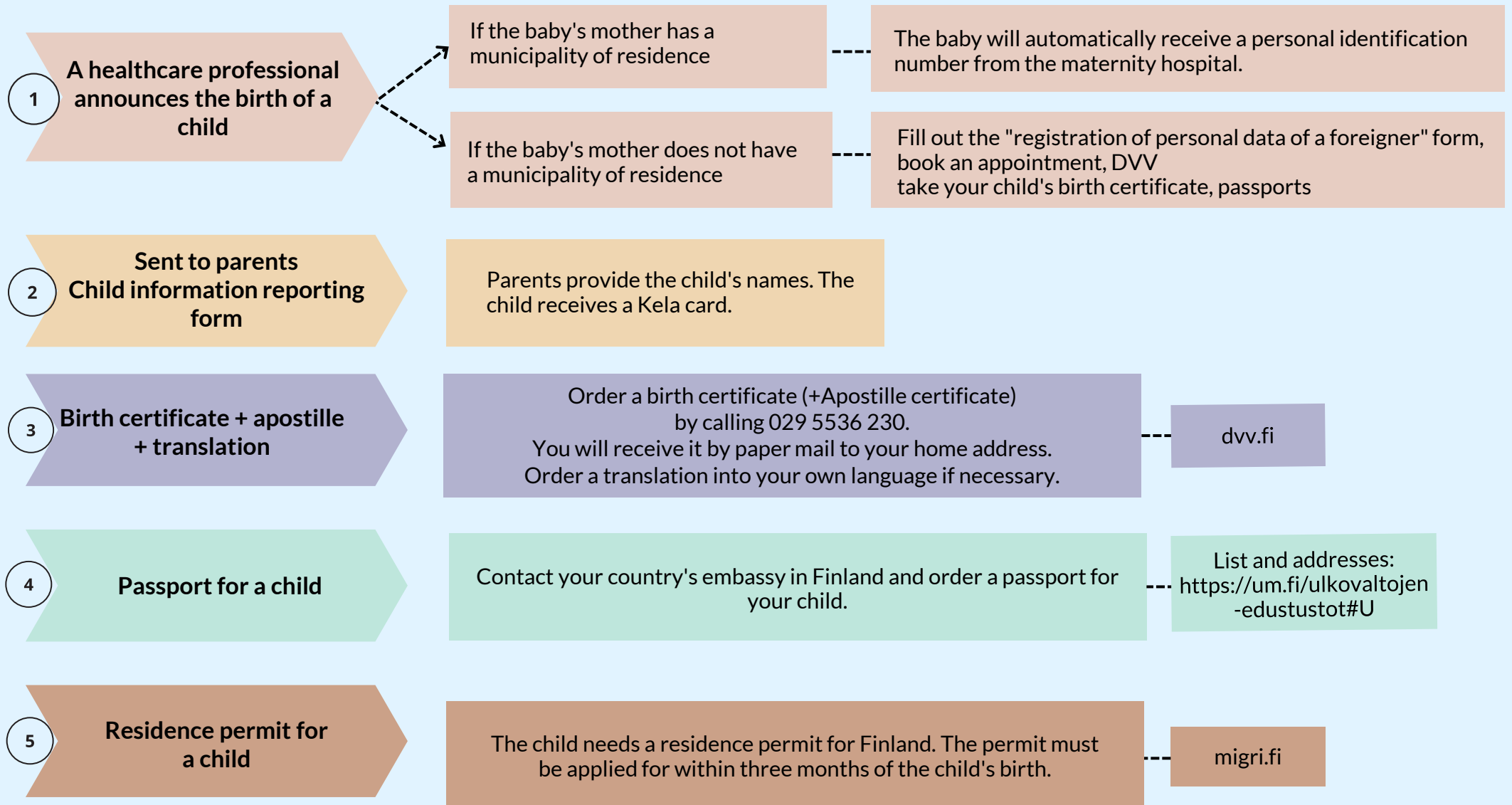
1. Make recognition of a marriage concluded abroad (see page 9)
2. Fill out the divorce petition
3. Wait 6 months (consideration period) and make a final application
4. Family mediation
5. Receive the decision

Spouses can file for divorce together or one spouse can do it alone.

