



Financial assistance from Kela and how to apply

Kela can provide financial assistance in many different situations. This assistance comes in the form of various social security benefits, including child benefits and general housing allowance. The benefits are defined in Finnish law.

Kela benefits are not granted automatically - you must complete an application. Kela benefits are not granted automatically - you must complete an application. Kela can pay benefits into your bank account or load them onto a prepaid card. Kela does not pay any benefits in cash.

Most Kela benefits are available only if you work in Finland or have lived in Finland for at least 12 months. You can apply for Kela benefits even if you plan to return to Ukraine.

You do not have to visit a Kela office but can simply send an application to Kela. Some of the applications are available in Ukrainian. Visit www.kela.fi/forms.

Information about Kela benefits is available at kela.fi/ukraine-faq (in Finnish, Swedish, English, Ukrainian and Russian).

Visit infofinland.fi for information on social security benefits and Finnish society in Ukrainian and Russian.



Forms are available here:
kela.fi/forms

What to do once you have lived in Finland for 12 months

1 Apply for a Kela card and child benefits on the UA1 form. Everyone can get a Kela card, and child benefits are paid to all who have children.

- ▶ With a Kela card, you can buy medicines that a doctor has prescribed for you at a lower price.
- ▶ Child benefit is paid for children under 17 years of age who live in Finland.
- ▶ You will still have a right to reception services when you get your Kela card or receive child benefits.

2 You can apply to have a home municipality (i.e., to be registered as a resident of a Finnish municipality) on the website of the Digital and Population Data Services Agency at <https://dvv.fi/instrukcii-dla-ukrainciv>.

If you have been assigned a home municipality and you pay for your own housing, you can apply to Kela for assistance with your housing costs.

- ▶ Use the form AT1 ukr to **apply for general housing allowance**. You must enclose a rental agreement with your application.
- ▶ The amount of housing allowance you can get depends on your income, how much rent you pay and the location of your home. Your home must be of a reasonable size. Accepted housing costs are defined in law.
- ▶ If you move, you can also apply for social assistance towards removal costs and rental security deposits. Please see section 3.

3 You can apply for basic social assistance if you have been assigned a home municipality and your income, assets and any other financial assistance you may receive are not enough to cover your essential daily expenses. Such expenses can include rent, food, health care and clothing.

- ▶ Use the TO1 ukr form to apply for social assistance. If you wish to apply for help with a rental security deposit, also complete the form TO2 ukr.