
Unaccompanied minors: Infrastructure to host unaccompanied minors

EU Bars Federation (EBF) Unaccompanied minors Committee

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Introduction

An unaccompanied minor (UAM) is a child with foreign nationality, who is less than 18 years-old and who arrived in a State (i.e. the host State) without being accompanied by their legal representative(s) or a parent with parental authority.

As recalled in the preamble to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), “the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth”. This principle forms the cornerstone of States’ obligation to ensure that all children, irrespective of nationality or migration status, are afforded adequate protection and care.

While our previous work focused on States’ procedures for unaccompanied minors, from their arrival through their possible deportation; and States’ direct and indirect application of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, this present publication examines the implementation of protection and care for children who arrive as unaccompanied minors and are recognised as such.

According to the most recent data from the United Nations, by mid-2024, the number of international migrants worldwide had reached an estimated 304 million, reflecting a continued increase since our previous work was published.¹ While updated age-disaggregated figures are not yet available, previously, children have been estimated to represent about 13% of the international migrant population. By the end of 2024, UNHCR reported that the number of forcibly displaced people worldwide had risen to 123.2 million, of whom approximately 49 million were children under the age of 18, accounting for roughly 40% of all those forcibly displaced.²

Within the European Union, the number of unaccompanied minors seeking protection has continued to fluctuate but remains significant. In 2024, 36,290 unaccompanied minors lodged a first asylum application in the EU, accounting for 15.9% of all child applicants and marking a 15.7% decrease compared to 2023 (i.e. 43,060). Overall, 234,670 asylum applications were filed by minors, representing one-quarter of all first-time asylum applications registered in the EU that year.³

For instance, in France, according to the French Directorate for Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics (DREES), approximately 400,000 young persons were received by the child welfare services (Aide sociale de l'enfance) in 2024, compared to around 200,000 in 2020.⁴ This increase illustrates the growing scale of the phenomenon and the pressure being put on national protection systems.

The challenge for EU Member States lies not only in upholding the guarantees enshrined in the CRC, ratified by all EU Member States, but also in ensuring that unaccompanied minors receive effective protection and comprehensive care adapted to their specific needs. This includes access to safe accommodation, education, health care and administrative guidance, in line with international standards.

This document is intended for practitioners who assist unaccompanied minors in administrative and judicial proceedings. As is widely recognised, many of these young individuals have crossed several States before reaching the territory in which they seek protection, and practitioners are frequently confronted with references to institutions or support structures located elsewhere in Europe. The purpose of this document is to provide lawyers engaged in the defence of unaccompanied minors with concrete and practical information, enabling them to identify and contact the organisations that may have previously provided medical, educational, accommodation, or other forms of support. By facilitating access to such information, this document aims to strengthen the legal representation of unaccompanied minors.

1 https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/sites/www.un.org.development.desa.pd/files/undesapd_2025_intlmigstock_2024_key_facts_and_figures_advance-unedited.pdf

2 <https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics>

3 https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Children_in_migration_-_asylum_applicants

4 https://drees.solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/publications-jeux-de-donnees/jeux-de-donnees/250904_DATA-aide-sociale-a-lenfance

A. Work of the unaccompanied minors committee of the EU bars federation

In light of the above, the Committee has carried out a comparative law analysis of the following aspects, examining both the relevant practices and the protection mechanisms in place.

1. Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors

This document offers a practical and comprehensive overview of how unaccompanied minors are treated by care systems in five European States: **France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Switzerland**.

It is designed as a hands-on reference tool, providing clear insight into the organisation of child protection systems and the mechanisms in place to ensure the care and integration of unaccompanied minors.

This guide is **specifically intended for lawyers** who may represent or assist unaccompanied minor clients residing or seeking protection in one of the States covered by this publication. It aims to provide them with practical, up-to-date information on the available infrastructures, resources, and contact points to facilitate access to protection and care for their clients.

However, practitioners should be aware that these infrastructures and resources are subject to frequent changes, given the constantly evolving legal and political framework surrounding the protection of unaccompanied minors. Accordingly, if any of the listed contacts, resources or institutions no longer are valid or operational, lawyers are strongly advised to seek confirmation through alternative contacts or supervising administrative authorities. They can also directly contact the members of the Committee.

The document is accompanied by detailed State-specific annexes, each presenting a thorough analysis of the national systems, along with lists of relevant resources by theme, including:

- Welcome and accommodation;
- Educational infrastructure;
- Administrative infrastructure; and
- Medical infrastructure.

Annex A: Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Spain);

Annex B: Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Italy);

Annex C: Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Switzerland);

Annex D: Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (France);

Annex E: Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Germany).

B. Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors

1. Welcome & Accommodation

a) Current practices

Across Europe, unaccompanied minors fall under child protection frameworks rather than standard asylum systems. In fact, in all States, except Switzerland, no distinction is made between an unaccompanied minor seeking asylum and an unaccompanied minor. However, the organisation, level of centralisation, and quality of implementation vary widely between States.

In Switzerland, where a distinction is made between UAMs and asylum seeker UAM, when a UAM arrives in Switzerland to seek asylum, the authorities must immediately notify the juvenile court and federal authorities. Most asylum-seeking UAMs, who are at least 12 years of age are housed in Federal Asylum Centres (**FACs**); in the FAC, they receive an initial briefing, a medical check and support from a designated social-educational contact person. They must be lodged separately from adults, with separate sanitary facilities, and ideally with peers of the same gender, language and regional background; since March 2020, this separation is a binding requirement.

Unaccompanied minors who are *not* asylum seekers fall under standard child-protection rules and generally are accommodated directly by the cantons. Switzerland must comply with Article 20 CRC, which requires alternative care for any child deprived of their family environment, through foster families or appropriate residential institutions. Therefore, cantons place UAMs in housing adapted to their age and independence, including foster families for younger children and group homes for older ones, although limited availability often leads to separation of siblings and shortages in suitable placements.

Cantonal practices vary; for instance, Geneva places UAMs in small, specialised facilities or foster families; Fribourg operates two dedicated centres with educational support; and Zurich provides exemplary specialised institutions offering single-sex rooms, 24-hour supervision and access to educational and recreational spaces. UAMs may also be placed with extended family when available and assessed as a safe option.

In Germany, when a minor arrives without a parent or guardian, the local Youth Welfare Office (*Jugendamt*) immediately takes the child into temporary custody. Within 15 working days, it assesses the child's needs and whether they should be transferred to another federal state through a national distribution mechanism coordinated by the Federal Office of Administration (**BVA**). This ensures an equitable distribution among the 16 federal states.⁵

UAM then are placed in youth welfare facilities — such as residential homes, group apartments, or foster families — under the supervision of trained educators. Each minor is assigned a social worker, and schooling and healthcare are provided through the youth welfare system. Guardianship is established by the Family Court. However, several Länder have reported declining care standards due to staff shortages and increasing numbers of arrivals.

When a UAM arrives in France, the Department in which the UAM is located, conducts an assessment to determine their age and whether they genuinely are isolated. The UAM is placed in temporary emergency accommodation for up to five days, renewable twice, while trained professionals interview them about their identity, background and personal circumstances.⁶

If the individual is deemed to be under 18 years of age, the public prosecutor issues a temporary placement order and the child is taken into care by child welfare services (*Aide sociale à l'enfance*, **ASE**). If the assessment concludes otherwise, the UAM is informed of the refusal, their rights as an adult and their possibility to appeal before the juvenile court judge. During the appeal, accommodation is not guaranteed and support often depends on local associations.⁷

In France, following the assessment of minority and isolation, a proposed referral either to the assessment department or to another department is made. This proposal must respect the best interests of the child. The allocation is based on a distribution key laid down by regulations, designed to ensure a more balanced sharing of responsibility for the care of unaccompanied minors across all departments.

When a UAM arrives in Spain unaccompanied, they do not enter the asylum reception system. Instead, they are taken into the child protection system, which is managed by the Autonomous Community where they are located. This applies equally to unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors and to unaccompanied minors who are not seeking asylum; there is no difference between how the two groups are treated prior to the age of 18.⁸

The only distinction is that a UAM who seeks asylum later may access the asylum system as an adult, once they turn 18. Until then, both asylum-seeking and non-asylum-seeking unaccompanied minors receive the same child-protection services, care, and support.

5 Annex E, ch 1.2.

6 Annex D, ch 1.1.2.

7 Annex D, ch 1.1.2.

8 Annex A, ch 1.

All UAM are first placed in a first-reception centre, where their age, identity and personal situation are assessed. Although this stage is meant to last about 45 days, many UAMs remain here for several months due to capacity issues.

After their initial placement in first reception centres, unaccompanied minors are transferred to group homes, smaller residential units, or foster care. Older minors may move to semi-independent accommodation to prepare for adulthood.⁹ Some Autonomous Communities also operate specific centres for foreign minors, which are focused on cultural, social and linguistic integration. However, long stays in overcrowded first-reception facilities and the lack of structured support once they turn 18 often lead to homelessness and social exclusion.

In Italy, the authorities must report immediately the presence of a UAM to the Juvenile Court and to the Ministry of Labour for registration and monitoring. The minor is placed in a first-reception facility, where trained staff conduct an interview and compile a social file to determine their needs and long-term solutions. A legal guardian is appointed quickly, within 48 hours for asylum-seeking minors, to represent the child and safeguard their rights.

Italy applies the same reception system to all unaccompanied minors, whether or not they apply for asylum, and prioritises placement with relatives or foster families over placement in residential centres. Family tracing procedures are activated early to assess the possibility of reunification, always guided by the child's best interests.

In Italy, unaccompanied minors first are placed in initial reception facilities and then transferred to small residential communities, family homes or foster families, the later of which Italian law identifies as the preferred option, although places remain limited. Accommodation and support are provided within the broader child protection and reception system, which includes the SAI (*Sistema di Accoglienza e Integrazione*) network, which is coordinated nationally, but managed locally by municipalities. Each child receives psychological, educational, and legal support. Transitional programmes exist, allowing some young people to remain housed after turning 18, but places are scarce.

In practice, the systems face similar difficulties in all five States:

- Insufficient numbers of trained social workers and educators;
- Unequal quality of facilities between regions/department/cantons;
- Administrative delays prolonging stays in first reception centres; and
- Limited housing options and support for young adults turning 18.

b) Best practices

Across France, Spain, Italy, Germany and Switzerland, several distinctive practices emerge in the care and reception of unaccompanied minors, each offering valuable models that could inspire improvements elsewhere in Europe.

First, all of them prohibit housing UAMs with unrelated adults.

France stands out for its national redistribution mechanism, which allocates unaccompanied minors among departments according to the proportion of the local population under 19. This system promotes territorial balance and reduces excessive pressure being put on only a few regions. France also provides strong procedural safeguards, including the right to judicial review with free legal aid and recently prohibited hotel accommodation for minors, in order to improve child-protection standards.

Spain's decentralised system places unaccompanied minors under the regional child protection authorities, which have developed specialised centres focusing on linguistic, social, and cultural integration. Many regions gradually transition adolescents toward semi-independent living arrangements, strengthening their preparation for adulthood. This territorial flexibility allows for tailored responses to the needs of young migrants.

⁹ Annex A, ch 1.1.

Italy has introduced innovative measures through the 2017 “*Zampa Law*”, notably by giving legal priority to foster care over residential institutional placement. Italy also is unique in having created a nationwide network of volunteer guardians, who are trained citizens who provide legal representation and personal guidance to minors. The SAI network complements this by offering integrated reception and integration services managed locally with national coordination.

Germany provides an example of strong inclusion within its mainstream youth welfare system, ensuring that unaccompanied minors benefit from the same protections, educational services and developmental support as children who are citizens. Each minor is assigned a social worker early on, allowing for individualised care plans and consistent psychosocial support.

Switzerland distinguishes itself through binding standards requiring that unaccompanied minors be accommodated separately from adults, with dedicated sanitary facilities and age-appropriate living conditions. Some cantons, such as Zurich, have developed high-quality specialised centres offering 24-hour supervision, structured daily routines and access to educational and recreational spaces. Switzerland also places strong emphasis on alternative care arrangements, including foster families and placement with extended relatives when appropriate.

Taken together, these examples illustrate complementary best practices. Each of these models provides concrete approaches that could help strengthen the protection and integration of unaccompanied minors across Europe.

2. Educational infrastructure

a) Current practices

It should be noted that all five States guarantee the right to education for all minors, including unaccompanied minors, regardless of their legal status.

In Italy, the law ensures compulsory and free schooling until age 16 and allows UAMs to enrol at any time and continue their studies after turning 18. Recent reforms strengthen language support by introducing dedicated teachers and requiring schools to assess newcomers’ Italian skills and create personalized learning plans. Schools are expected to promote inclusion, coordinate with social services and guardians, and support vocational pathways to prepare UAMs for adulthood. In practice, however, significant challenges remain. Many UAMs are placed in Adult Education Centres, which limits social integration and contradicts the principle of common schooling. Strong regional disparities, limited school resources, and delays in appointing guardians further weaken effective educational inclusion. Overall, despite a solid legal framework, the implementation of UAMs’ educational rights in Italy remains uneven and often problematic.

In Switzerland, education is a cantonal responsibility, and compulsory schooling generally lasts 11 years, from the age of four to 15. Cantons must provide special measures for students who do not speak the local language. Educational practices vary by canton. In Geneva, all minors staying more than three months are entitled to compulsory schooling, but only their legal representative can register them. In practice, some UAMs face **long delays before entering school**, and those under imminent removal orders may be excluded from schooling. In Fribourg, minors under 16 start in introductory classes before joining mainstream schooling, while those over 16 can choose vocational or training pathways, with support from mentoring organisations. In Zurich, UAMs attend school until 16, starting in introductory classes and later integrating into mainstream classes, once their German is sufficient. Young people over 16 continue through vocational education if they hold Swiss residence permits, while those with asylum-seekers permits access integration programmes on a subsidiary basis.

France does not distinguish between unaccompanied minors and other children in its education system. Once a minor is taken into care by the Child Welfare Service, they are integrated into mainstream schooling. Education is compulsory until the age of 16, meaning all minors under 16 must attend school. Newly arrived, non-French-speaking minors take placement tests (*CIO–CASNAV*) to assess their level. They may be enrolled in a UP2A class, which provides intensive French instruction and helps them catch up academically before joining, or alongside, regular classes. Overall, unaccompanied minors access the same compulsory education framework as all children in France.

In Spain, educational support for minors is provided through the public education system, and unaccompanied minors access it through the child protection authorities responsible for their guardianship. Enrolment in school depends on registration in the municipal registry (the *padrón*), which is required for all residents regardless of legal status and serves as the gateway to schooling, healthcare and social services. Once registered, all children receive equal educational care, and schools provide additional language or academic support when needed. Foreign minors under 16 have both the right to free education, and the obligation to attend; those aged 16 to 18 also have the right to post-compulsory studies for the duration of the school year. Public administrations must ensure that late-arriving foreign students are placed at the appropriate educational level with adequate support. Spain's education system includes compulsory primary and lower secondary schooling, followed by optional upper secondary and vocational pathways, which are free except for advanced vocational training. In practice, unaccompanied minors over 16 often are steered toward basic vocational training, rather than academic tracks, as child protection authorities tend to prioritise rapid entry into the labour market. Schools must also implement specific support programmes for students with significant language gaps to ensure their successful integration into ordinary classes.

In Germany, education is regulated at the federal state level, meaning access procedures vary widely between regions and even between municipalities. School attendance is compulsory for all children from the age of six, but the moment when this obligation begins for newly arrived unaccompanied minors differs by state. In some states it commences immediately upon arrival, while in others it only starts after the minor is assigned to a municipality or after asylum application is lodged. Many states use “*clearing centres*” before assigning minors to local authorities, which delays school access, even though this practice is not grounded in law. Once enrolled, placement depends on age, German language ability and prior schooling; minors may attend introductory or language-support classes as needed. Compulsory schooling generally lasts nine to 10 years of full-time education, followed by compulsory vocational schooling, and young people may continue education beyond this age limit as long as they are allowed to stay. Access to vocational programmes depends on state rules and age limits, and entry into apprenticeships or employment requires authorisation from the immigration authorities. Overall, despite strong legal protections, unaccompanied minors experience uneven and delayed access to education, due to divergent state practices and administrative procedures.

b) Best practices

All five States studied guarantee minors' access to education, with each having specific practices that could serve as models.

In France, the strength of the system lies in integrating unaccompanied minors directly into mainstream education, supported by rapid placement assessments and specialised reception classes, which help newcomers acquire French, while remaining connected to ordinary schooling.

While Switzerland distinguishes itself through highly individualised support, offering tailored linguistic measures and extended educational assistance, many unaccompanied minors face significant obstacles in accessing mainstream schooling. In practice, authorities have frequently justified their placement in separate structures on the basis of insufficient command of the local language, a practice that may lead to forms of exclusion rather than fostering integration, contrary to the guarantees enshrined in Article 28 CRC (right to education).

In Spain, registration in the *Padrón* is a particularly effective mechanism; this simple administrative step grants immediate access to schooling, healthcare and social services based solely on residency, rather than legal status, enabling swift and practical inclusion.

Italy stands out for its strong protective legal framework, which allows school enrolment at any time during the year and recently introduced specialised teachers for classes with a high number of non-native speakers, improving language acquisition and classroom integration.

Germany provides robust constitutional guarantees protecting against discriminatory exclusion and supplements these with structured language-support programmes and continued access to schooling or vocational training beyond compulsory education.

3. Administrative infrastructure

a) Current practices

Centralised v Decentralised Responsibility: European States vary in how they assign administrative responsibility for unaccompanied minors. In some states, the national (federal) government plays a central role, while in others, the responsibility largely is delegated to regional or local authorities.

For example, **Spain (Annex A, chap 3)** has a highly decentralised model; the central State handles immigration status decisions (such as asylum claims and age assessments via the Public Prosecutor), whereas each of the 17 Autonomous Communities (plus Ceuta and Melilla) assume guardianship and provides care (accommodation, health, education).

This means there are essentially 19 different regional child protection systems, with the national law setting broad standards (e.g. equal rights for all children), but little direct State coordination of daily care.

France (Annex D, chap 3) similarly entrusts Departments (local authorities) with evaluating and caring for unaccompanied minors under their child protection services. A young person who presents as an unaccompanied minor in France first is assessed by a designated **Departmental** service or by an association which has received a delegation from the Department and, if found to be under 18, is taken into the Department's child welfare system for housing, schooling, etc., just like any other child in need.

Conversely, **Italy** and **Germany** have more centrally coordinated frameworks, albeit implemented locally. In Germany, any unaccompanied child is taken into care by the local Youth Welfare Office immediately, but a *national* distribution mechanism redistributes minors across the federal states to avoid over-concentration in border regions.

This ensures a more even sharing of responsibility and resources, guided by federal law.

Italy's system is defined by national legislation, which sets up a two-level reception structure: **first-line reception** centres funded and run or overseen by the national government, and **second-line reception** projects (*Sistema accoglienza integrazione*, **SAI**; English: Reception and Integration System), funded by a national fund but managed by municipalities and NGOs.

Differences by Asylum Status: Some States split administrative responsibilities based on the child's legal status as an asylum seeker.

Switzerland is a notable example; unaccompanied minors who apply for asylum fall under the federal asylum system (managed by the State Secretariat for Migration, **SEM**), whereas those who do not seek asylum, or come from States deemed "*safe*", come under the purview of the cantonal (regional) child protection authorities.

This dual track creates disparities in treatment. Asylum-seeking unaccompanied minors in Switzerland are housed in special federal reception centres and are provided with meals, education and social benefits, similar to adult asylum seekers, and are assigned a representative to guide them. Conversely, non-asylum-seeking foreign minors ("*UM*" as opposed to "*UMA*" in Swiss terms) are not guaranteed the same support – they often do not receive the same social assistance or structured care by default, leaving them in a precarious situation.