If the spouses have lived separately for the past two years without interruption, the divorce may come effective without consideration period (6 months).

Applications are subject to a fee.

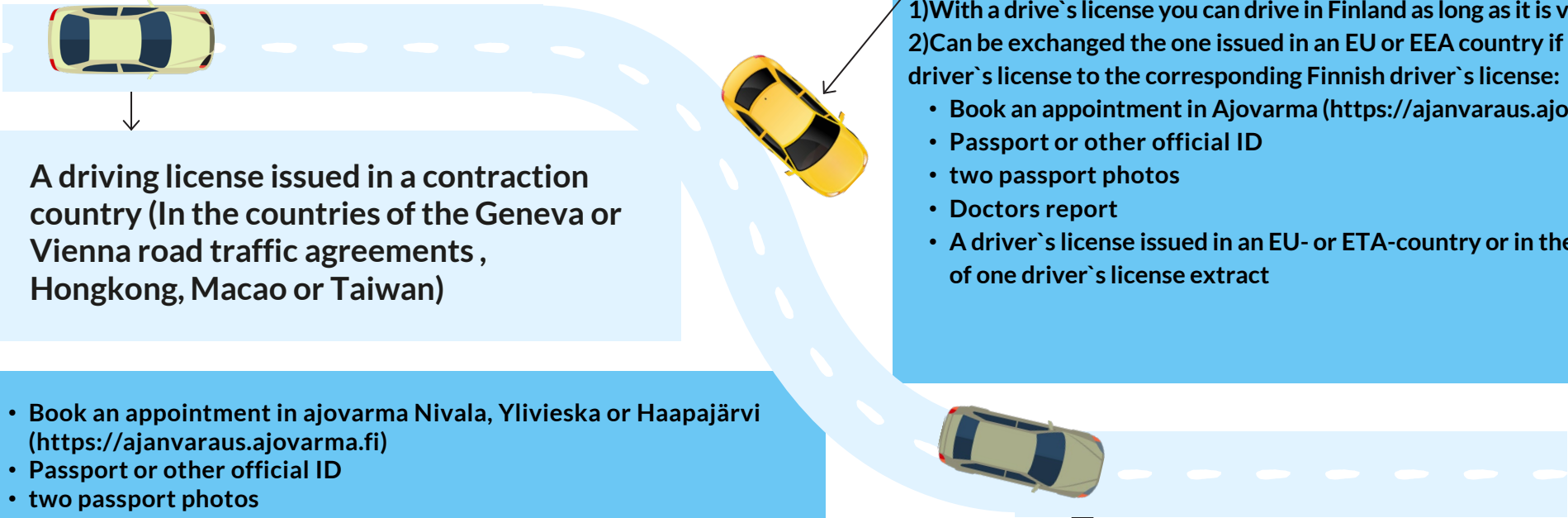
A child born in Finland (Parents have a residence permit)



Changing a foreign driver`s license to a Finnish driver`s license

In an Eu or EEA country (Island, Norway and Liechtenstein) issued driver`s license changing to a Finnish driver`s license

- 1) With a driver`s license you can drive in Finland as long as it is valid
- 2) Can be exchanged the one issued in an EU or EEA country if desired driver`s license to the corresponding Finnish driver`s license:
 - Book an appointment in Ajovarma (<https://ajanvaraus.ajovarma.fi>)
 - Passport or other official ID
 - two passport photos
 - Doctors report
 - A driver`s license issued in an EU- or ETA-country or in the absence of one driver`s license extract



A driving license issued in a contraction country (In the countries of the Geneva or Vienna road traffic agreements , Hongkong, Macao or Taiwan)

- Book an appointment in ajovarma Nivala, Ylivieska or Haapajärvi (<https://ajanvaraus.ajovarma.fi>)
- Passport or other official ID
- two passport photos
- Doctors report
- Exchangeable foreign driver`s license (+Finnish, Swedish or English translation made by a translator, if the driver`s license is not written in latin in letters)
- price 39 e

