

**Undocumented migrant
children have the right
to go to school!**

From 6-18 years old all children in Sweden have the right to education, including undocumented migrant children. This applies to preschool, elementary, secondary and special education and school transportation.



A school for all children!

Hi!

Did you know that from July 1, 2013, undocumented migrant children in Sweden have, by law, the same rights to education as other children? This means that children have the right to:

- Pre-school - The year the child turns 6, he or she may start in the six-year activities. This prepares the child for elementary school. Books and lunch are free.
- Elementary school - When the child turns 7, he or she will start elementary school. Children receive free books and lunch. Elementary school is nine years.
- High school - For young people who have finished elementary school can choose to go to high school. There are various high school programs to apply to, and they are often 3 years long. If you, as an undocumented migrant, start high school before turning 18 years old, you have the right to end your education even after the age of 18.
- Special education - Special education is a school where children and young people with mental disabilities can receive an adapted education.
- School transportation to and from school is available if needed. You have the right to state a pick-up address if you, out of fear, do not want to disclose actual address information.

It is also good to know that, in Sweden, school is free.

What do I do so my child can go to school?

Please contact the school you wish your child to go to. When you contact them, tell them that you have a child that you want to go to school and that you wish to speak with the principal. Good to know is that the school is independent from authorities such as the Migration Board and the Police. You have the right to remain anonymous when contacting staff your child's school. You only give the information you want to.

Considerations for school staff:

Contact Information: Since many undocumented migrants often have no fixed address, the easiest way to contact the child or the parents is by phone.

Id: Some undocumented migrants lack id-documents.

Privacy and security: To provide security for undocumented migrant children and adults, it is important to keep the undocumented migrant's situation and identity a secret. Only those who absolutely need to know may be told.

Equal rights to education according to the law

(The law allows undocumented migrant children the right to education)

From July 1, 2013, all children in Sweden have equal rights to education. This is according to a change (Bill 2012/13: 58) in the Education Act (2010:800), which means that children who are in the country without authorization shall be given, substantially, the same rights to education in pre-school, elementary school and equivalent types of schools and high school and special high school, as children residing in the country. These children will also be entitled to school transportation.

Have any questions?

Contact the Red Cross Meeting place for undocumented migrants at:

E-mail:

motesplats@redcross.se

This information is also available in English.

This information is also available in Arabic.

This information is also available in Mongolian.

This information is also available in Persian.

This information is also available in Russian.

This information is also available in Spanish.

This information is also available Serbo-croatian.

This information is also available in Albanian.