In practice, this means that in Switzerland, **two young people, who are the same age in Switzerland might experience very different care**, depending on whether they are routed through the asylum system or not. The Swiss case underlines how **dividing responsibility by asylum status can lead to gaps**; one authority (federal) takes charge of asylum applicants; while another authority (cantonal) handles other cases, resulting in inconsistent outcomes.

Guardianship and Representation Mechanisms: A crucial administrative infrastructure for UAMs is the appointment of a guardian or representative to look after their interests.

As unaccompanied minors lack a parent or legal guardian, all the surveyed States designate an authority or person to assume this role, but the ways of doing so differ. In **Switzerland's asylum procedure**, each unaccompanied minor is promptly assigned a legal representative from the moment they file an asylum claim.

This representative should act as a sort of guardian *and* advisor: they accompany the minor to interviews, help with paperwork (e.g. school enrolment, signing up for health insurance) and ensure the child's rights are protected during the complex asylum process. Once the minor is moved to a canton, a local guardian (for instance, from child protection services or NGOs like SSI or Caritas) may be appointed to continue supporting the child in non-asylum matters.

Italy has a well-developed guardianship system, implemented by the Zampa law. Under this law, a Juvenile Court appoints a **volunteer guardian** for each unaccompanied minor; a volunteer guardian is a trained citizen who does not represent the child in legal procedures, (including asylum applications), but supports their well-being.

Italian law mandates that authorities immediately notify the juvenile court when an unaccompanied child is identified, so that a guardian can be put in place as soon as possible (in theory, within 48 hours).

In practice, there have been regional challenges (e.g. delays in appointment in some areas), but the framework ensures that **every minor has a responsible adult looking out for them**.

In **Germany**, the Youth Welfare Office (there are **556 youth welfare offices in Germany**, each of which are assigned to a federal state) itself often takes on temporary guardianship when a minor first is taken into care. **No distinction is made between asylum seekers UAMS and non-asylum seeker UAM.**

Similarly, **France** and **Spain** entrust the child protection authorities (at the Departmental level in France and the regional level in Spain) with legal guardianship by default when they assume care of an unaccompanied minor. In Spain, the **autonomous community's** child protection service becomes the guardian when it declares a child to be in its protection; if an asylum claim is made, the minor still remains under the care of that service, although coordination with State immigration authorities is needed. In all cases, **providing a guardian or representative is recognised as essential to help the child navigate administrative procedures** (e.g. immigration processes, legal proceedings and access to services) and to act in the child's best interests in the absence of family.

Registration and Age Assessment Procedures: across the five States examined, a significant administrative task is to *identify* and *register* unaccompanied minors promptly and, when there is doubt, to determine their age.

For a comprehensive legal analysis of age-assessment procedures, including evaluation methods, and the principles governing the presumption of minority, we refer to the [Committee's previous publication](#), in which these issues are examined in detail.

However, the **lack of uniform standards** in age assessment and regional variations in resources can lead to uneven practices. For example, some Spanish regions and French Departments have more capacity to provide thorough evaluations and immediate accommodation than others, reflecting the decentralised nature of those systems. Additionally, national databases or registries of unaccompanied minors are being developed or enhanced to keep track of their care plans and legal status. Overall, current practices show a consensus on the need for a **robust administrative structure**.

b) Best practices

Drawing from the above practices, we can highlight several best practices in administrative infrastructure, which are most favourable to unaccompanied minors:

Unified and Consistent Care Framework: it is considered best for a State to ensure that all unaccompanied minors, regardless of where they are or whether they have applied for asylum, receive a consistent standard of care and protection.

This means avoiding fragmented systems that depend on regional discretion or on the child's legal status. A central coordinating authority or clear national guidelines can help achieve uniformity. For example, Germany's nationwide distribution system prevents any one region from shouldering a disproportionate burden and aims to give each minor equal access to services.

In contrast, where decentralisation exists, strong **coordination mechanisms** and funding solidarity (like national funds to support regions receiving more minors) are a best practice to reduce disparities.

States that **centralise key aspects, while still leveraging local expertise** tend to offer more equal care. Likewise, not creating parallel tracks (as is the case in Switzerland), but rather **integrating all minors into the child protection framework** is more favourable; no child should be left without support due to a procedural classification. A guiding principle is to **treat unaccompanied foreign minors as children first and foremost**, with the **same rights as national children**. Italy explicitly legislated this equal treatment in Law 47/2017, affirming that foreign minors are entitled to the same protection and care as Italian minors.

Immediate Appointment of Guardians/Representatives: one of the most child-friendly practices is the prompt assignment of a guardian or representative to every unaccompanied minor. This ensures that the child has an adult advocate in dealings with authorities, who can help the minor navigate complex procedures. Best practices include establishing a **formal guardianship system** (like Italy's network of volunteer guardians managed by juvenile courts) and **guaranteeing the guardian's presence and involvement in all major decisions** affecting the child.

However, this system presupposes that the appointed representative can establish a meaningful relationship with the minor in order to genuinely safeguard their interests, and that continuous, effective follow-up is ensured throughout the procedure, conditions that are not always met in practice.

This guardian should have a clearly defined role to represent the child's best interests in all areas: legal status; accommodation; education; health; etc. Additionally, **providing these guardians with training** (e.g. children's rights, trauma, intercultural communication, etc.) and manageable caseloads is important, so that they can mentor and protect each child effectively. Italy has limited each volunteer guardian to three minors maximum by law, which helps ensure attention and build trust; this is a practice other States can emulate to avoid overburdening guardians.

Child-Centred and Specialised Reception: The quality of reception conditions is crucial for unaccompanied minors' well-being. Best practices gleaned from current systems include providing **dedicated accommodations for minors**, separate from adult facilities, that are small and staffed by youth care professionals.

Another best practice is to utilise **family-based care** when possible, such as foster care or placement with relatives. Some States encourage fostering of unaccompanied minors; for example, around 20% of UAMs in Italy are accommodated with private families (often extended family or vetted foster families), as an alternative to institutional care, which can greatly aid integration and emotional support.

Moreover, **continuity of care** is important; **minors should not be shuttled between multiple temporary centres unnecessarily**. From first reception through longer-term integration, having a clear, child-focused pathway, with consistent caregivers, access to school, psychosocial support, etc., is considered a best practice.

Overall, the infrastructure should strive to provide stability, normalcy and opportunities for children, rather than treating them as short-term migrants.

Robust Safeguards in Registration and Age Assessment: ensuring that all unaccompanied minors are quickly documented and that age assessments are conducted in a **child-sensitive manner** is another area of best practice.

Authorities should have procedures to register unaccompanied children in national databases immediately and **issue them appropriate identification or temporary papers**. This not only helps in protecting the child (preventing them from going missing or being exploited), but also facilitates family tracing and reunification efforts. Best practices in age determination are to follow the principle of *presumption of minority* when in doubt, that is, to treat the person as a child until proven otherwise; and to **use non-invasive methods, insofar as is as possible**. For instance, **social interviews** should be the first resort, with medical tests like x-rays used only as a last resort and with informed consent.

The best practice here is to combine accuracy with compassion, to avoid hurried or purely medical age checks that can wrongly exclude children from protection. Having a transparent age assessment, which can be appealed also offer important safeguards.

Finally, **comprehensive record-keeping** is part of best practices; each unaccompanied minor's case file should include their identified needs, any age test results, guardian details and their care plan. This information should be transferred with the child if they move within the State, ensuring continuity and that no child falls through administrative cracks.

Inter-Agency Cooperation and Holistic Support: the administrative infrastructure works best for unaccompanied minors when different branches (immigration authorities, child protection services, education and healthcare systems, NGOs, etc.) collaborate seamlessly. Best practices include establishing **formal referral protocols**.

For example, a few Spanish regions have reception centres that not only provide shelter, but also initiate paperwork for residency permits, school enrolment and health checks in one place, simplifying the experience for the child.

Having a **dedicated caseworker or case manager assigned to each minor** is another best practice, ensuring that someone oversees all aspects of the child's integration (legal status, mental health, education, etc.) and avoids bureaucratic delays. Moreover, **involving NGOs and international organisations in support roles**, while the State retains overall responsibility, can enrich the care provided, as NGOs often supply extra mentorship, language support and legal advice. The key is that the **administrative framework should view the unaccompanied minor not just as a file to be processed, but as a child with varied needs**. Thus, best practices are those that invest in comprehensive support programs, from language classes and **cultural orientation to trauma counselling**, coordinated through the administrative system so that minors can rebuild their lives.

In conclusion, the most favourable administrative setups for UAMs are those that ensure **no minor is invisible or without help** and that provide each child with a responsible guardian and child-friendly services. By centralising where necessary (e.g. enforcing common standards and rights) and decentralising where helpful (e.g. empowering local child services to act quickly), States can protect unaccompanied minors effectively.

Many of these best practices align with obligations under the CRC, namely, to **treat the child's best interests as a primary consideration** and to afford them protection and care regardless of status. States are learning from each other's models continually, and there is a clear trend toward more child-centric policies.

4. Medical infrastructure

a) Current practices

In all the States examined, UAMS enjoy, in principle, the same healthcare rights as children who are citizens, reflecting a general commitment to universal access.

In **Italy (Annex B, chap 4)**, the constitutional right to health and national legislation ensure that every foreign minor, regardless of immigration status, has full and free access to the National Health Service (**SSN**).

UAMs must be registered with the public health system and receive the same preventive care, medical consultations, and hospital treatment as Italian citizens, without discrimination.

In **Spain (Annex A, chap 4)**, universal healthcare also is guaranteed; all minors under the age of 18 and present on the territory are entitled to care under the same conditions as Spanish nationals, irrespective of administrative status. UAMs under the guardianship of regional authorities are considered legally resident and receive an individual health card after registration in the *Padrón*, which grants them free access to the public healthcare system.

In **France (Annex D, chap 4)**, unaccompanied minors supported by the Child Welfare Services are affiliated with the national healthcare system and with complementary health insurance, ensuring free access to medical, hospital and psychological care. Child Welfare Services handles all affiliation procedures,

guaranteeing full access to healthcare comparable to that of any insured minor. When an unaccompanied minor is not placed with Child Welfare Services, they may be eligible for State Medical Assistance (**AME**).

In **Germany (Annex E, chap 4)**, minor asylum seekers are entitled to basic healthcare, including treatment for acute or painful conditions, medical and dental consultations, vaccinations and preventive examinations. UAMs fall under the responsibility of the Youth Welfare Office (*Jugendamt*), which must ensure coverage throughout their placement.

Finally, in **Switzerland (Annex C, chap 4)**, all persons residing in the State, including unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors, must have health insurance, giving them access to basic healthcare. During their stay in federal asylum centres, minors receive essential medical services (general medicine, nursing care, emergency dental care, etc.).

Organisation of care and dedicated structures: in several States, access to healthcare for unaccompanied minors operates on **two levels**. The first level consists of **initial or emergency care** available *before* the minor is formally registered within the host State's administrative system. The second level provides **full access to primary and preventive healthcare**, including assignment to a general practitioner or paediatrician, *after* registration and issuance of a health card or equivalent.

This two-tier structure is particularly visible in **Spain (Annex A, chap 4)**, where foreign minors who are not yet registered in the municipal *Padrón* cannot be assigned to a primary care centre and therefore, rely almost exclusively on **hospital emergency services** during the pre-registration phase. Only after registration and, for unaccompanied minors, placement under the guardianship of regional authorities, are they affiliated with a primary healthcare centre and granted full access to the public health system.

A similar model exists in **France (Annex D, chap 4)**, where unaccompanied minors awaiting affiliation to the national health coverage scheme or to State Medical Aid first may access **free immediate care** through the *Permanences d'accès aux soins de santé (PASS)*. These hospital-based healthcare access centres provide essential and urgent medical services, while also assisting minors in completing the administrative steps necessary to obtain full and durable health coverage. Once registered, minors receive comprehensive medical care equivalent to that provided to insured children who are French citizens.

This distinction between **pre-registration emergency access** and **post-registration comprehensive care** illustrates how several States structure healthcare pathways for unaccompanied minors, ensuring that initial medical needs are met even before formal administrative integration, while full primary care becomes available once registration is completed.

Psychological care and specific needs: in all States examined, it is recognised that UAMs often have experienced traumatic events and therefore require psychological support, in addition to physical healthcare. However, the manner in which these needs are addressed varies between States.

Although psychological support for unaccompanied minors exists in all States examined, it is **not automatic** and generally depends on an **explicit referral or a formal request**. Access to specialised mental health care, whether through paediatric psychiatry, external psychologists or group therapy programmes, remains uneven and often constrained by limited resources, language barriers and the absence of systematic screening. Consequently, while psychological care is **possible and legally available**, it is **not guaranteed**, and minors typically receive such support only when needs are identified by staff or when they actively seek assistance.

b) Best practices

Based on the findings across the different States, several best practices can be identified in relation to medical infrastructures for unaccompanied minors:

Universal and non-discriminatory access to healthcare: laws and practice should ensure that every minor, regardless of migration status, receives healthcare under the same conditions as a child who are citizens. **Spain** explicitly affirms this principle of equality for all minors, while **Italy** guarantees equal treatment for unaccompanied foreign minors and **Germany** applies the EU requirement of unrestricted healthcare for children seeking protection. This universality should constitute the foundation of all health policies concerning unaccompanied minors.

Automatic registration in the health system and assignment of a primary care physician: the most effective systems automatically register unaccompanied minors with national health insurance and assign them a doctor upon reception. In **Italy**, some regions, such as Lombardy, systematically designate a paediatrician or general practitioner and issue a healthcare card as soon as the minor arrives. This approach enables continuous medical follow-up, regular consultations and effective preventive care, mirroring what is provided to children who are citizens. Ideally, every unaccompanied minor should have an identified primary care doctor, who is familiar with their case and responsible for coordinating their medical needs.

Complete cost coverage and removal of financial barriers: the most protective systems exempt minors from all direct healthcare costs. In **Italy**, unaccompanied minors are exempt from co-payments; in **France**, full coverage is ensured without any upfront payment; and in **Germany**, youth welfare services guarantee free access by covering all expenses. Eliminating financial obstacles, including hidden costs such as transportation, medication and specialist fees, is **essential for ensuring real access to care**. A recommended best practice is to **codify fee exemptions clearly and uniformly to avoid inconsistent local interpretations**.

Integrated mental health care: given the high prevalence of trauma, a best practice is to **incorporate psychological support** into the healthcare pathway for unaccompanied minors systematically. **Germany** offers a strong model, providing access to psychotherapy as part of covered services, including funding interpreters to overcome language barriers. In **Switzerland**, certain cantons have developed specialised programmes, such as psychosocial units for young migrants, and often have group therapy within hosting institutions. Ideally, **all facilities hosting unaccompanied minors should partner with mental health professionals** trained in migration-related trauma, to ensure early and consistent intervention.

Presence of medical staff in accommodation facilities: an exemplary practice is the presence of healthcare personnel directly within accommodation centres. On-site nursing staff or regular medical visits allow for **early detection of health issues**, timely management of routine care and the **development of trust**. If having permanent on-site personnel is not feasible, **at the very least, periodic medical visits** and organised transportation and accompaniment to external medical appointments are recommended. The Swiss Refugee Council goes further, advocating for a designated paediatrician in centres hosting children, in line with the CRC and its standard of the “”. Proximity to medical support is undeniably beneficial for unaccompanied minors.

c) Conclusion and suggestions

This publication demonstrates that although the five States examined (i.e. France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Switzerland) share a common legal commitment to protect all children as per the CRC, their systems of care for unaccompanied minors remain **highly heterogeneous**. The comparative analysis shows that the **core components of protection**, accommodation, education, healthcare, and administrative support, are implemented through distinct national and regional mechanisms, offering valuable examples of good practice, but also revealing significant structural weaknesses and big differences between the States.

Across the States, the **accommodation systems** States ensure immediate shelter and expressly prohibit placing minors with unrelated adults, which is a European standard. Nevertheless, the quality, size and suitability of facilities differ considerably. Persistent challenges, including long stays in emergency centres, unequal territorial capacities and shortages of specialised staff, underline the need for better distribution mechanisms and harmonised national standards.

In terms of the **educational infrastructure**, the five States guarantee compulsory schooling for all minors regardless of legal status. However, compliance with the right to education under Article 28 CRC requires not only access to schooling in the abstract, but meaningful inclusion within the *ordinary* school system. Excessive reliance on parallel structures, such as long-term language-only classes or segregated preparatory units, risks marginalising unaccompanied minors, isolating them from their peers and limiting their educational and social development.

While a period of linguistic and academic support is indispensable, it must be **balanced with timely and progressive integration into mainstream schooling**, so that minors do not remain confined to intermediary programmes. In several States, older adolescents are *de facto* channelled into vocational tracks or only offered language courses, which neither satisfies their educational rights, nor supports their long-term integration and **may contribute to disengagement or clandestinity**. Systems that combine tailored language assistance

with early participation in mainstream classes strike the necessary balance and best uphold the right of children to effective, non-discriminatory education.

The assessment of **administrative infrastructures** reveals that complexity is a defining characteristic across all jurisdictions. Whether centralised or decentralised, administrative systems remain difficult to navigate, even for trained practitioners. For a minor unfamiliar with the language and with no schooling background, the barriers become considerably greater. Best practices call for simplified procedures, strengthened coordination between national and regional authorities and consistent assignment of a guardian or representative capable of establishing a genuine relationship with the child and ensuring sustained follow-up. Fragmentation, particularly the dual pathway created in Switzerland between asylum-seeking and non-asylum-seeking minors, illustrates how administrative divides can lead to inconsistent protection.

Regarding **medical infrastructure**, all five States recognise universal access to healthcare for minors. Yet, in practice, two levels of care frequently emerge; emergency access before administrative registration, followed by comprehensive primary care once registration has been completed. This structure, though functional, **risks delaying regular medical follow-up** despite the child's unconditional right to healthcare. A clear best practice emerging from this study is the early and systematic provision of **psychological care**, delivered immediately upon arrival. Such early intervention not only supports trauma recovery, but also facilitates cooperation, helps clarify the minor's background and enables institutions to **tailor protection measures more accurately**. States show increasing awareness that meeting medical and psychosocial needs are integral to integration and safety. However, **psychological support remains inconsistent and largely dependent on regional resources**.

The comparative analysis confirms that **healthcare rights generally are well protected in law**, reflecting international obligations, but that **implementation gaps**, especially concerning mental health and early detection of vulnerabilities, persist.

Finally, across all sectors, it is clear that systems for unaccompanied minors are in constant evolution. It is therefore likely that, between the drafting and the publication of this document, certain protection mechanisms or listed structures may already have evolved. Nonetheless, the guidance and information provided herein are designed to enable practitioners to identify the relevant central authority or competent entity, which in turn can provide up-to-date information, thereby fulfilling the core purpose of this document.

Migration pressure, political debate, and international scrutiny (notably, by the CRC Committee) continue to drive reform. States increasingly are looking to one another for practical models, such as Italy's volunteer guardianship system, France's territorial redistribution mechanism, Germany's integrated youth welfare model, Spain's *Padrón*-based access system, each of which contribute to a growing European corpus of best practices. Nevertheless, existing systems rapidly reach their limits when confronted with fluctuating migration flows, insufficient human resources and fragmented governance.

At a time when international migration involving children continues to rise, the protection of unaccompanied minors requires **constant adaptation**, sustained political commitment and robust coordination mechanisms. The overarching lesson from this comparative study is that child-centred, simplified, and holistically coordinated systems, grounded in early psychological support, consistent guardianship, rapid access to education and healthcare and stable accommodation, offer the most favourable environments for effective protection and integration.

This document, together with its national annexes, is intended to support practitioners and policymakers in achieving that objective by identifying promising approaches and highlighting areas where improvement remains necessary.