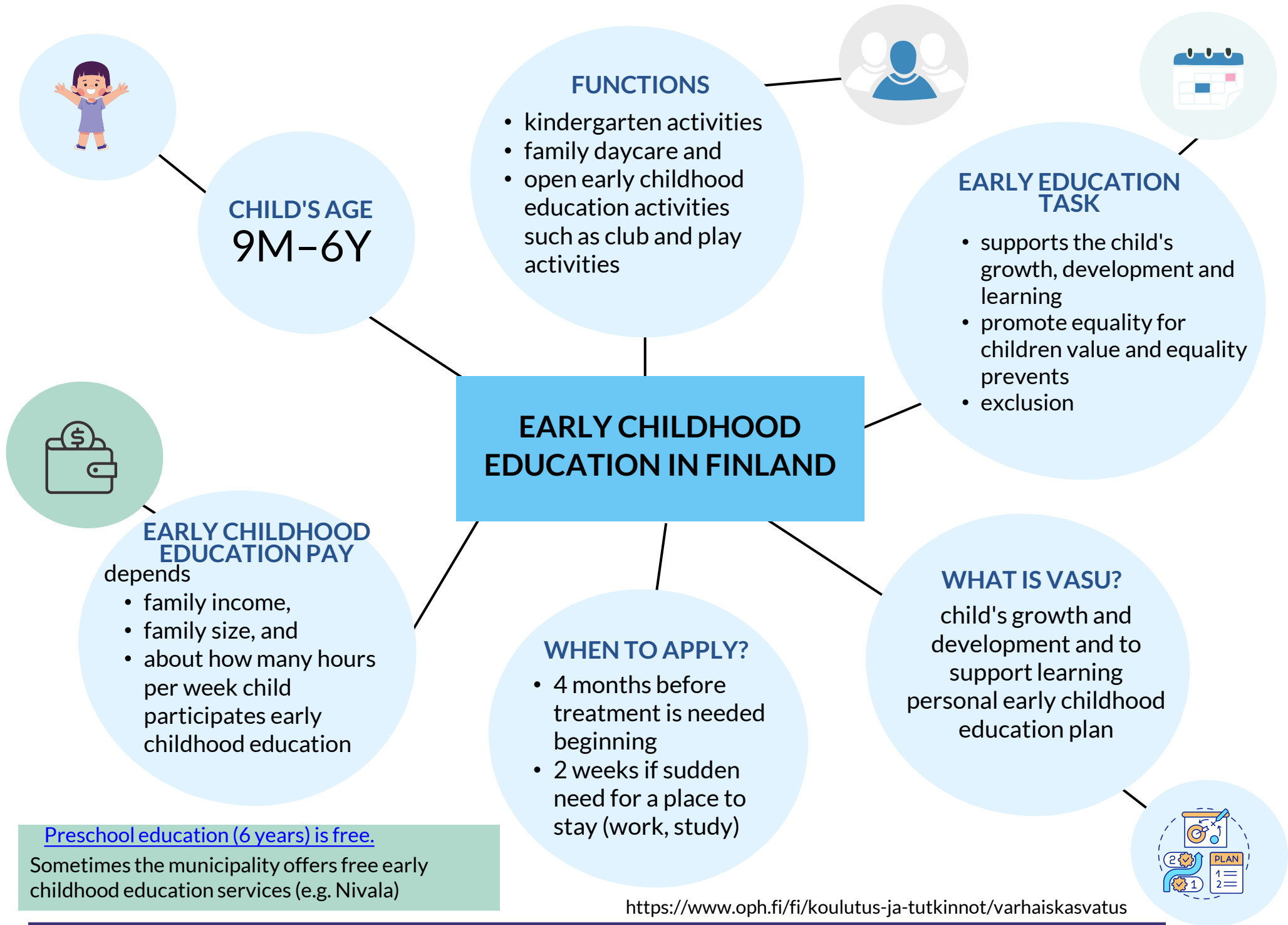
Changing the driver`s license must be done within two years of starting permanent residence in Finland, but nevertheless before the driver`s license expires.

