« Nordic countries

If you are moving from Finland to another Nordic country for a period of more than three months, you are required to submit a change of address notification. In Finland, this can be done either at www.changeaddress.fi or by paper form to your local register office. Please note that the notification must be submitted within one week of your move. The paper form can be collected at your local register office or post office.

When moving abroad, the change of address notification cannot be submitted by telephone.

A single notification can be used for the whole family; separate forms for each family member are not required.

You are also, within a given deadline, required to register with the local authorities in the Nordic country you move to. This deadline is 7 days in Sweden, 8 days in Norway, 5 days in Denmark, and 7 days in Iceland.

« Place of residence

When you move to another Nordic country, the relevant local legislation determines whether your move is considered temporary or permanent. The decision of the relevant authority is binding on the Finnish authorities.

If you are considered permanently resident in your country of entry, you will be registered as non-resident in Finland once confirmation of your registration at your country of entry is received by the Finnish register office. Information sharing between Nordic authorities is carried out electronically.

Any appeal on your residence status is to be filed according to current legislation in your country of entry.

« Other than Nordic countries

When moving to a country other than the Nordic countries, you are required to submit a change of address notification, either at www.changeaddress.fi or by paper form to your local register office. Please note that the notification must be submitted within one week of your move. The paper form can be collected at your local register office or post office. When moving abroad, the change of address notification cannot be submitted by telephone.

A single notification can be used for the whole family; separate forms for each family member are not required.

If you submit your change of address notification only after leaving Finland, you can send the form by post to your local register office in Finland or to the Finnish mission in your country of entry.

The Finnish register office will adjust your information in the Population Information System according to your change of address notification.

Do not forget to notify your local Finnish register office or your local Finnish mission abroad of any changes to your personal or address details. This can also be done electronically: http://www.suomi.fi/suomifinenglish/eservices/forms/maist_muu/index.html.

Keeping your details up-to-date ensures that any correspondence from the Finnish authorities, including election ballots and military service information, will continue to reach you. Finnish citizens remain eligible to vote in Finnish national elections also when living abroad.

A change of address notification is also required if you move abroad temporarily for more than three months. If your residence abroad later becomes permanent, please notify your local register office in Finland.

Local registration authorities in the other Nordic countries are:

- Sweden: Swedish Tax Agency (www.skatteverket.se)
- Norway: local tax authorities (www.skatteetaten.no)
- Denmark: municipal population register (www.borger.dk)
- Iceland: national population register (www.skra.is)

« Moving to Finland

When you submit a change of address notification to your local register office, the information you provide will be passed on to a number of authorities. It also ensures that you are registered as resident at the correct municipality and voting district.

If you intend to remain in Finland for at least one year and are not a Finnish citizen, and if your information has not been previously registered in the Finnish Population Information System, you are required to visit your local register office to fill in the Registration of Foreigners form. Bring with you a travel document such as a passport or, for EU citizens, a national ID card with photograph. As part of the registration process, you will be issued with a personal identity code.

If you are resident in Finland but are not a Finnish citizen, you can be registered with a municipality of residence in Finland if you intend to remain in the country permanently, provided that you are in possession of a permanent or a continuous residence permit, or a temporary residence permit valid for at least one year. EU citizens, though, are only required to present a registration certificate confirming their right of residence. This is obtained at your local police station when registering your right of residence as an EU citizen. For citizens of the Nordic countries, none of the certificates or permits mentioned above is required.

If you live in Finland only temporarily, you may register at your local register office, at the Finnish Immigration Service, or at any tax office or KELA (Social Insurance Institution of Finland) office.

For further information, please visit www.maistraatti.fi or your local register office.