

## Family reunification for children

If you are planning to move to Denmark together with your children who are not Danish citizens, you must apply for family reunification. If you also have a spouse with foreign nationality who is to apply to join you for the purpose of family reunification, your spouse and your children can apply at the same time and have their applications processed together.

This only applies to children who are third country citizens. This means all countries outside of the EU. If the children are EU citizens, you must read more about this under EU registration. ([LINK](#))

### Requirements for applicant (the child)

- **The child must be under 15 years old**

The child must be under 15 years old on the date of submission of the application. If the child turns 15 while the application is being processed is of no importance.

- **The child must be living with his/her parents in Denmark when the permit is received**

Therefore, the child cannot be living at a boarding school, with grandparents or similar.

- **The child may not have started a family**

Consequently, the child may not be married, have a permanent cohabiting partner or have had children.

- **Being reunited with the family may not be in conflict with the interests of the child.**

This means that the Danish Immigration Service assesses whether the municipality in which the parents live needs to make a statement about the child's well-being and the care the child will receive from his or her parents in Denmark. On the whole, it may not be against the child's best interests to be reunited with his or her parents in Denmark.

For example, being reunited with his or her parents in Denmark could be in conflict with the child's interests if there is a risk that the child will develop serious social problems, be forcibly removed from the home or be exposed to assault after arrival in Denmark.

- **You must comply with the 3-month deadline**

If the child lives together with one of his or her parents or another permanent carer abroad, as a basis there is a condition that the child submits his or her application for a residence permit based on family reunification within a 3-month deadline.

The date from which the 3-month deadline is calculated depends on the parents' situation in Denmark:

If the child's parents are Danish or Scandinavian citizens, a residence permit must be applied for no later than 3 months after the parent is registered in the National Register of Persons in Denmark.

If the foreign parent has received a residence permit on the basis of family reunification in Denmark, the child must apply for a residence permit no later than 3 months after the parent has received their residence permit.

## Requirements for the child's parents

- **You must be a Danish/Scandinavian citizen or have legal residency in Denmark**

If you are not a Danish/Scandinavian citizen, you must have a permanent residence permit or a residence permit with the option for permanent residency (meaning that you can apply for permanent residency



at some point). If you are personally applying to join a spouse for the purpose of family reunification together with the applicant, your spouse/cohabiting partner in Denmark must be a Danish or Scandinavian citizen or have legal residency in Denmark.

- **You must have custody of the applicant**

This may be either sole or shared custody.

- **You and your spouse/cohabiting partner may not be convicted of violence or similar crimes against children**

This applies to the past 10 years.