Contraction countries e.g Ukraine, Philippines, Turkey, Thailand, Kenya, Iraq, Iran, Russia, Marocco

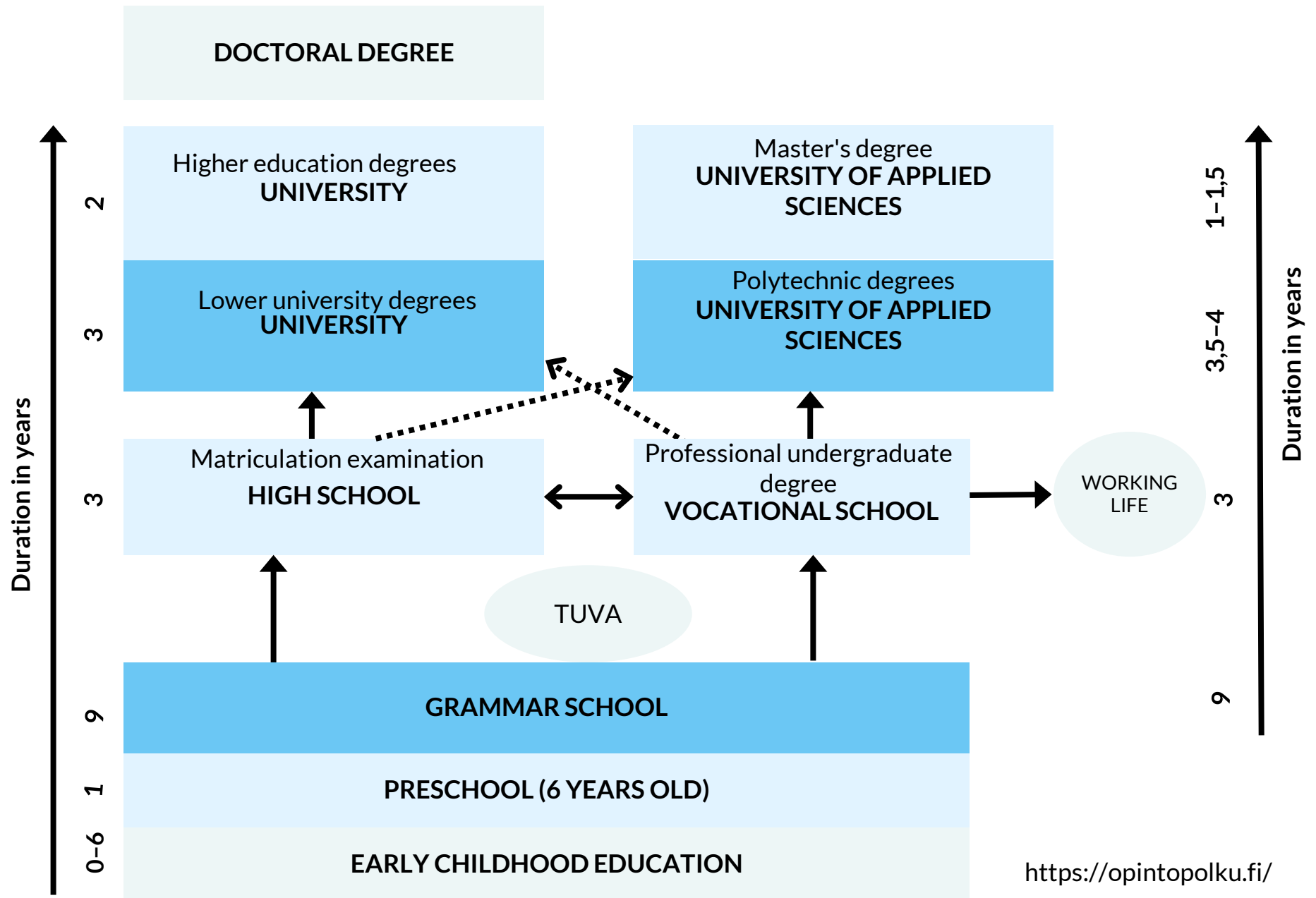
Additional information: ajokortti-info.fi

In a country other than the EU, EEA or a treaty country

- Book an appointment in Ajovarmaan (<https://ajanvaraus.ajovarma.fi>)
- Passport of other official ID
- Two passport photos
- Doctors report
- Driver`s license issued in other country
- Driving test to be completed (Theory and driving test)