Annex A

Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Spain)

A. Welcome & Accommodation

1. Introductory note

In the Spanish system, there is a clear distinction between the care provided to minor asylum seekers who arrive with their families and those who arrive unaccompanied.

Unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors receive assistance from the child protection system, which is managed by each of the 17 autonomous communities and the two autonomous cities (Ceuta and Melilla). All aspects of their care, including reception, hosting, education, health, documentation, and more, are coordinated through this plural and decentralised system.

Conversely, minors who arrive with their families, seeking international protection, are cared for through the asylum seekers' attention system, which operates as a nationally managed centralised system.

Throughout the following pages, when we refer to "minor asylum seekers," we mean minors who are in Spain with their families; the term "unaccompanied minors" includes both foreign minors who are asylum seekers and those who are not. Until they turn 18, there is no distinction in treatment between unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and those who are not. From that point onward, young asylum-seekers may qualify for assistance through the general system for young people, as well as the system for asylum seekers. However, both models offer little recourse in practice for young adults, particularly in terms of housing assistance. This leads to a profound problem of homelessness in Spain, particularly among young people and those of foreign origin.

2. Minor asylum seekers

Persons and families (with or without children) applying for international and temporary protection have the right to the necessary reception conditions to ensure the satisfaction of their basic needs in dignified conditions, provided they lack sufficient financial resources.

Spain has a centralised national reception system. The International and Temporary Protection Reception System is managed and administered by the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Assistance and the International Protection Reception System (Ministry of inclusion, social security and migrations).

That said, when the asylum seeker is an unaccompanied minor, the reception system is not the one for asylum seekers, but the general child protection system; in this case the competent authority is the Autonomous Community where the minor is located. However, in practice, if the asylum seeker is an undocumented unaccompanied minor, who has been determined by the police to be an adult, they remain in the asylum seeker system, mixed with adults. This means that they do not have any specific protection based on their age. If they are able to secure documents (e.g. a passport) showing they are a minor, or are recognised as such by the Spanish Public Prosecutor's Office, they can enter the general child protection system.

The reception system operates a network of centres and resources distributed throughout the national territory, both publicly owned, and centres managed by third-party social entities.

The public centres managed by the Subdirectorate for Centres and Emergencies of the Migration System are four International Protection Reception Centres (**CAPI**) and four Reception, Assistance, and Referral Centres (**CREADE**). Information on public and private centres that offer assistance for families with asylum-seeking children is in *Section 5.1.1*.

The Subdirectorate-General for International Protection Programs is responsible for managing the individualised service and benefits pathways within the Reception System across Spain.

The Private Centres provide services and actions by specialised entities, subject to the appropriate authorisation procedure managed by the Directorate General for Humanitarian Attention and the International Protection Reception System, which verifies compliance with the requirements of Articles 5 and 6 of Order ISM/680/2022, of 19 July 2022.

3. Unaccompanied minors

The care and protection of all minors (are managed by the Autonomous Communities; the following is included:

Residential foster care: a protective measure consisting of the care and custody of the minor, when it is carried out through the placement of the minor in a centre or establishment, whether its own or a collaborating centre. For these purposes, supervised flats, functional homes, small residences, etc., whether owned by the Public Entity or by collaborating centres (managed by non-governmental organisations), are assimilated to centres. In residential care we will find the following types of centres:

- First reception or immediate reception centres
- Centres for minors (group homes)
- Early Childhood Centres (cradle houses)
- Therapeutic internment centres, for minors with behaviour troubles

Foster care: a protection measure with an administrative or judicial character, which grants the custody of a minor to a person or family unit, with the obligation to watch over them, accompany them, attend to their needs, feed them, care for them and provide them with a comprehensive education, in order to provide a family life that substitutes or complements the minor's own. Within the framework of foster care, the foster family collaborates with the public administration in the exercise of its protection functions.

Unaccompanied Minors (**UAMs**) enter the protection system through 'First Reception Centres'. These deal with 'emergency cases' or 'new arrivals'. In theory, minors go to centres for minors (group homes), or cradle houses after a period of approximately 45 days, during which time the protection file is drawn up, socio-familial information is gathered, the identity of the minor is clarified, their history is compiled, etc.,. In practice, UAMs stay in these First Reception Centres for longer, up to nine months.

In most Autonomous Communities, UAMs are referred to a specific residence (centre for foreign minors), which is to serve as a centre for cultural and social integration. If the adolescents are still far from the age of majority, they will be moved to a smaller centre, which will prepare them for the transition to adult life.

Sometimes, UAMs also benefit from accommodation via transition programmes after reaching the age of 18.

B. Educational infrastructure for unaccompanied minors and minor asylum seekers

1. Preliminary issues

Educational support for minors generally is provided through the public education system.

For UAMs, access to this system must be managed by the child protection system, specifically by the entity responsible for the minor's guardianship, care, and hosting.

In the case of asylum-seeking minors who arrive with their families, access to the education system depends on their legal guardians. While the asylum system will provide necessary administrative support, the ultimate responsibility for enrolling minors in primary or secondary education lies with their families.

A key administrative aspect with respect to both the education and healthcare systems in Spain is registration in the municipal registry, known as the *Padrón*. The *Padrón* is a list of people residing in a city/town. Each city/town in Spain maintain its own register. Registration is a personal obligation, and all Spanish residents, whether nationals or foreigners, are required to register, regardless of their legal status (regular or irregular situation).

Registration should be completed immediately after birth for children born in Spain, or as soon as foreigners arrive in the country. The registration involves providing the where the individual resides. To inscribe, one person needs to visit its local Town Hall (*Ayuntamiento*). Some offices have an online appointment system (called a *cita previa*), some need to be called ahead of time to arrange the date and for others, it is possible to go directly to the Town Hall.

The registration of minors depends on their legal guardians, either their parents or the administration responsible for their care. To complete the registration, only proof of residence and identity are required. The identity document does not have to be a passport, if the minor does not have one; other forms of identification can be provided for the registration.

This registration is crucial, as it determines the individual's assignment to a specific healthcare centre and educational institution. It also plays a role in accessing social services and various types of social assistance. In other words, registration in the *Padrón* serves as the gateway to accessing certain rights, including both compulsory and non-compulsory education (14th additional provision of the Regulation on Foreigners, RD 2393/2004), basic health care under the same conditions as Spanish citizens (arts. 12 and 14.3 LODYLE) and access to specialised social services (art. 14 LODYLE).

Registration in the Municipal Register is governed by the provisions of the following specific legislation:

- Articles 15 to 18 and the Seventh Additional Provision of Law 7/1985, of 2 April 1985, Regulating the Bases of the Local Regime. Articles 15 and 16 of Law 7/1985 establish that the persons who must appear in the Register are those who habitually reside in the municipality. The documents required from non-EU foreign nationals to proceed with their registration in the Municipal Register of Inhabitants will be those required, in general, by the Town Council to verify the veracity of the obligatory data that must be contained in the municipal Register of Inhabitants. The general rule is that non-EU foreigners are registered by presenting any valid document that allows them to be identified (i.e. that shows their photograph, name, surname, date and place of birth and nationality). However, some municipalities establish additional requirements that are difficult for foreigners to fulfil and can be contested.
- Regulation of Population and Territorial Demarcation of Local Entities approved by Royal Decree 1690/1986 of 11 July 1986.

Operationally, access to schooling is triggered by municipal registration (i.e. the *Padrón*). Once registered, children are assigned to a school and receive equal educational care, with additional language or pedagogical support coordinated by schools and the inspection services where needed. Legally, foreign minors under 16 have the right to free compulsory basic education, and the duty to attend, (Art 9 Organic Law 4/2000), and late entrants must be placed at an appropriate level with the necessary support (Art 78 Organic Law 2/2006).

2. Education system

Article 9 of Organic Law 4/2000 of 11 January 2000, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration, referring to the right to education, establishes that:

1. Foreigners under the age of sixteen have the right to education (and the duty to attend) which includes access to free basic education.
2. Foreigners between the ages of 16 and 18 are entitled to access post-compulsory education; if they reach the age of eighteen during the school year, they shall retain this right until the end of the school year.

This right includes obtaining the corresponding academic qualification and access to the public system of scholarships and grants under the same conditions as Spanish citizens.

3. Foreign residents with minors in their care in Spain, who are of compulsory school age must accredit said schooling, by means of a report issued by the competent autonomous authorities when applying to renew their residency authorisation or in an application for long-term residence.

Article 78 of Organic Law 2/2006, of 3 May, on Education, establishes that:

1. It is the responsibility of Public Administrations to encourage the incorporation of pupils who, join the Spanish education system late (because they come from other countries or for any other reason). This incorporation into the educational system shall be guaranteed, in all cases, for children who should be enrolled in compulsory schooling.
2. The Education Administrations shall guarantee that the schooling of pupils who enter the Spanish education system late is carried out in accordance with their circumstances, knowledge, age and academic record, so that they can be incorporated into the most appropriate course, based on their circumstances and knowledge, and benefit from appropriate support, so as to successfully continue their education.

The Spanish education system is structured as follows:

- Infant education (*educación infantil*): up to five years old (six grades); it is not compulsory and is only free of charge from three to five years of age.
- Primary education: from six to 11 years of age (six grades); it is compulsory and free of charge.
- Secondary education (**ESO**): from 12 to 15 years of age (four grades); it is compulsory and free of charge.
- *Bachillerato* (non-compulsory secondary education): from 16 to 17 years of age (two grades); it is NOT compulsory, but free of charge.
- Basic Vocational Training (*formación profesional*): from 16 to 17 years of age (two grades); it is NOT compulsory, but it is free of charge; it is in high demand from foreign minors
- Intermediate vocational training: from 16 to 17 years of age (two grades); it is NOT compulsory, but it is free of charge.
- Advanced vocational training: from 18 to 19 years of age (two grades); it is NOT compulsory and is NOT free of charge.

Foreign minors are to be placed in the education level that corresponds with their circumstances, knowledge, age and academic record. It is their legal guardian who, together with the educational administration, will establish which educational level corresponds to the minor's situation. In practice for UAMs, if they are above 16 years old, the Child Protection System will not register them in the *Bachillerato* and will push for them to start working as soon as possible.

Furthermore, Article 79 LOE provides for the development of specific support programmes for pupils with serious linguistic deficiencies or deficiencies in basic skills or knowledge, in order to facilitate their

integration in the corresponding year. The regulation foresees that attendance of programmes will be simultaneous with ordinary schooling, in accordance with the minor's level and evolution of their learning.¹

C. Administrative infrastructure

The functioning of the care and protection system for migrant children in Spain is based on a clear division of competences between the Central State and the Autonomous Communities (Regions).

In practice, the State determines status, while the Autonomous Communities assume care and guardianship and are responsible for accommodation, healthcare and education.

→ **State authorities** are responsible for determining a person's status as an unaccompanied foreign minor or as an unaccompanied foreign minor asylum seeker, in accordance with the following normative framework and functional definition (Art 149.1.2nd and Art 149.3 of the Spanish Constitution -SC-).

1. The determination of the age of a person, which defines their status as a minor, comes under the purview of the Public Prosecutor's Office (*Ministerio Fiscal*), according to the procedure established in Article 35 Organic Law 4/2000 of 11 January on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration (LODYLE) and Articles 189 *et seq.* Regulation of Organic Law 4/2000, approved by Royal Decree 557/2011 of 20 April (RLODYLE).²
2. The recognition of refugee status or the status of beneficiary of subsidiary protection is a matter for the Ministry of the Interior, which takes its decision on the proposal of the Interministerial Commission for Asylum and Refugees (**CIAR**). The administrative body responsible for processing applications is the Asylum and Refugee Office. The procedure is regulated by Law 12/2009 of 30 October 2009 on the right to asylum and subsidiary protection (Asylum Law); Royal Decree 220/2022, of 29 March, which approves the regulations governing the reception system for international protection, and Order ISM/680/2022, of 19 July, which develops the management of the international protection reception system by means of concerted action.

An unaccompanied minor who meets the requirements of Article 6 *et seq* may apply for the recognition of protection status under the Asylum law. However, as recognised by Art. 48 Asylum Law, unaccompanied minors applying for international protection will be referred to the Child protection Services and the fact that they are minors will be brought to the attention of the Public Prosecutor, who in cases where the age of minority cannot be established with certainty, will arrange for the necessary measures to determine the age of the individual.

As a general rule, asylum applications are lodged in the following places:

- If an asylum seeker arrives in Spain and cannot enter Spanish territory, at the border post.
- If they already are in Spain:
 - a) At authorised police stations; the person must request an appointment as per the instructions indicated for each province in the downloadable document here: https://www.policia.es/es/extranjeria_portada.php.

¹ More information: Guía sobre el derecho a la educación de las personas extranjeras mayores de dieciséis años by José Luis Rodríguez Candela (Coord.), Ángela Mendez Izquierdo (Coord.). AA.VV (Andalucía Acoge) is licensed under a Creative Commons Reconocimiento-NoComercial-CompartirIgual 4.0 Internacional License. Last accessed 21/2/2025.

² On an extra-regulatory level, a Framework Protocol on certain actions in relation to Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (the UAM Protocol) was approved, with the declared objective of guiding the actions of the officials of the signatory ministries and institutions in relation to the care of foreign minors, who arrive in Spain without adult referents, but it does not apply to the actions of the Autonomous Communities, so its scope of action is limited and it applies almost exclusively in relation to the age determination procedure. The UAM Protocol is published in the Official State Gazette by Resolution of 13 October 2014, of the Undersecretariat of the Presidency of the Government.

- b) In Immigration Detention Centres (**CIE**) in cases where the person has been detained for subsequent expulsion; in these cases, the detained person has not previously requested international protection, but their lawyer at the CIE or with a non-governmental organisation can help identify them as a potential asylum seeker; it is a new application within national territory; the application must be submitted in person and it includes an interview, which is conducted individually with an official authorised for this purpose. An interpreter and a lawyer may be present, if necessary.

If, once on national territory, a person initiates these procedures and the national authorities raise doubts about their age, then that question is a priority and is brought to the attention of the Public Prosecutor's Office to proceed with the determination of age.

Once the minor's age has been determined and the representation of the minor has been assumed by the administration that has custody and guardianship of them, it is the responsibility of this administration to continue with the procedure foreseen in Asylum Law.

3. In matters of migrant child protection, the State has no authority. The only national powers are related to asylum seeker recognition, age assessment, documentation and the authorisation of employment and residence.

The **Autonomous Communities** have exclusive powers in health, education, hosting, and social assistance. The state does not carry out any administrative duties in these areas, and the provision of services and direct care to minors is exclusively regional (art. 148.1.20th SC). This means that there are **19 different systems for assisting foreign minors**. One for each autonomous community (17), one for the autonomous city of Ceuta, and one more for the autonomous city of Melilla.

There is also **no State coordination**, and the only interaction between administrations occurs when the legal guardian of the minors (the Autonomous Community) accompanies the children to submit their asylum application or other types of documentation.

Thus, the guarantee (theoretical) of equal enjoyment of children's rights in the whole national territory is contained in Organic Law 1/1996, of 15 January, on the Legal Protection of Minors (LOPJM), which specifically mentions children arriving alone in Spain in Articles 10 and 12. Article 10 mentions the principle of equal access to the rights of these minors, and Art. 12, in its paragraph 4, focuses on the issue of age determination in order to introduce respect for the principle of the dignity of children, the presumption of minority and to refer to the assessment of identity documents.

→ The **autonomous regional authorities** have the competence over social services and childhood that empowers them to establish the appropriate protection system to care for unaccompanied foreign minors. Each of the 17 Autonomous Communities and the 2 Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla have their own regulations on children and their own protection system. When a minor is declared unaccompanied by an adult in Spain and the Autonomous Community assumes the care and guardianship of that minor, it becomes responsible for the minor's needs of care and protection.

- Accommodation.
- Health care.
- Training and education.

All of these are, in turn, the competences of each of the Autonomous Communities.

→ The role of **non-governmental organisations** here is threefold *Section 5.4.3*)

1. they can advise minors when their interests conflict with the interests of the public administration on which they depend.
2. They may have been awarded the provision of reception and accommodation services for the minor, following the signing of a contract with the public administration for this purpose. In any case, even if the direct care is provided by an NGO, the responsibility and administrative link over the minor remain with the autonomous community.
3. Finally, they can reinforce some aspects of care for minors, such as educational care or the development of social skills through leisure and free time activities.

D. Medical infrastructure for unaccompanied minors and minor asylum seekers

The right to healthcare is universal. All individuals in national territory have the right to access the healthcare system. Article 3 of Law 16/2003, of 28 May, on the cohesion and quality of the National Health System establishes a right to health protection and healthcare for all persons with Spanish nationality and foreigners, who have established their residence in Spanish territory.

Access to healthcare is at the public's expense (and therefore free of charge for the beneficiary of the right) is guaranteed to foreigners legally resident in Spain (art. 3^{bis}). The situation of regularity is presupposed for foreign minors under the guardianship of public administrations [art. 3.2.c) Law 16/2003], to whom an individual health insurance card must be issued.

For other unaccompanied minors or minors from asylum-seeking families, to access the healthcare system, **they must first be registered in the *Padrón***. Once registered, they are assigned a primary care center or health center. Non-governmental organisations can assist with the administrative processes for registration in the *Padrón* or for obtaining subsequent healthcare documentation (health card). However, healthcare services are provided by the public healthcare administration, especially when it comes to minors.

Some non-governmental organizations (RED CROSS; CARITAS; MEDICOS MUNDI - see the data below) may offer supplementary assistance to homeless individuals or those in situations of extreme vulnerability who face difficulties accessing the healthcare system because, without a home address, they cannot register in the *Padrón*. However, this situation does not apply to minors who, if not with their families, are under the guardianship and care of the regional administrations.

If a foreign minor is unable to certify his or her legal residence in Spain because he or she is outside the protection system (for example, in cases where the age of majority determined by the Public Prosecutor's Office is disputed), Article 3 ter of the law will apply, which establishes that health protection and health care will also be provided to foreigners who are not registered or authorised as residents in Spain. In this case, it will be up to the autonomous communities to establish the procedure for the application and issuing of the certifying document that accredits foreigners to be able to receive health care.

In this regard, by resolution of 20 June 2019 was approved, stating that "*[r]ecommendations for the procedure for the application, registration and issuance of the certifying document that accredits foreigners who are in Spain but are not legally resident in Spanish territory to receive healthcare*". Most of these certifying documents request that the applicant prove they have had a registered address with the City Hall for the last three months; in Spain this is known as "*empadronamiento*". This means that **most minors that have not yet been recognised as such and that live outside the scope of Child Protection Systems cannot fully access the healthcare system, because they usually have no roof over their heads and therefore no registered address**. They are limited to the emergency room of hospitals, should they need any medical assistance.

E. Resources

1. Hosting

a) Minor asylum seekers

The public centres

The CAPI are:

- CAPI Alcobendas: Calle de Sariñena, 7, 28100 Alcobendas, Madrid.
Phone: +34 916 53 41 00
- CAPI Vallecas: Calle Luis Buñuel, 2, 28038, Madrid.
Phone +34 91 777 78 98
- CAPI Mislata: Calle Camino Viejo de Chirivella, núm. 2 bis, 46920 Mislata, Valencia.
Phone: +34 96 359 12 17
- CAPI Sevilla: Polígono Aeropuerto, Sevilla Este.
Phone +34 95 452 91 97

The CREADE are:

- CREADE de Pozuelo de Alarcón: Paseo de la Casa de Campo 1, 28223, Pozuelo de Alarcón, Madrid.
Phone +34 666 800 194
- CREADE de Málaga: Avenida Pintor Joaquín Sorolla, 145, 29017, Málaga.
Phone +34 628 216 478
- CREADE Barcelona: Calle de Sant Fructuós 78-80, 08004, Barcelona.
Phone +34 93 238 21 99

The private centres

All these organizations offer assistance with registering in the Padrón, as well as subsequent access to healthcare documentation and school enrolment. The address and phone numbers of the association's headquarters are provided. Many of these associations have regional branches. The details of these branches will be provided by the headquarters.

