

Remember that you can apply for permanent residency before you turn 19 years old.

Information on Obtaining Permanent Residency and Danish Citizenship

Many young people who live permanently in Denmark but do not have a Danish passport can apply for what is called permanent residency. Permanent residency is a prerequisite for obtaining Danish citizenship and a Danish passport later on.

It is important to know that failing to apply between the ages of 18 and 19 could affect your ability to obtain permanent residency. Additionally, interruptions in education or full-time work after the 9th and 10th grade may have consequences. The City of Copenhagen is therefore sending this letter to you as a reminder to familiarise yourself with the rules and to apply in a timely manner.

Permanent residency

There are more lenient conditions for obtaining permanent residency if you remember to apply between the ages of 18 and 19. <u>You can read about the rules for applying for permanent residency here.</u> Please note that you can submit your application as early as three months before you turn 18 and up to one day before you turn 19.

Danish citizenship

After obtaining permanent residency, you can apply for Danish citizenship. It is important to know that applicants must, among other things, meet employment requirements and must not have committed certaintypes of criminal offences. For instance, it is generally not possible to obtain Danish citizenship if the applicant has been sentenced to imprisonment. You can read more about the rules for applying for citizenship here.

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City Hall 1599 Copenhagen V

Telephone 3366-2000.

www.kk.dk

Assistance and advice

You can contact the <u>Danish Immigration Service</u> if you have questions about applying for permanent residency. Additionally, you can contact the <u>Ministry of Immigration and Integration</u> for questions about applying for Danish citizenship.

You can also consult your educational counsellor from the Youth Educational Counselling Service. If you cannot remember who your educational counsellor is, you can find him or her via this link: <u>Uno Ung</u>

In Copenhagen, there are also several independent associations that offer assistance to young people wishing to apply for permanent residency and/or Danish citizenship. Among these are:

- Foreningen Fisken
- <u>Den Boligsociale helhedsplan Amagerplanen</u>
- SR Bistand

Counselling is often provided by volunteers who can offer assistance within the time and resources available.¹

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ The counselling offered by these associations is independent of the City of Copenhagen.