FINNISH EDUCATION SYSTEM



EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

**Nivala Municipality
Employment Services**
Kalliontie 18, Nivala (2nd
floor)
Mon-Thu 9am-3pm
Fri 9am-2pm

**Ylivieska Municipality
Employment Services**
Vierimaantie 3, Ylivieska
Mon-Thu 9am-3pm
Fri 9am-2pm

**Alavieska Municipality
Employment Services**
Pappilantie 1, Alavieska,
(by appointment)

**Sievi Municipality
Employment Services**
Haikolantie 16, Sievi,
(by appointment)

YKN -employment area
henkiloasiakkaat@ykntyollisyys.fi
08 8407 400
Mon-Thu 9- 15 Fri 9-14

Are you
considering
entrepreneurship?

Are you looking
for work?

Have you been
laid off?

**Haapajärvi Municipality
Employment Services**
Haapajärvi City Hall,
Kirkkokatu 2

Mon: 9:00-11:00, 12:00-
15:00 By appointment: Mon-
Fri 9:00-15:00

Raahe-employment area
08 439 4000
info.tyollisyys@raahe.fi

HAAPAJÄRVI, ALAVIESKA, YLIVIESKA, NIVALA AND SIEVI HEALTH SERVICES

Receptions at social and health centers

08 669 0240
Mon-Fri 8 am-4 pm
(urgent or non-urgent line)

Dental care

08 669 0180
Mon-Thu 8am-4pm
Fri 8am-3pm

Addresses:

Alavieska, Pappilantie 1

Ylivieska, Kirkkotie 4

Sievi, Haikolantie 38

Nivala, Pappilantie 1

Haapajärvi, Männistökatu 6

Children's and maternity clinic

Ylivieska, Sievi ja Alavieska
08 6692801
Mon-Fri 8am-1pm

Nivala ja Haapajärvi
08 6690120
Mon-Fri 8am-10am

OmaKanta
(laboratory results,
X-ray results)
www.kanta.fi

Laboratory

tests must always be referred and
have a reserved appointment
Book appointment / [Nordlab.fi](https://nordlab.fi)

Social and crisis emergency service

p. 0447036235 Open 24 hours a day. (if you need urgent help and advice
regarding, for example, child protection, violence, housing, mental health or
substance abuse)

Digital health and social care center
(Chat with a nurse without an appointment)
<https://digisotekeskus.pohde.fi/>

EMERGENCY NUMBER

weekends, evenings and holidays
116117

EMERGENCY NUMBER

112
(police, emergency medical
services, rescue)

Source: <https://pohde.fi/>

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

NIVALA



YLIVIESKA



HAAPAJÄRVI



ALAVIESKA



SIEVI



Train tickets
<https://www.vr.fi/>

Bus tickets
<https://www.matkahuolto.fi/>

Taxi
<https://www.otaxi.fi/pohjanmaa>

**Welfare
Coordinator/Immigration
Coordinator**

Marita Öljymäki-Maarala

040 188 2459
marita.oljymaki-
maarala@ylivieska.fi

**FINNISH LANGUAGE
COURSE**

Ylivieska Regional Adult Education Centre
<https://uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/ylivieska/fi/>

Raudaskylä Christian College
<https://www.rko.fi/>

**HOUSING
SERVICES**

Ylivieskan Vuokra-asunnot Oy
Juurikoskenkatu 4
<https://www.ylivieskanvuokraasunnot.fi/>

<https://www.vuokraovi.com/>

LEISURE

Dance School Uusikuu
<https://www.tanssiopistousikuu.fi/>

Ylivieska Regional Music Institute
<https://www.ylivieska.fi/kasvatus-ja-opetus/ylivieskan-seudun-musiikkiopisto/>

Ylivieska Regional Adult Education Centre
<https://uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/ylivieska/fi/>

LIBRARY
Kyöstintie 4, 044-4294271

YOUTH SERVICES
Youth Centre Holvi
<https://www.ylivieska.fi/kasvatus-ja-opetus/nuorisopalvelut/>

Sports center (Närhitie 2)



**LOCAL CHURCHES
AND PARISHES**

Ylivieska Parish
<https://www.ylivieskanseurakunta.fi/>

Ylivieska Pentecostal Church
<https://www.ylivieskanhelluntaiseurakunta.net/>

organizational activities FOR
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
and young people