These organisations offer assistance to all minors, regardless of whether or not they are asylum seekers.

- CRUZ ROJA
Address: Avenida Reina Victoria, 26-28, 28003, Madrid.
Phone: +34 900 22 11 22
Email: informa@cruzroja.es
Web: <https://www2.cruzroja.es/>
- CEAR
Direct Attention
Address: Avenida de Asturias, 33, bajo, 28029, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 555 06 98
Email: recepcion.madrid@cear.es
Web: <https://www.cear.es/>

- HEADQUARTERS
Address: Glorieta de Cuatro Caminos nº 6-7 Planta 7ª – 711, 28020, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 598 05 35 // +34 91 598 05 92
Email: colabora@cear.es
- ACCEM
Address: Plaza Santa María Soledad Torres Acosta, 2, 3º, 28004, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 531 23 12
Web: www.accem.es
Email: accem@accem.es
- CEPAIM (CONVIVE)
Address: Calle Luisa Muñoz, 6, 28019, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 548 31 63
Email: madrid@cepaim.org
Web: <https://www.cepaim.org/>
- MOVIMIENTO POR LA PAZ
Address: Calle Martos, 15, 28053, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 429 76 44
Email: mpdl@mpdl.org
Web: <https://www.mpdl.org/>
- DIACONÍA
Address: Calle Andrés Obispo 37, 7º Izquierda, 28043, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 764 32 69
Email: info@diaconia.es
Web: <https://diaconia.es/>
- ANDALUCÍA ACOGE
Address: Calle Marqués de Nervión, 43, 4ª planta, 41005, Sevilla.
Phone: +34 954 900 773
Email: acoge@acoge.org
Web: <https://acoge.org/>
- ONG RESCATE
Address: Avenida de Córdoba, 15 3ºA, 28026, Madrid.
Phone: +34 914 47 28 72// +34 914 47 29 60
Email: rescate@ongrescate.org
Web: <https://ongrescate.org/>
- ORDEN HOSPITALARIA SAN JUAN DE DIOS
Address: Calle Concha Espina, 32, 28016, Madrid.
Email: refugiados@sjd.es
Web: <https://sjd.es/>
- NUEVA VIDA
Address: Calle Jesús de Monasterio nº25, 1º izquierda, Santander.
Phone: +34 942 10 41 11
Email: administracion@asociacionnuevavida.org
Web: <https://asociacionnuevavida.org/>
- CESAL
Address: Calle Siena, 15 – Bajo, 28027, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 359 79 06
Email: refugiados@cesal.org// cepitetuan@cesal.org
Web: <https://www.cesal.org/>

- COLUMBARES
Address: Calle Adrián Viudes, 9, 30570, Beniaján, Murcia.
Phone: +34 91 398 18 33 // +34 968 824 241
Email: asociacion@columbares.org
Web: <https://columbares.org/escola-de-dones-imparte-talleres-de-formacion-prelaboral-en-orihuela/>
- ASOCIACIÓN PROGESTION
Address: calle Manuel Fernández Caballero, 4 (Local), 28019, Madrid.
Email: info@progestion.org
Web: <https://progestion.org/>
- YMCA
Address: Calle Castillo 24, Local, 28010, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 319 21 26
Email: proteccion.internacional@ymca.es // ymca@ymca.es
Web: <https://www.ymca.es/>
- COORDINADORA ESTATAL DE PLATAFORMAS SOCIALES SALESIANAS
Address: Calle Alcalá, 164, 3º, 28028, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 361 00 50 // +34 91 726 74 83
Email: info@psocialesalesianas.org
Web: <http://www.psocialesalesianas.org>
- CREANDO HUELLAS
Address: Calle Peña Ubiña 3, Loc. 28053, Madrid.
Phone: +34 911 941 004
Email: hola@creandohuellas.org
Web: <https://creandohuellas.org/>
- RED ACOGE
Address: Calle Cea Bermúdez, 43, 3ºB 28003, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 563 37 79
Email: acoge@redacoge.org
Web: <https://redacoge.org/>
- ADORATRICES
Address: Vía Alessandro Torlonia Nº 6, 00161, Roma.
Email: c.tecnica@adoratrices.com // comunicacion@adoratrices.com
Web: <https://adoratrices.com/>
- FUNDACION APIP – ACAM
Address: Carrer Paloma, 21-23, 08001, Barcelona.
Phone: +34 93 317 16 14
Email: fundacionapipacam.org@fundacionapipacam.org
Web: <http://fundacioapipacam.org/>
- PROVIVIENDA
Address: Calle Sancho Dávila, 20, 28028, Madrid.
Phone: +34 915570130 // + 34 914008250
Email: provivienda@provivienda.org
Web: <https://www.provivienda.org/>
- FUNDACIÓN AMARANTA
Address: Calle Agastia, 106, 28043, Madrid.
Phone: +34 91 519 67 49 // +34 669 637 636
Email: madrid@fundacionamaranta.org // info@fundacionamaranta.org
Web: <https://www.fundacionamaranta.org/>

- **HIJAS DE LA CARIDAD**
Address: Plaza de Nuestra señora del Pilar, 1, 50003, Zaragoza.
Phone: +34 976 39 72 12
Email: comunicando@hijascaridadee.org
Web: <https://www.hijascaridadee.org/es>
- **LA MERCED MIGRACIONES**
Address: Calle de Castelar, 17, 28028, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 555 550
Email: lamerced@lamercedmigraciones.org
Web: <https://lamercedmigraciones.org/>
- **FUNDACIÓN EMET ARCOIRIS**
Address: Calle Torre de San Nicolás, 6, 14003, Córdoba.
Phone: +34 957 476 847
Email: emet@fundacionarcoiris.org
Web: <https://fundacionemet.org/>
- **SERCADE**
Address: C. de Lope de Vega, 45, Centro, 28014, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 69 00 00
Email: contacto@sercade.org
Web: <https://www.sercade.org/>

b) Unaccompanied minors

The public institutions managing the reception and protection system are the following

- **ANDALUCÍA**
 Consejería de Inclusión Social, Juventud, Familias e Igualdad
Address: Avenida de Hytasa 14, 41071, Sevilla.
Phone: +34 955 048 000
WhatsApp: 689 967 501
Web: <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/organismos/inclusion-social-juventud-familia-e-igualdad.html>
- **ARAGÓN**
 Departamento de Bienestar Social y Familia
Address: Paseo Plaza del Pilar 3, 50071, Zaragoza.
Phone: +34 976 71 40 00
Web: <https://www.aragon.es/organismos/departamento-de-bienestar-social-y-familia>
- **ASTURIAS**
 Consejería de Derechos Sociales y Bienestar
Address: Calle Alferez Provisional S/N, 33005, Oviedo.
Web: <https://socialasturias.asturias.es/infancia>
- **ILLES BALEARS**
 Consejería de Familias y Asuntos Sociales
Address: Plaça De la Drassana 4, 07012, Palma.
Phone: +34 971 22 57 97
Web: <http://serveissocialsicooperacio.caib.es>
- **CANARIAS**
 Consejería de Bienestar Social, Igualdad, Juventud, Infancia y Familias
Address: Avda. José Manuel Guimerá, 10, Edf. Servicios Múltiples II, Planta 0 38071, Santa Cruz de Tenerife.
Phone: + 34 922 470 012 / +34 928 301 012
Web: <https://www.gobiernodecanarias.org/bienestarsocial/>

- CANTABRIA
Consejería de Inclusión Social, Juventud, Familias e Igualdad.
Address: Calle Castelar, 5, 39004, Santander.
Web: <https://www.cantabria.es/web/consejeria-de-empleo-y-politicas-sociales>
- CASTILLA Y LEÓN
Consejería de Familia e Igualdad de Oportunidades.
Address: Calle Las Mieses 26, 47009, Valladolid.
Web: <https://gobierno.jcyl.es/web/es/consejerias/consejeria-familia-igualdad-oportunidades.html>
- CASTILLA-LA MANCHA
Consejería de Bienestar Social. Dirección General de Infancia y Familia.
Address: Calle Avenida de Francia 4, 45071, Toledo.
Phone: +34 925 267 099
Email: gabinete.bienestarsocial@jccm.es
Web: <https://www.castillalamancha.es/gobierno/bienestarsocial>
- CATALUÑA
Departamento de Derechos Sociales e Inclusión. Secretaría de Infancia, Adolescència y Juventud.
Address: Avinguda Paral·lel 50-52, 08001, Barcelona.
Phone: +34 934 831 000
Web: <https://dretssocials.gencat.cat/ca/inici>
- COMUNITAT VALENCIANA
Consejería de Servicios Sociales, Igualdad y Vivienda
Address: Calle Colon, 80, 46004, València.
Phone: +34 963 866 000
Web: <https://inclusio.gva.es/es/web/menor>
- EXTREMADURA
Consejería de Salud y Servicios Sociales: Secretaría General de Servicios Sociales, Inclusión, Infancia y Familia.
Address: Calle Antonio Rodríguez Moñino 2A, 06800, Mérida (Badajoz).
Phone: +34 924 006 012
Email: sg.servsociales@salud-juntaex.es
Web: <https://www.juntaex.es/temas/accion-social-e-igualdad/infancia-y-adolescencia>
- GALICIA
Consellería de Política Social y Juventud- Agencia Gallega de Servicios Sociales.
Address: Edificios Administrativos - San Caetano, s/n. 15781 Santiago de Compostela
Phone: +34 981 545 622
Email: dxfamilia.politicasocial@xunta.gal
Web: <https://www.xunta.gal/es/politica-social>
- MADRID
Consejería de Familia, Juventud y Asuntos Sociales.
Address: Calle O'Donnell, 50, 28009, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 925 528
Email: coordinaciondeinformacion@madrid.org
Web: <https://www.comunidad.madrid/centros/consejeria-familia-juventud-asuntos-sociales>
- MURCIA
Consejería de Política Social, Familias e Igualdad.
Address: Avenida De la Fama 3, 30003, Murcia.
Phone: +34 96 827 131 161
Email: c.psocal@carm.es // noelia.laso@carm.es
Web: <http://www.carm.es/sac>

- **NAVARRA**
Dirección General de Políticas Migratorias. Servicio Karibu de Acogida y Acompañamiento a Personas Migrantes.
Address: Polígono Iturrondo 1a 1ª Planta, 31600, Burlada.
Phone: +34 848 421 335
Email: virginia.eraso.barrio@navarra.es // migraciones.acogida@navarra.es
Web: <https://www.navarra.es/es/derechos-sociales/familia-y-menores>
- **PAÍS VASCO**
Departamento de Bienestar, Juventud y Reto Demográfico.
Phone: +34 945 01 80 00
Email: Buzón de Euskadi.eus - Sede electrónica del Gobierno Vasco.
Web: <https://www.euskadi.eus/gobierno-vasco/politica-familiar-desarrollo-comunitario/inicio/>
- **LA RIOJA**
Consejería de Salud y Políticas Sociales.
Address: Calle Bretón de los Herreros 33, 26001, Ábalos.
Phone: +34 941 291 100
Web: <https://web.larioja.org/estructura-sector-publico/consejeria-de-salud-y-politicas-sociales>
- **CEUTA**
Consejería de Sanidad y Servicios Sociales.
Address: Calle José Santos Vilela s/n, 51002, Ceuta.
Phone: +34 856 200 684
Email: serviciosociales@ceuta.es
- **MELILLA**
Address: Calle Carlos Ramirez de Arellano 10, 52004, Melilla.
Email: consejeriabienestarsocial@melilla.es
Web: https://www.melilla.es/melillaportal/contenedor.jsp?seccion=distribuidor_menus_texto.jsp&language=es&codResi=1&codMenuPN=601&codMenuSN=2&codMenu=145&layout=contenedor.jsp

Civil society or third-sector organisations specialising in shelter and housing for children and adolescents (not asylum seekers)

- **STATE COORDINATION OF SALESIAN SOCIAL PLATFORMS**
Address: C/ Alcalá, 164, 3º, 28028, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 610 050 // +34 917 267 483
Email: info@psocialesalesianas.org
Web: <http://www.psocialesalesianas.org>
- **DIAGRAMA FOUNDATION PSYCHOSOCIAL INTERVENTION**
Address: C/ Cáceres, 55, 28045, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 545 034 // +34 913 545 084
Email: madrid@fundaciondiagrama.org
Web: www.fundaciondiagrama.es/
<https://www.fundaciondiagrama.es/socioeducativo/proteccion-menores>
- **PROVIVIENDA**
Address: Calle Sancho Dávila, 20, 28028, Madrid.
Phone: +34 915 570 130 // +34 914 008 250
Web: www.provivienda.org
Email: coordinacion.pi@provivienda.org
- **AMIGONIANS**
Address: Provincial Curia. C/ Zacarías Homs, 18, 28043 Madrid.
Web: <https://www.amigonianos.org/centros/>
Email: comunicacion@amigonianos.org
- **INTERPRODE ASSOCIATION (ANDALUSIA)**

Address: C/ Rambla Somontin, 2, 04870, Purchena (Almería).

Phone: +34 950 104 390

Web: <https://interprode.org/inicio#centros>

Email: interprode@interprode.org

- GINSO

Address: Calle de Joaquín María López, 41 dupdo, local, 28015 Madrid.

Phone: +34 913 994 993

Web: <https://www.ginsso.org/politicas-sociales>

Email: informaciongeneral@ginsso.org

2. Education

The public institutions

We only have provided the website addresses of the regional education services to complete the previous information. However, we remind you that access to the system is made through the protection entity, in the case of unaccompanied minors, and once registration in the Padrón occurs in all cases.

- Andalucía - <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/educacion/portals/web/ced>
- Aragón - <https://educa.aragon.es/>
- Asturias - <https://www.educastur.es/>
- Balearic Islands - <https://www.caib.es/webgoib/>
- Canary Islands - <https://www.gobiernodecanarias.org/educacion/web/>
- Cantabria - <https://www.educantabria.es/>
- Castilla La Mancha - <https://www.educa.jccm.es/educa-jccm/cm>
- Castilla Leon - <https://www.educa.jcyl.es/es>
- Catalonia - <https://web.gencat.cat/es/temes/educacio/index.html>
- Extremadura - <https://www.educarex.es/>
- Galicia - <https://www.edu.xunta.gal/portal/>
- Madrid - <https://www.comunidad.madrid/servicios/educacion>
- Murcia - <https://www.carm.es/web/pagina?IDCONTENIDO=77&IDTIPO=140>
- Navarra - <https://www.educacion.navarra.es/web/dpto>
- Basque Country - <https://www.euskadi.eus/eusko-jaurilaritza/hezkuntza-saila/>
- La Rioja - <https://www.larioja.org/educacion/es>
- Valencia - <https://ceice.gva.es/va/>
- Ceuta and Melilla - <https://www.educacionfpydeportes.gob.es/contenidos/ba/ceuta-melilla/ceuta/portada.html>

Some non-governmental organisations have developed educational support programmes for UAMs, foreign minors or minors with special educational needs. These services are exclusively private, although the entities that provide them may receive public aid for their development; the most important of these are the following:

- **LA CALLE COLLECTIVE ASSOCIATION**
Address: Calle Censo, 6, Lateral, 28041, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 414 892 // +34 913 415 604
Email: lacalle@colectivolacalle.org
Web: www.colectivolacalle.org
- **ADSI FOUNDATION**
Address: Calle Peñascales, 14. Local, 28028, Madrid.
Phone: +34 915 045 164 // +34 915 745 564
Email: info@adsis.org
Web: www.fundacionadsis.org
- **FUNDACIÓ PLATAFORMA EDUCATIVA**
Address: Calle Garrotxa, 7-9 bajo, 17006, Girona.
Phone: +34 972 405 454 // +34 972 405 456
Email: fpe@plataformaeducativa.org
Web: www.plataformaeducativa.org
- **BALIA FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN**
Address: Calle Fereluz, 44, 28039, Madrid.
Phone: +34 915 705 519 // +34 915 710 251
Email: info@fundacionbalia.org
Web: www.fundacionbalia.org
- **SPANISH LEAGUE OF EDUCATION AND POPULAR CULTURE. LEECP**
Address: Calle Viriato, 2-1º, Puerta 3, 28010, Madrid.
Phone: +34 912 986 555 // +34 912 986 556
Email: laliga@ligaeducacion.org
Web: www.ligaeducacion.org
- **SENDA. MOVIMIENTO SENDA, DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION SPAIN. SENDA MSDE**
Address: Calle El Molino, 8 1º J. 28320, Pinto (Madrid).
Phone: +34 916 920 934 // +34 916 920 934
Phone: sendamsde@sendamsde.org
Web: www.sendamsde.org

3. Medical

The administrative services responsible for the management of the public health service are as follows:

In this case, we only provide the web address of the regional health service to complete the previous information. However, we remind you that access to the system is made through the protection entity, in the case of unaccompanied minors, and once registration in the Padrón occurs in all cases.

- Andalucía - <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/organismos/saludyconsumo.html>
- Aragón - <https://www.aragon.es/organismos/departamento-de-sanidad/servicio-aragones-de-salud>
- Asturias - <https://www.astursalud.es/astursalud>

- Balearic Islands - <https://www.caib.es/webgoib/que-necessites/vull-demanar-cita-amb-el-sistema-sanitari>
- Canary Islands - <https://www3.gobiernodecanarias.org/sanidad/scs/>
- Cantabria - <https://www.scsalud.es/>
- Castilla La Mancha - <https://sanidad.castillalamancha.es/>
- Castilla Leon - <https://www.saludcastillayleon.es/es>
- Catalonia - <https://catsalut.gencat.cat/ca/inici/>
- Extremadura - <https://www.saludextremadura.com/>
- Galicia - <https://www.sergas.es/>
- Madrid - <https://www.comunidad.madrid/servicios/salud>
- Murcia - <https://www.murciasalud.es/>
- Navarre - https://www.navarra.es/home_es/Temas/Portal+of+the+Health/Citizenship/
- Basque Country - <https://www.osakidetza.euskadi.eus/ataria/>
- La Rioja - <https://www.riojasalud.es/>
- Valencian Community - <https://www.san.gva.es/ca/web/sanidad>
- Ceuta - <https://www.areasanitariaceuta.es/>
- Melilla - <https://www.areasaludmelilla.es/>

4. Other

Website for government delegations in each Autonomous Community (generally responsible for foreigners' affairs: residence and work authorisation, devolution, etc.)