4H
ylivieska.4h.fi

club activities
(crafts, exercise,
cooking, acting and
outdoor activities)

**SAFE THE
CHILDREN
YLIVIESKA**

supporting the studies and
hobbies of children and
young people
www.pelastakalapset.fi/ylivieska/

**MANNERHEIM LEAGUE
FOR CHILD WELFARE**
<https://ylivieska.mll.fi/>

story club for children
play club support for
parenting if needed
guidance and advice
international café

<https://www.ylivieska.fi/maahanmuuttajat/>
<https://tapahtumat.ylivieska.fi/fi-FI>

Kaikukortti
<https://www.ylivieska.fi/kaikukortti/>

With the Kaiku card, you can
purchase free tickets to
cultural and sports venues,
such as concerts, theaters,
museums, and swimming
pools.

Welfare Coordinator

Meri Vähäkangas
040 344 7317
meri.vahakangas@nivala.fi

FINNISH LANGUAGE COURSE

Jokilatvan opisto
<https://jokilatvanopisto.fi/>
Raudaskylä Christian College
<https://www.rko.fi/>

HOUSING SERVICES

Kiinteistö Oy Nivalan Vuokratodit
044 045 7430, Kyntäjantie 1
Jokilaaksojen Kodinvälitys LKV,
044-3442450
Kiinteistökeidas, 040-5630337

LEISURE

Dance School Uusikuu
<https://www.tanssiopistousikuu.fi/>

Jokilaaksojen musiikkiopisto
Regional Music Institute
<https://jmo.fi/>

Jokilatvan opisto
Regional Adult Education Centre
<https://www.jokilatvanopisto.fi/>

LIBRARY
Kalliontie 21

YOUTH SERVICES
Youth Centre Kulmaus

Sports center UIKKO
Kalliontie 59



NIVALA
Kasvatamme tulevaisuutta

LOCAL CHURCHES AND PARISHES

-Nivalan Parish
<https://www.nivalanseurakunta.fi/>
-Nivala Free Church
<https://www.nivalanvapaasrk.com/>
-Karvoskylä Orthodox Church
<https://www.ortodoksi.net/>

organizational activities FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN and young people

4H

nivala.4h.fi

club activities (crafts, exercise, cooking, acting and outdoor activities)

MANNERHEIM LEAGUE FOR CHILD WELFARE NIVALA

Family cafes international cafe home service for families with children

SAFE THE CHILDREN NIVALA

supporting the studies and hobbies of children and young people
www.pelastakaalapset.fi/nivala/

<https://www.nivala.fi/>

Immigration Coordinator

Sari Latvakoski
sari.latvakoski@alavieska.fi
p. 044 5395 460

FINNISH LANGUAGE COURSE

Ylivieska Regional Adult Education Centre
Kalajoki Christian College

HOUSING SERVICES

Housing office
ma-to klo 9-15
Mervi Murto
044 5395 285

<https://asuminen.alavieska.fi/vuokra-asunnot>

LEISURE

Ylivieska Regional Music Institute
<https://ysmo.eepos.fi/>

Ylivieska Regional Adult Education Centre
<https://uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/ylivieska/fi/>

LIBRARY
Pokelantie 3

YOUTH SERVICES
Youth centre
Pääskyntie 1

Sports services
ALAVIESKAN VIRI RY
<https://www.alavieskanviri.fi/>



organizational activities FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN and young people

LOCAL CHURCHES AND PARISHES

Alavieska Parish
<https://www.alavieskanseurakunta.fi/>

MERIJÄRVI 4H ASSOCIATION

club activities (crafts, exercise, cooking, acting and outdoor activities)
merijarvi.4h.fi

MANNERHEIM LEAGUE FOR CHILD WELFARE ALAVIESKA

Family cafes
indoor playground

<https://www.alavieska.fi/>

Immigration Coordinator

Tiina Pietikäinen-Liuska
Employment and Welfare Coordinator
044 4456 408
tiina.pietikainen-liuska@haapajarvi.fi

FINNISH LANGUAGE COURSE

Raudaskylä Christian College
<https://www.rko.fi/>

HOUSING SERVICES

REAL ESTATE LTD HAAPAJÄRVI
RENTAL HOUSES
044 4456 131
HAAPAJÄRVI ELDERLY HOMES ASSOCIATION
p. 040 7099 454

LEISURE

Jokilatvan opisto
Regional Adult Education Centre
<https://www.jokilatvanopisto.fi/>

Dance School Uusikuu
<https://www.tanssiopistousikuu.fi/>

Jokilaaksojen musiikkiopisto
Regional Music Institute
<https://jmo.fi/>

LIBRARY
Kauppakatu 19,
puh. 044-4456 207

YOUTH SERVICES
0444456404
[Youth centre Stolle](#)
[Kauppakatu 27](#)



Tee oikein.

organizational activities FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN and young people

4H ASSOCIATION

club activities, courses, trips, competitions, camps, international activities, youth entrepreneurship
haapajarvi.4h.fi

MANNERHEIM LEAGUE FOR CHILD WELFARE HAAPAJÄRVI

Family cafes

LOCAL CHURCHES AND PARISHES

Haapajärvi Parish
<https://www.haapajarvenseurakunta.fi/>

Haapajärvi Pentecostal Church
<https://www.haapajarvenhelluntaisrk.fi/>

<https://www.haapajarvi.fi/>

Immigration Coordinator

Raija Tikkanen
0444883487
RAIJA.TIKKANEN@SIEVI.FI

FINNISH LANGUAGE COURSE

Raudaskylä Christian College
<https://www.rko.fi/>

Ylivieska Regional Adult Education Centre

HOUSING SERVICES

Sievi Rental Homes
(KOy Sievin Jussi)
Haikolantie 16

LEISURE

Ylivieska Regional Music Institute
044 4294 323

Ylivieska Regional Adult Education Centre
<https://uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/ylivieska/fi/>

SPORTS SERVICES
MULTIFUNCTION HALL
Jussinmäentie 2

LIBRARY, Haikolantie 19
<https://joki.finna.fi>

Youth centre Miitti
Jussinmäentie 3 B



organizational activities FOR
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
and young people

4H ASSOCIATION

club activities, courses,
trips, competitions,
camps, international
activities, youth
entrepreneurship
sievi.4h.fi

MANNERHEIM LEAGUE FOR CHILD WELFARE SIEVI

LOCAL CHURCHES AND PARISHES

Sievi Pentecostal Church
<http://www.sievinhelluntaiseurakunta.fi/>
Sievi Parish
<https://www.sievinseurakunta.fi/>

<https://www.sievi.fi/>

USEFUL LINKS

1. Contact information for shelters:

<https://thl.fi/palvelut-ja-asiointi/valtion-sosiaali-ja-terveydenhuollon-erityispalvelut/turvakotipalvelut/turvakodit/turvakotien-yhteystiedot#Pohjois-Suomi>

2. Register of authorized translators:

<https://akr.opintopolku.fi/akr>

3. Your guide to Finland:

<https://www.infofinland.fi/fi>

4. General Unemployment Fund:

<https://www.ytkpalvelut.fi/>

5. Information on labor needs in various industries in Finland:

<https://www.tyovoimabarometri.fi/>

6. Job openings, registering as a job seeker, applying for workforce training and applying for start-up money:

<https://www.tyomarkkinatori.fi>

7. Finnish society course:

<https://migri.fi/suomalaisen-yhteiskunnan-kurssi>

8. Basic information about services for families with children in Finland in several languages:

<https://www.lastensuojelu.info/>

WELL-BEING FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES - PROJECT

Objectives	Target group
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a functioning immigrant network in the area of the project• Immigrant Families services have a clear operating model• Strengthening the inclusion and function capacity of immigrant families	The Immigrant families living in the area of project operators and the professionals and volunteers working with them.

During the project, from 01.01.24 to 31.12.25, low-threshold activities will be organized for immigrant families, as well as training and guidance for them and the professionals working with them.

Our contact information:	
<p>Project manager</p> <p>Virpi Ruotsalainen 040 344 7326 virpi.ruotsalainen@nivala.fi</p>	<p>Project worker</p> <p>Kateryna Brytiuk 040 344 7212 kateryna.brytiuk@nivala.fi</p>