- Andalucia - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/andalucia.html
- Aragón - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/aragon.html
- Cantabria - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/cantabria.html
- Castilla y Leon - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/castillaleon.html
- Castilla La Mancha - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/castillalamancha.html
- Cataluña - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/catalunya.html
- Extremadura - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/extremadura.html
- Galicia - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/galicia.html
- Illes Balears - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/illesbalears.html
- Canarias - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/canarias.html
- Madrid - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/madrid.html
- Murcia - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/murcia.html
- Navarra - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/navarra.html
- Euskadi - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/paisvasco.html
- Principado de Asturias - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/asturias.html
- Rioja - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/larioja.html

- Valencia- https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/comunidad_valenciana.html
- Ceuta - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/ceuta.html
- Melilla - https://mpt.gob.es/delegaciones_gobierno/delegaciones/melilla.html

Contact Points for International Protection/Asylum Applications - Higher Police Headquarters

- **ANDALUCÍA**
 Cádiz - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Córdoba - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Sevilla - sevilla.asilocitaprevia@policia.es
 Huelva - huelva.citaasilo@policia.es
 Granada - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Almería - Phone: +34 950 759 322
 Jaen - jaen.asilocitas@policia.es
 Málaga - Phone: +34 609 049 347
- **ARAGÓN**
 Huesca - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Zaragoza - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Teruel - teruel.asilo@policia.es
 Jaca - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
- **ASTURIAS**
 Oviedo - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Gijón - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
- **CANARIAS**
 Gran Canaria - Address: C. Luis Doreste Silva, 68, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Las Palmas.
 Tenerife - sctenerife.asilonorte@policia.es
- **CANTABRIA:** <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
- **CASTILLA Y LEON**
 Ávila - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Palencia - Phone +34 690 343 472
 Soria - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Valladolid - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Burgos - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Salamanca - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Segovia - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Zamora - Phone: +34 659 025 121
 León - Phone: + 34 690 337 379
- **CASTILLA LA MANCHA**
 Ciudad Real - Address: Ronda de Toledo 27, Ciudad Real
 Toledo - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Guadalajara - guadalajara.gde@policia.es
 Cuenca - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
 Albacete - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>
- **CATALUÑA**
 Barcelona - Phone: +34 932 903 098
 Tarragona - Phone: +34 977 248 612
 Girona - Phone: +34 972 486 307 // +34 972 486 303
 Lleida - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icppplus/index.html>

- CEUTA: <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- VALENCIA
Alicante - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
Elche - elche.citasasilo@policia.es
Benidorm - benidorm.citasasilo@policia.es
Valencia - Phone: +34 649 497 659 // +34 606 728 940
Castellón - Phone: +34 689 055 990
- EXTREMADURA
Badajoz - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
Mérida - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
Cáceres - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- GALICIA
Ourense - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
A Coruña - acoruna.solicitudesasilo@policia.es
Pontevedra - Address: C/ Joaquín Costa n.º 17, Pontevedra.
Lugo - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- ISLAS BALEARES
Mallorca - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
Menorca - Phone + 34 971 356 398
Ibiza - Phone +34 971 398 783
- LA RIOJA: <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- MADRID: Phone: +34 913 220 189 // +34 913 220 190
- MURCIA: <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- MELILLA: Border Beni-Enzar
- NAVARRA: <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- PAIS VASCO
Bilbao - Address: Calle Gordóniz, 8, Bilbao
Vitoria - <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>

In addition to the ones mentioned above, other organisations provide services, particularly for foreign children, in areas other than housing, education and health. Some of these organisations offer general social assistance, legal assistance or labour integration services; it is therefore of interest to mention them here as well

- CARITAS ESPAÑOLA
Address: Calle Embajadores, 162, 28045, Madrid.
Phone: +34 914 441 000
Email: correo@caritas.es
Web: www.caritas.es
- FUNDACIÓN ADCARA
Address: Calle Cortes de Aragón, 39, 50005, Zaragoza.
Phone: +34 976 400 972
Email: adcara@adcara.org
Web: www.adcara.org

- FUNDACIÓN SECRETARIADO GITANO
Address: Calle Ahijones, s/n. 28018, Madrid.
Phone: + 34 914 220 960
Email: fsg@gitanos.org
Web: gitanos.org
- FUNDACIÓN RAÍCES
Address: Paseo de la Castellana 270, local 28046, Madrid.
Phone: +34 913 883 076
Email: juridico@fundacionraices.eu
Web: <https://fundacionraices.org/>
- CHILDREN'S PLATFORM
Address: Calle Escosura 3, local 2, CP 28015, Madrid, Spain.
Phone: +34 914 477 853
Email: info@plataformadeinfancia.org
Web: https://www.plataformadeinfancia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/directorio_plataforma_infancia2013.pdf
- FUNDACIÓN SOÑAR DESPIERTO
Address: Calle Serrano Anguita 13, (Impact Hub Barceló), Madrid.
Phone: +34 656 839 743
Email: sdm@sdespierto.es
Web: www.sdespierto.es
- PLATAFORMA DE ORGANIZACIONES DE INFANCIA DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN
Address: Pajarillos, 1, 47012, Valladolid.
Phone: +34 666 168 909
Email: info@poicyl.org
Web: www.poicyl.org
- PLATAFORMA DE ORGANIZACIONES DE INFANCIA DE CASTILLA-LA MANCHA
Address: Calle República Argentina, 1, 16001, Cuenca.
Phone: + 34 926 274 392 // +34 658 772 274
Email: poiclm@poiclm.org
Web: www.poiclm.org
- PLATAFORMA DE ORGANIZACIONES DE INFANCIA DE GALICIA
Address: Calle Belvis, 2, 15703, Santiago de Compostela.
Phone: +34 981 582 243
Email: galicia@plataformadeinfancia.org
Web: www.infanciagalicia.org
- PLATAFORMA DE ORGANIZACIONES DE INFANCIA DE LA COMUNIDAD DE MADRID
Address: Calle Escosura, 3, Local 2, 28015, Madrid.
Phone: +34 914 560 693
Email: poimadrid@plataformadeinfancia.org
Web: www.poimadrid.org
- PLATAFORMA DE ORGANIZACIONES DE INFANCIA DE LA REGIÓN DE MURCIA
Address: Calle San Martín de Porres, 4, 3 A, 30001, Murcia.
Email: plataformainfanciarm@gmail.com
- SAVE THE CHILDREN
Address: Plaza. Puerto Rubio, 28, 28053, Madrid.
Phone: +34 900 373 715 // +34 915 130 500
Email: info@savethechildren.es
Web: <https://www.savethechildren.es/donde/espana/ninos-migrantes>

Annex B

Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Italy)

A. Welcome & Accommodation

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

a) Legal framework

An unaccompanied minor (UAM) is defined as "a minor who does not hold Italian or European Union citizenship, who is present in the territory of the State for any reason or is otherwise subject to Italian jurisdiction, and who is without assistance and representation by parents or other adults legally responsible for them under current Italian law".¹

The sharp increase in migration that has affected Italy, particularly the rising number of UAMs who have arrived on the southern coasts of the country since 2014, has made evident both the inadequacy of the existing legislation, and the need for specific measures aimed at effectively guaranteeing the right to reception, legal representation and protection.

In this regard, during the session of the Unified Conference on 10 July 2014, an agreement was reached on the National Plan to address the extraordinary influx of non-EU citizens, including adults, families, and UAMs). A new system was established, which eliminates the distinction between UAMs who are asylum seekers and those who are not, solely for the purposes of reception.²

In recent years, significant changes have been introduced to the body of legislation concerning UAMs. In particular, Law No. 47 of 2017 (known as the "**Zampa Law**"),³ was enacted with the primary objective of strengthening the legal system's protective measures for foreign minors. Further legislative interventions were made through Decree-Law No. 17/2017, Legislative Decree No. 220/2017 (which amended Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, also known as the "**Reception Decree**"), as well as subsequent immigration-related decrees: Decree-Law No. 113/2018, Decree-Law No. 130/2020, and during the 2026 legislation session, Decree-Law No. 20/2023 and Decree-Law No. 133/2023.

In the Italian legal system, provisions regarding UAMs are primarily found in Articles 32 and 33 of the Consolidated Immigration Act (Legislative Decree No. 286/1998).

Specific dispositions concerning the reception of unaccompanied minors were introduced by Legislative Decree No. 142/2015 (the so-called Reception Decree), which transposed EU Directive 2013/33 on the reception of asylum seekers. Specific reference is made to unaccompanied minors, who are "*applicants for international protection*," additional provisions are included from Legislative Decree No. 25/2008 (on procedures for international protection applications—Article 19; Article 6, par 2 and 3; Article 26, par 5 and 6), and Legislative Decree No. 251/2007 (Art 28) also apply.

The main regulatory rules are contained in the Implementing Regulation of the Consolidated Immigration Act (Presidential Decree No. 394/1999), most recently amended by Presidential Decree No. 191/2022, particularly regarding residence permits for minors.

¹ Article 2 (e) of Directive 2013/33/EU laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast) and Article 2 of Law No. 47/2017.

² <http://www.libertacivilimmigrazione.dlci.interno.gov.it/it/i-minori-stranieri-non-accompagnati>.

³ Law available in the Official Journal, <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2017/04/21/17G00062/s>.

Finally, during the 2026 legislative session:

- Presidential Decree No. 231 of 27 December 2023 was adopted to provide a unified and comprehensive framework, also taking into account the changes introduced by Law No. 47/2017, for the responsibilities of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies regarding unaccompanied foreign minors. The relevant committees of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate expressed favorable opinions during their sessions on 4 October 4 and 10 October 2023, respectively (Government Act No. 63);
- Prime Ministerial Decree No. 98 of 10 May 2024 was adopted, establishing the procedures for the interview that the unaccompanied foreign minor must undergo upon entering first reception facilities, as outlined in Article 19bis of Legislative Decree No. 142/2015.⁴

b) Reporting to the competent authorities and the appointment of a guardian

According to the applicable legislation (Art 19, par 5, Legislative Decree No. 142/2015), the presence of an unaccompanied minor must be immediately reported:

- to the Public Prosecutor's Office at the Juvenile Court and to the Juvenile Court itself, for the initiation of guardianship proceedings and the appointment of a guardian pursuant, to Articles 343 et seq of the Italian Civil Code, as well as for the ratification of the reception measures put in place;
- to the General Directorate for Immigration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, for statistics on, and monitoring of, unaccompanied minors.

These notifications must be made by the public security authority, as well as any public official or person responsible for a public service, who becomes aware of the presence of an unaccompanied minor.

To support statistics and monitoring activities, Law No. 47 of 2017 established the National Information System for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (**SIM**), under the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. Within SIM, data regarding the personal details of the minors and their placement in reception facilities are registered. These data, processed in aggregate form, comprise the basis of monthly and bi-annual reports published on the Ministry's website.

Information obtained during the interview with the minor upon entry into the first reception facility is collected in the UAM's "social file". These files are compiled by the qualified personnel who conduct the interview and are forwarded to the municipal social services responsible for the minor's care, as well as to the Juvenile Prosecutor's Office. The file includes all relevant elements for determining a long-term solution that is in the best interest of the child (Art 9 Law No. 47/2017). The regulation adopted with Presidential Decree No. 231/2023 (in force since 15 March 2024), which governs the role of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies regarding unaccompanied minors, also regulates the processing of personal data included in SIM.

The law establishes that a guardian must be appointed for every minor in Italy, who is without parents capable of exercising parental responsibility. The guardian provides legal representation for the minor (i.e. acting on their behalf in legal matters), takes care of the minor personally and, if necessary, may manage their property. For asylum-seeking minors, the law requires that a guardian be appointed within 48 hours of the police headquarters' notification to the Juvenile Court and Prosecutor's Office (Art 26 par 5 Legislative Decree No. 25/2008).

Legislative Decree No. 220/2017 transferred jurisdiction for initiating guardianship proceedings and appointing a guardian from the guardianship judge to the Juvenile Court, thereby centralising all judicial proceedings concerning unaccompanied foreign minors under a single judicial authority.

Law No. 47/2017 (Art 11) also introduced the role of volunteer guardians; private citizens willing to take responsibility for one or more (up to three, unless justified by specific and relevant reasons) unaccompanied minors. Prospective volunteer guardians are selected and trained by the Regional Authorities for Children and Adolescents, or, where absent, the National Authority. They are entered

⁴ <https://temi.camera.it/leg19/post/msna-quadro-normativo.html>.

into a special register that is maintained by the Juvenile Court. To monitor implementation, the regional authorities work closely with the National Authority for Children and Adolescents, to whom they submit a bimonthly report on their activities.

To strengthen the system of volunteer guardianship for minors, the 2020 Budget Law (Art 1, par 882 Law No. 160/2019) increased the Fund for the Reception of Unaccompanied Foreign Minors by €1 million per year starting in 2020. The funds are allocated for specific purposes, based on criteria defined by an implementing decree. These criteria include:

- support measures for volunteer guardians of unaccompanied minors;
- reimbursements to companies covering up to 50% of the costs for paid work leave granted to volunteer guardians for their guardianship duties (up to 60 hours per guardian); and
- reimbursements for expenses volunteer guardians incurred in fulfilment of their guardianship responsibilities.

These resources were made available following the adoption of the implementation decree on 12 September 2022.

To further strengthen protections for unaccompanied minors, Law No. 47/2017 also speeds up the activation of family tracing procedures (Art 6) and introduces a preference for placement with family members over placement in reception centers (Art 7).⁵

c) Family foster care

UAMs are subject to the general legislation on foster care, which provides that a child who is temporarily without a suitable family environment shall be placed with a foster family, preferably one with minor children, or with a single individual capable of ensuring the child's maintenance, education, schooling, and emotional support. This solution is given priority over placement in a community facility or other reception structure (Art 2 par 1 and 2 Law No. 184/1983).

Article 19 par 7 Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, as amended by Law No. 47/2017, requires the prompt initiation of all actions necessary to identify the minor's family members, in order to safeguard the right to family life. To this end, the Ministry of the Interior, in consultation with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, may enter into agreements with international, intergovernmental, and humanitarian organisations, based on available resources, to implement family tracing programs for UAMS. These searches must be carried out in the best interest of the child and be strictly confidential, in order to protect the safety of both the minor and their relatives.

Par 7^{bis}, 7^{ter} and 7^{quater}, introduced by Law No. 47/2017, outline further steps in the family tracing process. Specifically, par 7^{bis} provides that the person exercising parental responsibility report must be sent to the organisation in charge, which will immediately initiate an investigation. This report must be sent within five days after the minor's interview at the first reception facility, after the minor is in contact with the police, if there is no risk to the minor or their family members, it is in the minor's best interest and with the minor has given their informed consent.

The results of the investigation must be transmitted to the Ministry of the Interior, which is required to promptly inform the minor, the person holding parental responsibility and the qualified personnel who conducted the interview (par 7^{ter}).

Furthermore, par 7^{quater} establishes a preference order: when suitable family members capable of caring for the unaccompanied minor are identified, this solution must be prioritised over placement in a reception community. This introduces a specific legal standard to guide decisions once family tracing has been completed, regarding whether to proceed with assisted voluntary return or with other protection and care measures, such as placement with a foster family or in a residential community.

⁵ For further details, refer to Support for the protection system to make foster care more inclusive, also for unaccompanied foreign minors (Edited by UNICEF), <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita-immigrazione/focus/report-approfondimento-semestrale-msna-30-giugno-2024>, page 49.

The family tracing process serves multiple purposes and plays a crucial role in identifying the best long-term solution for the minor, guided by their best interests. It supports local authorities in gaining a detailed understanding of the minor's background. Through this investigative procedure, it is possible to reconstruct the minor's family history and situation and to examine any vulnerabilities or risk factors, including those related to conditions in the country of origin.

This information is used both to better tailor the reception and integration pathway in Italy and to assess the feasibility of either assisted voluntary return or family reunification.⁶

As of 31 August 2024, there are 881 projects within the SAI Network (633 ordinary projects, 208 for unaccompanied minors, and 40 for individuals with mental health issues or disabilities), assigned to 746 local authorities that hold project responsibility. These include:

- 653 municipalities;
- 15 provinces;
- 28 unions of municipalities (including Mountain Communities and Mountain Unions of Municipalities);
- and 50 other entities (e.g. Consortia of Social Services, Territorial Areas, Associated Municipalities, District Communities, Consortia, Health Districts and Health Societies), involving a total of approximately 2,000 municipalities across the country.

All projects, organised by region, can be found at the following link: <https://www.retesai.it/progetti-territoriali-3/>

B. Educational infrastructure for unaccompanied minors and minor asylum seekers

In Italy, the right to education for UAMs is ensured through a series of regulations and practices aimed at protecting and integrating these young persons into the national education system. Below, we analyse the main laws, practical provisions and current challenges.

The right to education and study, classified as a social right, is recognised in the Italian Constitution, where it is identified as a fundamental human right that contributes to the formation of an individual's personality. It is divided into the right to "*lower*" education, until the age of 16, and "*higher*" education, which is defined by legal scholars as the right to study.

Lower Education: this is characterized by the rights to access free education and the duty to attend, constituting a "right-duty" for both the State, which must provide it, and for parents, who are required to educate their children.

Higher Education: according to legal scholars, this right is reserved for those who are capable and deserving but lack economic means.

The following sections examine how this right is effectively guaranteed to UAMs, as they cannot rely on family support for their education and, therefore, are entirely dependent on the Italian State, represented by educational institutions and voluntary guardians who legally represent them, to guarantee this right.

1. Regulatory Framework

- A. Article 34 Italian Constitution: included in the first part of the Constitution, Title II, Ethical-Social Relations, establishes: "[s]chool is open to all. Primary education, provided for at least eight years, is compulsory and free" (currently up to the age of 16). Those who are capable and deserving, even if lacking means, have the right to pursue higher education. The Italian Republic implements this

⁶ <https://temi.camera.it/leg19/post/msna-quadro-normativo.html>.

right through scholarships, family allowances, and other provisions that must be awarded through competition.

- B. Article 38 (Education of Foreigners. Intercultural Education) Consolidated Immigration Act (D.lgs. n. 286/1998) Article 38 and Article 45 of its implementing regulation (d.P.R. 394/1999): foreign minors present in Italy are subject to compulsory schooling and have a right to education, regardless of their legal status.
- C. Law No. 47 of 2017 (**Zampa Law**): this law introduced specific measures for the protection of UAMs. These measures guarantee access to education regardless of legal status allowing UAMs to complete their studies even after reaching adulthood and permit school enrollment at any time of year. Typically, UAMs are directed towards placement in classes corresponding to their chronological age, while considering the educational system in their country of origin and assessing their skills, abilities and preparation level of preparation. It also establishes that educational institutions must implement measures to facilitate compliance with compulsory schooling according to the principle of "*common school*".
- D. Law 106 of 29 July 2024, which converts D.L. n. 71/2024: urgent provisions regarding sports, educational support for students with disabilities, for the regular start of the 2024/2025 school year; it also concerns topics related to universities and research. Article 11 of D.L. n. 71/2024 introduces several significant changes related to the inclusion of students without-Italian citizenship in the Italian school system:
- The possibility of assigning a dedicated teacher for teaching Italian as a foreign language in classes where the number of foreign students enrolled for the first time without basic Italian language skills is equal to, or greater than, 20%, without exceeding budget limits starting from the 2025-2026 school year.
 - for the provision of agreements between schools and Provincial Centers for Adult Education (**CPIA**) to assess incoming students' knowledge of Italian and prepare personalised educational plans for newly arrived foreign students. Additionally, starting from 2026-2027 school year, schools with high rates of foreign students with poor knowledge of Italian will promote extracurricular educational enhancement activities funded by the National Program "*PN School and Skills 2021-2027*".
 - Flexibility in Limits: the limit can be raised or lowered by the Director General of the Regional School Office in cases where foreign students already possess adequate language skills or have specific requests.
- E. *Annual decree from the Ministry of Education*: defines the number of classes with a percentage of foreign students enrolling for the first time in the national education system, who do not possess basic language skills in Italian equal to at least A2 on the CEFR, as being equal to, or greater than, 20% of the students in the class and the corresponding number of teaching positions. On 12 November 2024, a decree from the Ministry of Education and Merit was adopted that legislated the allocating of resources for enhancing Italian language skills and basic competencies to ensure effective integration of foreign students and reduce school dropout rates in classes with over 20% entering the school system for the first time (school year 2023-2024), within the framework of the National Program "*PN School and Skills 2021-2027*," implementing EU Regulation 2021/1060.
- F. *Circular from the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (now Ministry of Education and Merit) No. 2/2010*: guidelines and recommendations for integrating non-Italian students. Among the measures provided for is a limit of 30% of non-Italian citizens per class. This limit serves as an operational guideline but cannot be invoked as a valid reason to deny enrollment to a foreign student in compulsory lower education.
- G. *Guidelines for the Right to Education for Minors Outside Their Family of Origin*: signed by the Minister for Education, Universities and Research and by the National Guarantee Authority for Childhood and Adolescence at the end of 2017. These guidelines serve as a knowledge tool for school staff, offering an overview of potential issues and solutions. They are not binding but provide a parameter through which to interpret regulations. "*The Italian school has earned merit over several decades by making inclusion a pillar of educational actions, encompassing all forms of*

diversity represented by students".⁷ The quote underlines the inclusive tradition of the Italian education system, which provides the normative and ethical basis for the guidelines, aimed at ensuring that minors outside their family environment are fully integrated into the school system.

The guidelines provide operational indications to ensure school enrollment for UAMs at any time in the school year, without temporal restrictions. The guidelines constitute an important reference for educators, families and social services responsible for caring for minors growing up away from their families. Issues related to context are analysed, such as psycho-emotional learning difficulties, entering adolescence, importance of training and promoting a network of resources centered on student well-being, especially regarding managing their presence in class.

2. Key Actions

The most important actions that schools implement **to promote full school integration** for minors outside their families include:

- personalised educational pathways aimed at achieving adequate language competence;
- coordination among all parties involved in projects concerning minors;
- training and update;
- particular attention to school-work alternative pathways and relationships with companies;
- the timeframe for a UAM to achieve autonomy is short and ends when the UAM upon turns 18; therefore, they need to be placed in pathways to job opportunities;
- need to identify responsible teachers with coordination among all parties involved; and
- focus on identifying the role of each party involved: teachers, foster families, biological families (if available) and protective structures.

3. Challenges and Critical Issues

Despite the solid regulatory foundations, detailed guidelines and decades of experience gained by institutions in welcoming minors from other cultures, whether accompanied by adults or not, significant challenges exist in realising the right to education for foreign minors, particularly UAMs. The effectiveness of the aforementioned rights is often not guaranteed in their practical application.

There is also a very different distribution of UAMs across Italian territory, with a prevalence in the south (see the periodic reports published by the Ministry of Labor: <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita/immigrazione/focus-on/minori-stranieri/pagine/dati-minori-stranieri-non-accompagnati>).

- **Regulatory Data:** the normative data that abstractly outlines the rule for placing UAMs in classes corresponding to their age, allowing for exceptions in specific cases, seems to be inverted and appears to favour school dropout rates.
- **Enrollment Issues:** UAMs (often over 16 years old) primarily are enrolled in Adult Education Centers (**CPIA**), especially if they are placed after the school year has already started.

This contravenes the principle of common schooling and hinders socialisation with their Italian counterparts. For example, the Veneto Region has signed an agreement with the Regional School Office to enroll 15-year-old UAMs in adult education centers: "*The placement of students identified in Article 2.b) (UAMs) of this Agreement in CPIAs is the responsibility of the student's parents or those exercising parental authority, who must ensure reporting, accompaniment, and possible enrollment of the student at the CPIA for potential care*". It has also been reported that minors were not enrolled during an ongoing school year and had to wait for the following school year to start.

⁷ <https://www.mim.gov.it/documents/20182/2223566/LINEE+GUIDA+DIRITTO+ALLO+STUDIO+ALUNNI +FUORI+FAMIGLIA.pdf/96f7870e-9f30-5d8b-4133-c7b20c9c5351?t=1564667201466>, page 3.

In any case, marked regional differences remain due to the regionalisation of the education system. Article 14 Law 47/2017, which would require personalised educational pathways, is often disregarded because this task is effectively delegated to Adult Education Centers, which frequently face a diverse array of students with precarious social situations, thereby failing to provide suitable protection for UAMs.

- **Limited Resources:** educational institutions may have limited resources, making it difficult to implement support programs necessary for the integration of UAMs in an adequate manner.
- **Role of Voluntary Guardians:** the voluntary guardian is responsible for the minor and should ensure their enrollment in school and monitor their progress; they also should understand the minor's educational history and abilities, as established by Law 47/2017. This regulation encounters two types of critical issues: i) the delay in appointments, here too, there are significantly different practices at the regional level; and ii) that often, some guardians are appointed for more than three minors, contrary to the law and frequently make extensive use of delegations, losing sight of the need to guarantee personalised and individualised intervention for each minor.

In conclusion, while Italian legislation offers solid protection for the right to education for UAMs, it is essential to address practical and operational challenges to ensure that these rights are effectively realised in everyday life.

C. Administrative infrastructure

The reception system for UAMs is defined under Article 19 Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, as amended by Law No. 47/2017. Under the current framework, the system is structured in two levels of reception: first-level and second-level reception.⁸

Specifically, first-level reception facilities include:

- Government-run first reception centres with high specialisation, established under Article 19, par 1, Legislative Decree 142/2015 and financed through the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2014–2020 (**AMIF**);
- Temporary accommodation facilities, pursuant to Article 19 par 3^{bis} Legislative Decree 142/2015. These are temporary facilities activated by the Prefecture and exclusively dedicated to UAMs, with a maximum capacity of 50 places per facility; they must provide the same services required for first reception structures under Article 19 par 1. This category includes the so-called Emergency Reception Centres for minors, established by order of the Prefect ("*CAS minori*");
- First reception facilities accredited/authorised by municipalities or regions;
- Initial emergency reception facilities for minors/adults, established under Article 5, par 1 let a Decree-Law No. 133/2023 (converted with amendments by Law No. 176 of 1 December 2023), to be activated in situations where dedicated minor reception facilities, including temporary ones, are momentarily unavailable. In such cases, the Prefect may authorise the placement of a minor 16 years of age or older in a designated section of an adult reception centre, for a maximum period of 90 days, extendable by an additional 60 days; and
- Emergency and temporary reception structures, a broad category including all other provisional first reception facilities not covered under the previously mentioned types, such as hotels or other emergency accommodation options; they also are managed by the municipalities (Law No. 563 of 29 December 1995).

Second-level reception facilities include:

- Centres associated with the Reception and Integration System (**SAI**), funded by the National Fund for Asylum Policies and Services (**FNPSA**);
- Second-level reception facilities funded through AMIF resources; and

⁸ <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/documenti-e-norme/rapporto-di-approfondimento-semestrale-sulla-presenza-dei-msna-31dic-2024>.

- All other second-level structures accredited/authorised at the regional or municipal level, whose operation is financed through contributions to municipalities under the National Fund for the Reception of UAMs.

1. Recent data on reception

As of 31 December 2024, 80% of the over 18,000 minors present in Italy are accommodated in reception facilities, while 20% of the minors are placed with private individuals.

Most minors welcomed by families come from Ukraine (78%): in 66% of cases they are hosted by their own relatives residing in Italy (with 26% of those being grandmothers), while the remaining 34% of minors are hosted by unrelated families.

Minors accommodated in first reception facilities account for 16%, while 11,825 minors are in second-level reception, representing approximately 63% of the total minors present.

There are 1,981 reception facilities hosting at least one minor as of 31 December 2024; among these, 254 are dedicated to first reception, each hosting an average of 12 minors, while 1,727 facilities are second-level with an average capacity of seven minors each. Among the second-level reception facilities, the most common are socio-educational communities, with 561 facilities accounting for 32% of the total, followed by family communities with 303 facilities (17%), and high-autonomy housing with 281 units (16% of the total). 63% of the facilities have municipal-level authorization, 27% hold regional-level authorizations, and the remaining 10% are facilities authorized by the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, or lack authorization altogether.

Reception facilities are spread across the entire national territory and consistent with data on minor arrivals, first reception facilities mostly are located in the Sicily region, which hosts a quarter of these centres. Following with lower incidence are the regions of Lombardy, Liguria, Lazio and Emilia-Romagna.

Second-level reception facilities are more widely distributed, with higher concentrations around the cities of Milan, Rome, Naples and Bologna. The regions with the highest presence of these facilities are Sicily (15%), Lombardy (14%), Campania (13%), Lazio (9%), and Emilia-Romagna (8%).⁹

2. Applications for international protection

In the first half of 2024, 1,161 applications for international protection were submitted by UAMs, compared to 1,062 submitted in the same period of 2023 and 2,352 submitted in all of 2023.

For the first half of 2024, (Table 3.1), the African continent remains the main area of origin for UAMs (780, accounting for 67%). The leading country of origin is Gambia (178 minors, or 15%) followed by Guinea (10.6%), Pakistan (8.4%), Mali (7.6%) and Afghanistan (7.5%). Most were males (1,050, representing 90% of the total) and almost all were older than 14 years of age (1,142 minors, equal to 98%).¹⁰

During the first half of 2024, 62% were granted some form of international protection by the Territorial Commissions for the recognition of international protection (Source: Ministry of the Interior Data – National Commission for the Right of Asylum).¹¹

3. Foreign minors with specific needs

According to the law, all unaccompanied foreign minors are considered inherently vulnerable and are therefore entitled to specific protection measures aimed at ensuring their growth and development.

⁹ <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/documenti/report-approfondimento-semestrale-msna-31-dicembre-2024-bis>.

¹⁰ <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita-immigrazione/focus/report-approfondimento-semestrale-msna-30-giugno-2024>.

¹¹ Ministry of the Interior Data – National Commission for the Right of Asylum.

In addition to the vulnerability established by the law, additional ones may exist; some already present at the time the minor left their country of origin, others resulting from traumatic experiences endured during the journey, their stay in transit countries, and even upon arrival in Italy.

Although most of the young people taken in by the SAI projects exhibit the developmental characteristics typical for their age, reception workers pay special attention to identifying vulnerabilities and unexpressed needs and providing appropriate and personalised responses, especially in cases involving physical illnesses, mental health issues or strongly oppositional behaviors.

2Of the UAMs hosted in the SAI system in 2023, 2% showed signs of mental distress and 2.1% were found to be victims of torture or violence.

Breaking down the data by gender, the proportion of females in this second category is significantly higher than that of males (17.5% v 1.3%), as was the case for victims of trafficking (13.7% v 0.7%). It is important to underline that the care of these cases requires strong coordination between social services, the Public Prosecutor's Office and law enforcement, including the preparation of intervention procedures and protocols.

Less marked gender differences were observed among beneficiaries with mental health issues, disabilities, or needs for specialist healthcare. Other vulnerabilities noted in 2023, included girls were pregnant (7%) and of LGBTQIA+ minors, with more in the latter category identifying as girls.¹²

4. SAI (Network (Reception and Integration system for refugees, asylum seekers, and unaccompanied foreign minors, which provides integrated services for their integration into Italian society

With respect to the SAI network, data related to funded projects and places, as well as a snapshot of the projects and places activated as of 31 December 2023 are available in a report.¹³

The table on the left shows the number of funded places (broken down into the following categories: ordinary reception, unaccompanied minors (MSNA) and mental health/disability[(DM-DS)] and local territorial entities [grouped by province]) (p 86 *et seq*).

- By “*funded places*”, we mean the total number of places within a project for which funding has been assigned following the publication of the ranking within a specific ministerial decree.
- On the second page, to the right, there is a graphical representation of the distribution of projects and active places by type of reception, along with a regional map containing all the municipalities linked to the SAI network in that territory (as project holders, hosting structures, or affiliated with a project-holding entity).
- By “*active places*”, we mean places that the local project-holding entity actually makes available for reception, after carrying out public procurement procedures for the implementing entity and after securing suitable facilities. Active places are considered net of those temporarily unavailable due to contingent issues (e.g., minor maintenance of facilities, problems with installations, need to replace furniture, etc.).

At the end of the chapter, there is a summary of regional data and an overview of the main national data.

General contacts for the network can be found at the following link, which leads to the SAI Network contact page: <https://www.retesai.it/contatti/>.

¹² <https://www.retesai.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Rapporto-SAI-2023-XXII-edizione.pdf>.

¹³ <https://www.retesai.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Rapporto-SAI-2023-XXII-edizione.pdf>.

D. Medical infrastructure for unaccompanied minors and minor asylum seekers

In the Italian legal framework, the **right to health is recognised as a fundamental right for all individuals, including unaccompanied foreign minors**. This protection is enshrined in Article 32 Italian Constitution, which guarantees healthcare as a universal right and a duty of the State.

UAMs, regardless of their legal status, have full access to the National Health Service (*Servizio Sanitario Nazionale*, **SSN**). According to Legislative Decree No. 286/1998 art. 34, 35 and 36 (the Consolidated Immigration Act), UAMs have the same rights to healthcare as Italian citizens. They can be registered with the SSN and receive preventive care, medical assistance and hospital treatment free of charge.

Furthermore, the Zampa Law strengthened protections for unaccompanied foreign minors by ensuring that their healthcare needs are met without discrimination. It also mandates local health authorities to facilitate access to medical services, including psychological support, especially for minors who have experienced trauma during their migration journey.

Regional health services and non-governmental organisations play a crucial role in ensuring that these rights are effectively implemented. Additionally, specific measures are in place to protect minors who are victims of abuse, exploitation and/or trafficking, ensuring they receive specialised medical and psychological care.

1. The Right to Health for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors: Regional Disparities in Italy

In Italy, UAM's right to healthcare is guaranteed at the national level, but its practical implementation varies across different regions, affecting actual access to healthcare services.

2. Registration with the National Health Service (SSN)

Italian law mandates that UAMs be registered with the SSN free of charge and regardless of their status or residence permit type. This registration grants access to all healthcare services available to Italian citizens. However, in some regions, the lack of a residence permit or formal residence can create bureaucratic obstacles, delaying or complicating SSN registration. It is crucial that local authorities and healthcare facilities are properly informed about national regulations to ensure the uniform application of UAMs' rights.

3. Exemption from Healthcare Fees (*Ticket Sanitario*)

UAMs are entitled to an exemption from healthcare fees (*ticket sanitario*) due to their lack of income. However, the procedures to obtain this exemption vary by region. In some areas, a specific exemption for MSNA may not be explicitly provided, requiring the minor's guardian to prove financial hardship. It is the responsibility of each local health district to ensure that the exemption process is clear and accessible.

4. Access to a Primary Care Pediatrician

Access to a free-choice pediatrician (*pediatra di libera scelta*) is crucial for UAMs healthcare protection. Recently, regions such as Lombardy and Veneto have fully implemented national regulations, ensuring that foreign minors, even those without a residence permit, are entitled to a health card and a pediatrician

without any distinction from Italian minors. However, other regions may still have different practices, limiting access to these essential services.

5. Regional Disparities and the Need for Uniformity

Differences in the application of healthcare regulations at the regional level can create disparities in UAM's access to healthcare and medical services. These inconsistencies may result from varying interpretations of national laws, local administrative procedures or a lack of proper training among healthcare and administrative staff. To ensure effective and uniform protection of UAMS' rights, it is essential to have greater standardisation of regional practices through clear guidelines and specific training for those involved.

a) The Right to Health for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors in Veneto, Puglia, and Lombardy

- Veneto

In January 2023, the Veneto region issued guidelines to ensure the mandatory registration of all foreign minors, including those not in compliance with immigration regulations, with the SSN. These guidelines emphasize the assignment of a free-choice pediatrician or a general practitioner (*Medico di Assistenza Primaria, MAP*) to these minors, ensuring they receive the same level of healthcare as Italian citizens. The guidelines also address the provision of healthcare services exempt from co-payment fees for these categories.¹⁴

- Puglia

The Puglia region has taken steps to standardise access to healthcare services for non-EU and EU foreign citizens. A regional circular provides detailed instructions to local health authorities (**ASLs**) on the correct application of national laws concerning healthcare assistance for foreign citizens. This includes clarifications on the right to SSN registration for different types of residence permits and ensures that UAMs have access to necessary healthcare services without discrimination.¹⁵

- Lombardy

Like Veneto, the Lombardy region has recognised the right of all foreign minors, irrespective of their residence permit status, to access healthcare services. This includes the issuance of a health card and the assignment of a free-choice pediatrician, ensuring no distinction between foreign minors and Italian citizens in terms of healthcare access.¹⁶

- Emilia-Romagna

The Emilia-Romagna region ensures that all minors, including those who are unaccompanied or whose parents lack a residence permit, have access to healthcare services. These minors are entitled to choose a family pediatrician or a general practitioner (*Medico di Medicina Generale*) up to the age of 18. The selection of a healthcare provider is valid for one year from the date of registration and is renewable annually, provided the minor remains in the regional territory.¹⁷

- Lazio

While specific regional guidelines for Lazio regarding the healthcare rights of UAMs are not detailed in a specific source, it is understood that national laws mandate equal access to healthcare services for all minors, regardless of their immigration status. Local health authorities in Lazio are expected to adhere

¹⁴ <https://bur.regione.veneto.it/BurVServices/Pubblica/DettaglioDgr.aspx?id=493615>.

¹⁵ www.sanita.puglia.it/documents/25619/31639992/ASSISTENZA+AI+CITTADINI+STRANIERI.pdf/9a6ce017-56b0-4e7f-a0d3-57f286206b1a.

¹⁶ <https://www.asgi.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Regione-Lombardia-DELIBERAZIONE-XI-7758-22.12.22-Allegato-4-pp.-2930.pdf>.

¹⁷ <https://salute.regione.emilia-romagna.it/stranieri?>.

to these national directives, ensuring that unaccompanied foreign minors receive necessary medical care without discrimination.¹⁸

- Campania

Similarly, specific regional policies for Campania concerning the healthcare of unaccompanied foreign minors are not explicitly outlined. However, in line with national legislation, unaccompanied foreign minors in Campania are entitled to register with the SSN and access comprehensive healthcare services. Local health units are responsible for facilitating this access and ensuring that these minors receive appropriate medical attention.

- Piemonte

In Piemonte, the regional health authorities have established protocols to ensure that UAMs have access to healthcare services. These protocols include guidelines for registration of with the SSN and the assignment of a primary care physician or pediatrician. Efforts are made to provide healthcare services without discrimination, ensuring that UAMs receive the necessary medical attention promptly.¹⁹

- Liguria

Liguria has implemented measures to facilitate the integration of UAMs into the regional healthcare system. The region emphasises collaboration between local health units and social services to address the specific health needs of UAMs. This includes mental health support and preventive care, recognising the unique challenges faced by this vulnerable population.

- Friuli Venezia Giulia

As Friuli Venezia Giulia is a **border region**, it often serves as an entry point for unaccompanied minors. The regional health system has developed specialized programs to manage the initial health assessments and ongoing medical care for UAMs. These programs are designed to address both immediate health concerns and long-term well-being, ensuring comprehensive care for unaccompanied minors.

- Sicily

Due to its geographical location, Sicily receives a significant number of unaccompanied minors. The regional government has established dedicated centres that provide initial health screenings and necessary medical treatments. Collaboration with non-governmental organisations enhances the capacity to deliver healthcare services, focusing on both physical and psychological healthcare to support the integration of UAMs into society.

- Calabria

In Calabria, regional health policies ensure that UAMs have access to the SSN and are assigned a primary care physician or pediatrician. The region has seen an increase in the presence of unaccompanied minors, prompting efforts to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure to meet their needs. This includes training healthcare providers on the specific challenges faced by UAMs and ensuring that services are culturally sensitive and accessible.

- Marche

The Marche region has implemented comprehensive healthcare policies for UAMs, focusing on seamless integration into the SSN. Regional guidelines mandate the assignment of a pediatrician or general practitioner to unaccompanied minors, ensuring continuous and personalised medical care. Preventive health measures and mental health services are also prioritised, recognising the complex experiences of UAMs.²⁰

¹⁸ <https://www.elis.org/2023/05/29/hope-2-formazione-e-sostegno-ai-msna-di-lazio-e-sicilia/> ; <https://minoristranieri-neveralone.it> ; <https://www.intersos.org/cosa-facciamo/italia/> ; <https://www.abuondiritto.it/storage/app/media/rapporti/Allegati/Rapporto%20MSNA%20e%20minori%20stranieri%20accompagnati%20a%20Roma%20.pdf>.

¹⁹ <https://www.piemonteimmigrazione.it/faq/vivere-in-italia/minori/item/1014-quali-sono-le-condizioni-per-l-iscrizione-dei-msna-al-servizio-sanitario-nazionale>.

²⁰ https://www.regione.marche.it/portals/0/ODS/ODS_2023/CARLETTI_12_settembre_23.pdf.

6. Conclusion

While national legislation in Italy guarantees the right to healthcare for UAMs, regional implementations can differ; continuous efforts are necessary to maintain uniformity and address regional disparities, in order to ensure that all unaccompanied foreign minors in Italy have consistent and fair access to healthcare.

E. Resources

1. Useful numbers/Internet addresses

Questions and requests can be sent to the following institutional email addresses:

- Mail: minoristranieri@lavoro.gov.it or minori-art32@lavoro.gov.it
- PEC: minoristranieri@pec.lavoro.gov.it or minori.art32@pec.lavoro.gov.it

In Italy, a certified email system known as *Posta Elettronica Certificata* (PEC) is in place, which provides legal certainty regarding the sending and delivery of messages, with evidentiary value equivalent to that of a judicial notification. Conversely, standard email does not offer any legally valid proof of transmission or receipt.

Email also works, but we suggest using a certified email address if possible.

- SIM - Sistema Informativo Minori - <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita/immigrazione/focus-on/minori-stranieri/pagine/sim-sistema-informativo-minori>
- FAQ SISTEMA INFORMATIVO MINORI (SIM) - <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita/immigrazione/focus-on/minori-stranieri/Documents/FAQ-aprile%202022.pdf>
- https://www.interno.gov.it/sites/default/files/2022-08/24_vademecum_per_la_presa_in_carico_dei_minori_stranieri_non_accompagnati.pdf
- <https://www.garanteinfanzia.org/come-diventare-tutore-volontario-0>

2. Institutional Websites of Italian Juvenile Courts

- Ancona: <https://www.tribmin.ancona.giustizia.it/>
- Bari: <https://tribmin-bari.giustizia.it/>
- Bologna: <https://www.tribmin.bologna.giustizia.it/>
- Brescia: <https://www.tribunaleminorenne.brescia.it/>
- Cagliari: <https://tribmin-cagliari.giustizia.it/>
- Caltanissetta: <https://tribmin-caltanissetta.giustizia.it/>
- Campobasso: <https://tribmin-campobasso.giustizia.it/it/contatti.page>
- Catanzaro: <https://www.tribunaleminoricatanzaro.it/>
- Catania: <https://www.tribunaleminorenne.catania.it/>
- Firenze: <http://www.giustizia.toscana.it/tribunaleminorennefirenze>
- Genova: <https://tribmin-genova.giustizia.it/>
- L'Aquila: <https://tribmin-laquila.giustizia.it/>
- Lecce: <https://www.tribmin.lecce.giustizia.it/>
- Messina: <https://www.tribmin.messina.giustizia.it/it/Content/Index/56495>
- Milano: <https://www.tribmin.milano.giustizia.it/>
- Napoli: <https://tribmin-napoli.giustizia.it/>
- Palermo: https://tribmin-palermo.giustizia.it/pages/it/homepage/sezione_tribunale/uffici_e_cancellerie/
- Perugia: <https://tribmin-perugia.giustizia.it/>

- Potenza: <https://procmin-potenza.giustizia.it/>
- Reggio Calabria: <https://www.tribmin.reggiocalabria.giustizia.it/>
- Roma: <https://tribmin-roma.giustizia.it/it/contatti.page>
- Salerno: <https://www.tribmin.salerno.giustizia.it/>
- Sassari <https://tribmin-sassari.giustizia.it/>
- Torino: <https://www.tribunaleminori.torino.it>
- Trento: <https://www.corteappello.trento.it/minori/home.aspx>
- Trieste: https://tribmin-trieste.giustizia.it/it/contatti_prova.page
- Venezia: <https://tribmin-venezia.giustizia.it/>

3. Territorial atlas of the SAI Network

Page 89 *et seq* of the report,²¹ contains the facilities, for every region of Italy. Contact details:

- **Telephone:** +39 06 76980811
- **Email address:** info@serviziocentrale.it
- **Website:** Via delle Quattro Fontane 116, 00187 Roma.
- <https://www.retesai.it/contatti/>

4. References websites on the right to healthcare for UAMs

These websites have been used as references in the preparation of this report.

- <https://www.salute.gov.it/new/it/tema/ssn-principi-e-organizzazione/>
- <https://integrazionemigranti.gov.it/it-it/Alt-re-info/e/4/o/8/id/11/Il-diritto-alla-salute-dei-minori-stranieri>
- <https://legale.savethechildren.it/94d48824-e83a-4706-946d-ed7e5b166cbf/>

²¹ <https://www.retesai.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Rapporto-SAI-Edizione-XXIII.pdf>.

Annex C

Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Switzerland)

A. Welcome & Accommodation

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

The needs of unaccompanied minors (“UAMs”) seeking asylum (as well as the needs of children accompanied by their families) must be taken into account with regard to hosting and accommodation; this follows from Switzerland’s obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,¹ including the obligation to protect the best interests of the child (Art 2 par 1 CRC),² which apply to all children in Switzerland, including asylum seekers.³

National law, as well as directives issued by the State Secretariat for Migration,⁴ contain some specific measures to protect UAM asylum seekers,⁵ although, as detailed in the following sections, these sometimes fall short of the requirements enumerated in the CRC.

Moreover, these measures can vary based on whether a UAM is housed:

- in a Federal Asylum Centre (“FAC”);
- at the airport; or
- by the cantons.

The following sections describe the different rules and practices with regard to UAMs in each of the aforementioned situations, although the focus is on FACs, as this is where the vast majority of UAMs are housed.

a) Federal Asylum Centres

In Switzerland, most asylum seekers are housed in FACs; the law generally permits asylum seekers to be housed in FACs for a maximum of 140 days, while their asylum request is processed and reviewed.⁶

This applies to UAMs over the age of 12 as well;⁷ UAMs under 12 should be housed by the cantons (see *Section 1.1.4 below*) and only should be housed in FACs as a last-resort measure.⁸ Therefore, most UAMs, at least initially, are housed in FACs.

¹ Convention on the Rights of the Child (cited: “CRC”).

² In Switzerland, international law is superior to national law; see Article 5 par 4 of the Swiss Federal Constitution, RS 101 (cited: “Cst”), Article 36 of the Vienna Convention; Pascal MAHON, *Droit constitutionnel I*, 2nd ed, Neuchâtel 2010, p 179 *et seq*, *La relation entre droit international et droit interne. Rapport du Conseil fédéral en réponse au postulat 07.3764 de la Commission des affaires juridiques du Conseil des Etats du 16 octobre 2007 et au postulat 08.3765 de la Commission des institutions politiques du Conseil national du 20 novembre 2008*, Feuille fédérale n° 13 of 7 April 2010 (FF 2010 2067, 2068, 2114), ATF 99 Ib 39, point 3, ATF 122 II 234, point 4.3, ATF 125 II 417, point 4c *et seq*, ATF 133 V 367, point 11.1.1.

³ Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d’asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 626.

⁴ Cited: “SEM”.

⁵ See Article 82 par 3^{bis} Swiss Federal Asylum Act, RS 142.11 (*Loi sur l’asile*; cited “AA”); Article 5 par 3 Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Department of Justice and Police on the operation of Federal Asylum Centres and lodging at the airport, RS 142.311.23 (*Ordonnance du DFJP relative à l’exploitation des centres de la Confédération et des logements dans les aéroports*; cited “FDJP Ordinance”); SEM, *Manuel Asile et retour*, Article C1, *Les centres fédéraux pour requérants d’asile* (12 November 2020); and SEM, *Manuel Asile et retour*, Article C9, *Requérants d’asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA)* (10 February 2020).

⁶ Article 4 24 par 4 AA.

⁷ Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in : OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d’asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 626.

⁸ SEM, *Plan d’exploitation Hébergement (PLEX)* (1 January 2022) (cited “PLEX”), p 16.

Within the FACs, some special measures apply to UAMs, especially concerning: (i) their arrival at the FAC; (ii) facilities; (iii) assistance and support; (iv) leisure and recreational activities; and (v) educational and disciplinary measures; these topics are analysed below.

Moreover, the law and guidelines issued by the SEM both state that asylum requests made by UAMs should be given priority.⁹

Arrival

According to the SEM's guidelines, when a UAM arrives at an FAC:

- they are provided with a short initial briefing;
- They are given a **tour of the site** and introduced to the other UAMs present.
- Where necessary, another UAM may assist with the tour and provide translation.¹⁰

A longer briefing is organised with their contact person (see *Section 1.1.2.3* below); this should happen within 72 hours of arriving at the FAC.¹¹

The UAM also is provided with information about the onsite medical facilities (see *Section 4.1.1.* below) and given the possibility of a medical checkup.¹²

Accommodation and sanitary facilities

UAMs are to be lodged separately from adults and have separate sanitary facilities (e.g. showers and toilets).¹³ This is in line with the CRC and UNHCR guidelines.¹⁴

The SEM guidelines also say that, where possible, UAMs should be housed with other UAMs of the same gender, speaking the same language and from the same region; siblings also should be kept together.¹⁵

However, in the past, the Swiss National Commission Against Torture¹⁶ found that these requirements were not always respected and that children sometimes were housed with unrelated adults.¹⁷ However, since 1 March 2020, following a restructuring of the asylum system, this now is a binding requirement.¹⁸

That said, it is reminded that Article 20 par 1 CRC stipulates that “[a] child temporarily or permanently deprived of his or her family environment, or in whose own best interests cannot be allowed to remain in that environment, shall be entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the State”.

In this context, International Social Service – Switzerland, recommends that UAMs aged 15 and under be housed with foster families and that UAMs aged 16 to 18 be housed in collective housing, according

⁹ Article 17 2^{bis} AA; SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point I.3.

¹⁰ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.1.

¹¹ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.1.

¹² SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.1.

¹³ Article 5 par 2 FDJP Ordinance *Manuel Asile et retour*, Article C1, *Les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile* (12 November 2020), §2.3.1; and Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 626; PLEX, p 16.

¹⁴ See NKVF, Bericht an das Staatssekretariat für Migration (SEM) betreffend Überprüfung durch die Nationale Kommission zur Verhütung von Folter in den Zentren des Bundes im Asylbereich 2017-2018, Bern (1 November 2018) (cited: “**NKVF 2017-2018**”), point 66; and NKVF, Bericht betreffend die Überprüfung der Bundesasylzentren durch die Nationale Kommission zur Verhütung von Folter (2019 – 2020), Bern (December 2020) (cited: “**NKVF 2019-2020**”), point 30.

¹⁵ PLEX, p. 16.

¹⁶ Nationale Kommission zur Verhütung von Folter/Commission nationale de prévention de la torture (also cited: “**NKVF**” or “**CNPT**”).

¹⁷ NKVF 2017-2018, points 135 – 136; Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 628.

¹⁸ Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 628; see also NKVF 2019-2020, point 58.

to their degree of independence¹⁹ and the Conference of Cantonal Social Directors²⁰ special housing for UAMs, depending on their age and independence, including foster families and collective housing.²¹

If it is determined that the UAM has extended family in Switzerland, they may be able to be housed by that family; this decision is made by the UAM's contact person and the social-educational team at the FAC (see *Section 1.1.2.3* below). In some regions, the local child protection authorities will need to be informed.²²

Assistance and support

As from 1 December 2020, UAM asylum seekers are to receive social-educational assistance daily from 7.00 to 22.00.²³ Social-educational assistants should not be responsible for more than 15 UAMs.²⁴

The measures should vary based on the age of the UAM, with UAMs between the ages of 12 and 14 receiving more direct support.²⁵

In the FAC, UAMs should be provided with a social-educational assistant who can act as their principal contact person and provide them with individual assistance when needed; where possible, the wishes of the UAM concerning the gender of their contact person should be respected.²⁶ The UAM should have at least weekly meetings with their contact person.²⁷

In addition to the social-educational assistants, UAMs in FACs also should be supported by other staff members and night security staff. Staff members are tasked with helping the social-educational assistants with their duties, implementing activity programmes for the UAMs and responding to general questions about daily life.²⁸

However, the Swiss National Commission Against Torture has found that FACs do not have sufficient staff to ensure that this is adhered to in practice.²⁹

Further, the FAC should put in place a daily routine, which includes elements enumerated in the SEM's guidelines, in particular: education; sports; chores; group discussions; sessions with their reference person; and free time.³⁰

Pilot programmes have been carried out in Zurich and Basel in which UAMs were provided with more social-educational assistance, including the presence of social workers helping them with their daily activities; suggestions were made to the SEM on the basis of these pilot programmes, including dedicating more financial and personnel resources to UAMs.³¹

¹⁹ International Social Service – Switzerland, *Manuel de prise en charge des mineur-e-s non accompagné-e-s en Suisse*, 2nd ed (2017) (cited: "ISS"), p 66.

²⁰ Konferenz der kantonalen Sozialdirektorinnen und Sozialdirektoren / Conférence des directrices et directeurs cantonaux des affaires sociales (also cited: "SODK" or "CDAS").

²¹ SODK, EMPFEHLUNGEN der Konferenz der kantonalen Sozialdirektorinnen und Sozialdirektoren (SODK) ZU UNBEGLEITETEN MINDERJÄHRIGEN KINDERN UND JUGENDLICHEN AUS DEM ASYLBEREICH (20 May 2016), p 18 - 20.

²² PLEX, p 17.

²³ PLEX, p 21; Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 627.

²⁴ PLEX, p 21.

²⁵ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point II.1.6.

²⁶ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point II.1.2.

²⁷ PLEX, p 21.

²⁸ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point II.1.2.

²⁹ NKVF, Bericht an das Staatssekretariat für Migration (SEM) betreffend die Überprüfung der Bundesasylzentren (BAZ) durch die Nationale Kommission zur Verhütung von Folter (NKVF) 2021–2022, Bern (December 2022) (cited: "NKVF 2021-2022"), point 83.

³⁰ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.3.

³¹ Eva MEY, Samuel KELLER, Kushtrim ADILI, et al, Evaluation des UMA-Pilotprojektes Befunde zur kindes- und altersgerechten Unterbringung und Betreuung von unbegleiteten minderjährigen Asylsuchenden in den Zentren des Bundes (January 2019), p 31; NKVF 2019-2020, point 147; Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 628 and ref cited.

Leisure and recreational activities

Although Article 31 par 1 CRC states that children have a right to “to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts”, FACs do not have the space or staff supervision needed for this right to be realised. In particular, there often is no space where children can rest and play away from adults.³²

The Swiss National Commission Against Torture recommends either creating separate spaces for women and children or times during which only women and children can access the common areas.³³

Moreover, as mentioned in *Section 1.1.2.3* above, UAM's daily schedule should include both sports and free time.³⁴

Further, UAMs should be permitted to leave the FAC during the day, although UAMs under 14 are not allowed to leave without an adult (i.e. an extended family member living in Switzerland) or an older UAM. UAMs may receive train tickets for up to three trips a week, if it is decided that this could help their integration.³⁵

Also, UAMs with extended family living in Switzerland may be allowed to stay with that family during the weekend.³⁶

Educational and disciplinary measures

Under the regulations decreed by the SEM, based on the FDJP Ordinance, UAMs may be subject to both (a) educational measures, and (b) disciplinary measures in FACs. In principle, the measure inflicted will depend on the severity of the alleged misconduct.³⁷

In both cases, the disciplinary authority is the directorate of the FAC; however, the issuing and execution of measures with regard to UAMs are delegated to the social-educational team. This team also is responsible for organising a meeting with the UAM to inform them of the measures. These measures also must be documented in writing.³⁸

Further, other staff, such as night security staff, must inform the social-educational team of any misconduct they witness.³⁹

- Educational measures

Educational measures generally are issued for less serious violations.

The UAM must have the possibility to be heard and explain their position.

- Disciplinary measures

Disciplinary measures usually are inflicted for more severe misconduct and/or repeat violations.⁴⁰

The UAM must have the possibility to be heard and explain their position. An appeal can be filed against the decision to impose a disciplinary measure, pursuant to Articles 28 and 29 FDJP Ordinance.⁴¹

³² Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 628.

³³ NKVF 2017-2018, point 134; Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 628.

³⁴ PLEX, p 34; SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.3 and III.2.10.

³⁵ PLEX, p 72.

³⁶ PLEX, p 18; SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.10.

³⁷ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.10.

³⁸ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.10.

³⁹ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.10.

⁴⁰ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.10.

⁴¹ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point III.2.10.

Special rules also apply to disciplinary measures that can be applied to UAMs. UAMs cannot be forbidden from leaving the FAC (although outside trips can be cancelled) and if they are removed from an FAC, the head of the FAC must find them housing elsewhere.⁴² They also cannot be put in isolation.⁴³

In practice, disciplinary measures sometimes are taken against UAMs in an “unofficial” manner (i.e. a “time-out”, rather than a removal) and not properly recorded, preventing them from appealing the measures.⁴⁴

b) Airport

In Switzerland, the asylum procedure can be carried out at an airport, in the event that the asylum claim first is lodged at an airport.⁴⁵

According to the Swiss Refugee Council, the hosting conditions in airports in Switzerland generally do not meet the threshold of the best interest of the child and children should be allowed to enter Switzerland and commence an ordinary asylum procedure in an FAC.⁴⁶

c) In the cantons

UAMs may end up accommodated by the cantons, rather than in an FAC in three instances:⁴⁷ (i) the asylum procedure is transformed into an extended procedure (used for less straight-forward cases);⁴⁸ (ii) the UAM is granted asylum or provisional admission;⁴⁹ or (iii) the UAM is under 12.⁵⁰

The accommodation specifics vary based on the canton and the age of the UAM.⁵¹

As mentioned above, International Social Service – Switzerland, recommends that UAMs aged 15 and under be housed with foster families and that UAMs aged 16 to 18 be housed in collective housing, according to their degree of independence⁵² and the Conference of Cantonal Social Directors⁵³ special housing for UAMs, depending on their age and independence, including foster families and collective housing.⁵⁴

In any case, the local child protection authorities should be informed about UAMs under 12, so that they can institute appropriate protection measures.⁵⁵

In the **Canton of Geneva**, following the introduction of changes regarding the care of UAM asylum seekers, after arriving in Geneva from a FAC, UAMs are welcomed at the Louis-Casaï 86 reception and orientation centre for a period of six weeks to three months, during which time a multidisciplinary socio-health assessment is carried out.⁵⁶

⁴² Article 15 par 1 Ordinance 1 on the Asylum Procedure, RS 142.311 (*Ordonnance 1 sur l'asile relative à la procédure*; cited: “**Ordinance 1**”); Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 626 – 627 and refs cited.

⁴³ PLEX, p 59.

⁴⁴ NKVF 2019-2020, point 67.

⁴⁵ Article 22 – 23 AA.

⁴⁶ Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 628.

⁴⁷ Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 629.

⁴⁸ Article 26d and 27 AA.

⁴⁹ Article 27 AA.

⁵⁰ PLEX, p 75.

⁵¹ See SEM, *Manuel Asile et retour*, Article C9, Requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) (10 February 2020), p 12 – 13.

⁵² International Social Service – Switzerland, *Manuel de prise en charge des mineur-e-s non accompagné-e-s en Suisse*, 2nd ed (2017) (cited: “ISS”), p 66.

⁵³ Konferenz der kantonalen Sozialdirektorinnen und Sozialdirektoren / Conférence des directrices et directeurs cantonaux des affaires sociales (also cited: “SODK” or “CDAS”).

⁵⁴ SODK, EMPFEHLUNGEN der Konferenz der kantonalen Sozialdirektorinnen und Sozialdirektoren (SODK) ZU UNBEGLEITETEN MINDERJÄHRIGEN KINDERN UND JUGENDLICHEN AUS DEM ASYLBEREICH (20 May 2016), p 18 - 20.

⁵⁵ PLEX, p 75.

⁵⁶ REPUBLIC AND CANTON OF GENEVA, (2018), <https://www.ge.ch/document/35295/telecharger>, *Une nouvelle dynamique pour mieux accompagner les jeunes issus de l'asile* (Press release, 26 March 2024).

The housing institution Blue Sky accepts UAM asylum seekers between the ages of 12 and 18; it has eight places.⁵⁷

d) Unaccompanied minors

Article 20 par 1 CRC requires that States provide special protections to children who, temporarily or permanently, are deprived of their family environment. This alternative care may take the form of placement with a family or, if necessary, placement in an appropriate children's institution. In choosing how the situation is to be treated, the child's personal situation, notably their origin and religion, must be taken into account and a certain continuity in their upbringing must be ensured (Art 20 par 3 CRC). Article 27 CRC guarantees every child a right to a standard of living that is adequate for their physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development; Specifically, Article 27 par 3 CRC requires the State to provide, where necessary, material assistance and support programmes, especially with regard to housing.

At the national level, Article 41 Cst guarantees that anyone seeking accommodation must be able to find suitable accommodation for themselves and their family under reasonable terms. Article 12 Cst states that anyone who is in a situation of distress and is unable to provide for themselves has the right to be assisted and to receive the means required to uphold their human dignity (Art 12 Cst); in practice, this provision is applied more to adults.

In principle, UAMs should benefit from accommodation adapted to their needs as minors. Therefore, in principle, UAMs should not be housed with adults and should be in single-sex housing, with the exception of siblings. That said, there is no legal right to be housed with siblings, other family members or friends⁵⁸. This absence of an enforceable right has been noted as a practical difficulty, especially for siblings who risk separation due to the scarcity of available foster placements or appropriate facilities.

In the **Canton of Geneva**, the child protective services ("**SPMI**") can place UAMs in housing. For instance, the housing institution Foyer SeyMNAz accepts UAMs between the ages of 13 and 18; it has six places⁵⁹

Minors under the age of 15 may be placed with a foster family. To become a foster family, approval must be obtained from the *Service d'autorisation et de surveillance des lieux de placement (SASLP)* and there are very few foster families.⁶⁰

Minors may also be cared for by members of their extended family.⁶¹

If they are unable to find accommodation with a family, minors under the age of 15 also can be placed by the Official Youth Foundation, but spots are very limited.⁶²

The **Canton of Fribourg** has two main reception centres for UAMs: the Foyer des Remparts and Foyer de la Rosière. Minors are allocated to these two centres according to their degree of independence. The minors are supervised by several educators and security guards at night.⁶³

In the **Canton of Zurich**, which has a particularly exemplary approach with respect to the care of UAMs,⁶⁴ UAMs 12 and over, regardless of their legal status, are cared for in special institutions: the Lilienberg home for unaccompanied minors and the Aubuggweg reception centre. They are accommodated in single-sex rooms, with two people to a room. Subject to availability, they also have access to computer rooms, a library, multipurpose meeting areas and a painting workshop. Supervision is provided around the clock. Each UAM is assigned a counsellor, who is responsible for their day-to-

⁵⁷ FONDATION OFFICIELLE DE LA JEUNESSE, <https://www.foj.ch/foyer/blue-sky>.

⁵⁸ LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 63 et seq.

⁵⁹ FONDATION OFFICIELLE DE LA JEUNESSE, <https://www.foj.ch/foyer/foyer-seymnaz>.

⁶⁰ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Geneva (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

⁶¹ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Geneva (2018), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

⁶² SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Geneva (2018), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

⁶³ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Fribourg (2018), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

⁶⁴ Martine LACHAT CLERC, Les mineurs non accompagnés en Suisse - Exposé du cadre légal et analyse de la situation sur le terrain, Lausanne (2007), p 44.

day care and education. Besides these two reception centres, UAMs may be looked after by relatives, host families or the youth service. Host families must be approved. Upon reaching the age of majority, UAMs may be transferred to a reception facility for adults or may be housed in shared accommodation.⁶⁵

B. Educational infrastructure

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

Articles 28 and 29 CRC recognise that all children have a right to education.

In Switzerland, these provisions are embodied in Article 19 Cst, which guarantees the right to an adequate and free basic education. It also stipulates that public education is the responsibility of the cantons (Art 62 par 1 Cst). These provisions apply generally, including to UAM asylum seekers as well.⁶⁶

In principle, schooling is compulsory until the age of 15,⁶⁷ although this varies between cantons. In Geneva, schooling is obligatory until the age of 18 (Art 194 par 1 Cst-GE).⁶⁸

School typically starts at the age of four lasts for 11 years; in the Canton of Geneva, this is consecrated in Article 56 par 1 LIP/GE⁶⁹ Compulsory schooling consists of primary education, which normally lasts eight years (i.e. from age four to 12; in the Canton of Geneva, this is set out in Articles 55 par 1 and 60 LIP/GE, and secondary education I, which normally lasts three years (i.e. from age 12 to 15); this is covered by Article 67 LIP/GE in the Canton of Geneva.

Each canton must provide for special arrangements according to the educational needs of minors, particularly for students who do not speak the local language (see Art 24 par 1 let b LIP/GE in the Canton of Geneva). To allow these students to acquire sufficient language skills, provisions must be made for supplementary language courses; organisational measures also must be taken to adapt the level of education to their needs, such as additional or introductory classes (for instance, under Art 26 LIP/GE in the Canton of Geneva).

More specifically, in the **Canton of Geneva**, this need has been addressed through ACCESS II, which, within the framework of the Swiss Integration Agenda (AIS), prepares young people to begin pre-vocational training, as most do not yet meet the requirements for direct entry into certified vocational education (CFC/AFP).⁷⁰ According to the cantonal authorities, by March 2024, 20 literacy classes had been opened within ACCESS II for this population, and this offer had been significantly expanded in response to increasing needs.⁷¹

Special arrangements also must be made for children and young people with special needs (Art 28 LIP/GE). A language impairment that hinders the ability to function independently and adapt in an ordinary environment is considered a special need (Art 29 par 1 LIP/GE). These arrangements can be made up to the age of 20 (Art 30 LIP/GE).

Further, in the Canton of Geneva, all minors, regardless of their status in Switzerland, have the right to attend compulsory school if they stay in Switzerland for more than three months (Art 57 par 2 LIP/GE). A UAM's legal representative must register them; the minor is not entitled to do so themselves.⁷²

However, the form that the education takes is the subject of much debate, in particular, whether UAM asylum seekers may be educated separately from their peers, for instance, in FACs. The situation in

⁶⁵ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, *Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA)*, Zurich (2020), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

⁶⁶ Martine LACHAT CLERC, *Les mineurs non accompagnés en Suisse - Exposé du cadre légal et analyse de la situation sur le terrain*, Lausanne (2007), p 44.

⁶⁷ Martine LACHAT CLERC, *Les mineurs non accompagnés en Suisse - Exposé du cadre légal et analyse de la situation sur le terrain*, Lausanne (2007), p 44.

⁶⁸ *Constitution de la République et canton de Genève* of 14 October 2012, A 2 00 (cited: "Cst-GE").

⁶⁹ *Loi sur l'instruction publique* of 17 September 2015, C 1 10 (cited: "LIP/GE").

⁷⁰ REPUBLIC AND CANTON OF GENEVA, (2018), <https://www.ge.ch/document/35295/telecharger>, *Une nouvelle dynamique pour mieux accompagner les jeunes issus de l'asile* (Press release, 26 March 2024).

⁷¹ REPUBLIC AND CANTON OF GENEVA, (2018), <https://www.ge.ch/document/35295/telecharger>, *Une nouvelle dynamique pour mieux accompagner les jeunes issus de l'asile* (Press release, 26 March 2024).

⁷² LAW CLINIC, *The rights of unaccompanied young migrants*, Geneva (2020), p 100.

Geneva is in the midst of a certain number of legal and practical changes, so it is not further explored here.

2. Unaccompanied minors

The general principles outlined above with respect to UAM asylum seekers also apply to other UAMs.

However, in practice, some UAMs may have to wait up to a year to attend school, or sometimes might not be able to attend school at all if a removal order, enforceable in the short-term, has been issued against them.⁷³

Additionally, Article 30a of the Ordinance on Admission, Residence and Gainful Employment⁷⁴ provides that, under certain circumstances, a residence permit may be granted to foreigners who are in Switzerland irregularly for the purposes of obtaining an initial formation. This provision can provide undocumented UAMs with a path to access apprenticeships, provided they spent at least two years enrolled in Swiss obligatory education (uninterrupted) in Switzerland and request the permit in the two following years.⁷⁵

In the Canton of Fribourg, unaccompanied minors under the age of 16 join an introductory class and from there, quickly are integrated into an ordinary class. From the age of 16 onwards, young people have several options. For example, as long as they have a sufficient level of French, they can choose between a vocational pathway, a work pathway or a training pathway. The *ParMi* association sets up mentoring schemes for UAMs, enabling them to receive support and guidance with a view to finding an apprenticeship.⁷⁶

In the Canton of Zurich, UAMs, regardless of their status, attend school until the age of 16. In principle, they are integrated into a programme provided by the accommodation in which they are placed. They have German, maths, art, social sciences, music and gym classes. After at minimum of one year in an introductory class, provided their level of German is sufficient, UAMs are integrated into a mainstream class and provided with additional German lessons. For unaccompanied minors over the age of 16 with an F permit or B permit (provisionally admitted foreigners or residence permit), their education generally continues with vocational training provided by the mainstream education structures, with additional support courses, as needed. UAMs with an N permit (asylum seekers) are admitted on a subsidiary basis to programmes provided by the integration service.⁷⁷

C. Administrative infrastructure

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

a) Introduction

The administrative process for asylum seekers, including UAMs, starts with an asylum claim. Such a claim may be made at an airport, an open border-crossing or in a FAC.⁷⁸

⁷³ Martine LACHAT CLERC, Les mineurs non accompagnés en Suisse - Exposé du cadre légal et analyse de la situation sur le terrain, Lausanne (2007), p 44 et seq.

⁷⁴ Ordinance on Admission, Residence and Gainful Employment of 24 October 2007, RS 142.201 (cited: "OASA").

⁷⁵ See Elodie FEJOO, Faciliter l'accès à la formation professionnelle initiale pour les personnes déboutées et sans-papiers (asile.ch, 13 August 2024), <https://asile.ch/2024/08/13/oasa-faciliter-lacces-a-la-formation-professionnelle-initiale-pour-les-personnes-deboutees-et-sans-papiers>; OSAR, Modification de l'Ordonnance relative à l'admission, au séjour et à l'exercice d'une activité lucrative (OASA) : Réponse de l'Organisation suisse d'aide aux réfugiés (OSAR) dans le cadre de la procédure de consultation (Bern 12 October 2023).

⁷⁶ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Cartographie cantonale des structures de prise en charge pour MNA, Fribourg (2018), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

⁷⁷ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Zurich (2020) (<https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>).

⁷⁸ Article 18 and 19 AA; See also Mathieu CORBAZ, in Stämpfli (edit.) *Les mineurs non accompagnés en droit d'asile*, Bern (2019), p 40.

The asylum process is managed by the SEM. Applications filed by UAMs are to be processed as a priority⁷⁹ and their needs should be considered during the process, especially with respect to accommodation.⁸⁰

b) Representation

The asylum process is complex, even for adults. Minors don't understand the legal process, timelines and consequences of decisions. They may lack the ability to present their case adequately without specialised legal aid or guardianship.

For this reason, under both Swiss and international law, UAMs must be assigned a legal representative to protect their rights during the asylum proceedings.⁸¹

In Switzerland, in general, asylum seekers whose request is processed in a federal centre have the right to free advice and legal representation; these tasks are carried out by a provider mandated by the SEM.⁸²

Specifically, asylum seekers are assigned a legal representative from the start of the preparatory phase and for the remainder of the asylum procedure, unless the asylum seeker expressly declines this.⁸³ That said, the legal representative may end legal representation by informing the asylum seeker that they do not wish to submit an appeal because they consider it would have no prospect of success.⁸⁴ However, in some instances, the asylum seeker may request that the Swiss Federal Administrative Court provide them with a legal adviser and, in addition to lawyers, persons with a university degree in law who are involved in counselling and representing asylum seekers professionally also are authorised to act as official legal advisers.⁸⁵

With respect to UAMs, the service provider mandated by the SEM also is tasked with representing them as a trusted person at FACs and airports.⁸⁶

In this context, at the FAC, the legal representative must both play the role of the parent/guardian (e.g. signing up for health insurance, enrolling in school, etc.) and provide legal assistance with the asylum process (e.g. participate in interviews, draft appeals, etc.).⁸⁷

If the provider does not properly carry out their job, the UAM may write to the SEM, via registered mail. If the provider causes damages to the UAM, they may file a lawsuit for damages (against the Confederation) in front of the Swiss Federal Supreme Court.⁸⁸

After a UAM is transferred to a canton, the appointed legal representative only fulfils the parent/guardian role and should direct the UAM to a lawyer or legal assistance with respect to the asylum procedure.⁸⁹ Complaints must be filed with the competent cantonal authority. For instance, in the canton of Geneva, complaints must be filed with the *Tribunal de Protection de l'Adulte et de l'Enfant* ("TPAE"); in practice, it is difficult to be assigned a new representative.⁹⁰ If the provider causes damages to the UAM, they may file a lawsuit for damages against the canton.⁹¹

When meeting with their representatives, UAMs have an interpreter.⁹²

⁷⁹ Article 17 par 2^{bis} AA.

⁸⁰ Article 17 par 2 and 3 and 82 par 3^{bis} AA.

⁸¹ See LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 43.

⁸² Article 102f AA.

⁸³ Article 102j AA.

⁸⁴ Article 102h par 4 AA.

⁸⁵ Article 102m par 1 and 3 AA.

⁸⁶ Article 102k par 1 let e AA.

⁸⁷ LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 43 - 44.

⁸⁸ LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 45.

⁸⁹ LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 43.

⁹⁰ LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 45 - 46.

⁹¹ LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 46.

⁹² LAW CLINIC, Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées, Geneva (2020), p 46.

c) Appeals

An appeal against the decision of the SEM may be lodged with the Swiss Federal Administrative Court.⁹³

There are limited possibilities to appeal decisions issued by federal authorities to the Swiss Federal Supreme Court; however, an appeal may be lodged for a violation of constitutional rights.⁹⁴

An appeal also might be possible to the European Human Rights Court.⁹⁵

Moreover, in some instances, an application for re-examination may be submitted to the SEM.⁹⁶ When this is done by a UAM, provided the application is not *prima facie* without merit, no fee shall be shared; this rule also applies to multiple asylum request filed by a UAM.⁹⁷

d) Determination of age

Determining the applicant's age is one of the first issues addressed once an asylum claim is made. This assessment is carried out during the UAM's stay in the FAC, within 21 days of the filing of the asylum claim if the regular or accelerated procedures apply, or within 10 days if the Dublin procedure applies.⁹⁸

Many unaccompanied minors seeking asylum arrive without official documentation (passports, birth certificates). Other documents may be considered (such as school reports) but will not necessarily be deemed sufficient to establish the applicant's age. Information given during the interview with the SEM will play an important role in assessing the applicant's age. It should be stressed that the burden of proof is on the applicant and that, if doubts remain, authorities may presume that an applicant is over 18 years of age.⁹⁹

In case of doubt, the authorities will usually ask the UAMs to undergo an age assessment pursuant to several methods,¹⁰⁰ which frequently include a wrist or collarbone X-ray, a dental examination and a physiological exam (assessing the physical build and sexual maturity, for example by measuring the size of breasts or testicles). Such age assessments, the accuracy and ethics of which are debated, should only be carried out as a last resort. They must be conducted only after the UAMs have been informed of the assessment in a language they understand, and after giving their informed consent. These procedures have been called into question on multiple instances, especially the sexual maturity test, which may be considered incompatible with human rights standards.¹⁰¹

The incidental decision regarding the age of an UAM, following such assessments, may be challenged before the Swiss Federal Administrative Court, but only once a final decision has been issued on the asylum application.¹⁰² The deadlines for lodging such an appeal are short: five days under the accelerated procedure and 10 days under the regular procedure.¹⁰³ The Swiss Federal Administrative Court will review the assessment of all the evidence by the SEM, whether undue weight is given to the age assessments and whether its decision is duly motivated.¹⁰⁴

As mentioned above, there are limited possibilities to appeal decisions issued by federal authorities to the Swiss Federal Supreme Court; however, an appeal may be lodged for a violation of constitutional rights.

If it is decided that a UAM is over 18, they may lose access to the specific protections and services reserved for children. It is also worth mentioning that if an asylum seeker is found to have made false

⁹³ Article 105 AA; see also Mathieu CORBAZ, in Stämpfli (edit.) *Les mineurs non accompagnés en droit d'asile*, Bern (2019), p 54 - 55.

⁹⁴ See Article 83 let d, 86 and 116 of the Loi sur le Tribunal fédéral, RS 173.110; see also Mathieu CORBAZ, in Stämpfli (edit.) *Les mineurs non accompagnés en droit d'asile*, Bern (2019), p 56.

⁹⁵ See Mathieu CORBAZ, in Stämpfli (edit.) *Les mineurs non accompagnés en droit d'asile*, Bern (2019), p 57 - 68.

⁹⁶ Article 111b AA.

⁹⁷ Article 111d AA.

⁹⁸ Article 26, 26b, 26c and 26d AA. See also LAW CLINIC, *Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées*, Geneva (2020), p 28 *et seq.*

⁹⁹ LAW CLINIC, *Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées*, Geneva (2020), p 29.

¹⁰⁰ Article 17 par 3^{bis} AA.

¹⁰¹ LAW CLINIC, *Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées*, Geneva (2020), p 29.

¹⁰² Article 107 AA; see also LAW CLINIC, *Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées*, Geneva (2020), p 30.

¹⁰³ Article 107 and 108 par 1 and 2 AA; see also LAW CLINIC, *Les droits des jeunes personnes migrantes non accompagnées*, Geneva (2020), p 30.

¹⁰⁴ See Judgment TAF, E-891/2017, of 27 September 2018.

declarations regarding his or her age, they also may be subject to criminal prosecution for unlawfully claiming social insurance or social assistance benefits pursuant to Article 148a of the Swiss Criminal Code.

2. Unaccompanied minors

Upon arrival, a legal representative must be appointed for each UAM. The representation stops once the minor turns 18 years old.

In the Canton of Geneva, the Hospice general submits a request the Court for the protection of Adults and Children, “*TPAE*”), which then mandates the SPMi and appoints a legal representative for the minor. Generally, it takes a few weeks for the legal representative to be appointed.

The legal representative accompanies the minor during their installation in Switzerland. For example, the legal representative should enrol the minor in a school and accompany them to medical appointments and hearings. When available, the legal representative also searches for foster family.

For legal representation, the SPMi usually appoints the *SSI Suisse*, *Caritas* or the *Centre social protestant* to provide legal advice. If necessary, they can appoint a lawyer who will handle representation in front of the authorities and courts.¹⁰⁵

In the Canton of Valais, the child protective services (“*APEA*”) appoints a representative from the *Centre Suisses-Immigrés* for the minor. The representative is appointed as soon as the minor arrives in the canton. The representative accompanies the minor to the hearings. Usually, it's also this representative who represents the minor in front of the courts.¹⁰⁶

In the Canton of Zurich, upon arrival of the unaccompanied minor, the child protective services (“*KESB*”) appoints a representative for the minor, who typically is from the *Zentralstelle MNA des Amts für Jugend- und Berufsberatung*. This Service has one paralegal and a few social workers. The representative also acts as a person of trust and accompanies the minor to all meetings and hearings and helps the minor go through the asylum process.¹⁰⁷

D. Medical infrastructure

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

a) Medical facilities

FACs often do not have a doctor onsite. However, all FACs do have a medical clinic, called *MedicHelp*, which is staffed by nursing staff. The nursing staff works with doctors to decide when it is necessary to send a resident to a specialist or to a hospital.

It is debated whether this is sufficient with regard to the right “to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health” (Art 24 par 1 CRC), especially given the levels of trauma that many children in FACs have experienced and the psychological difficulties in being separated from one's family; the Swiss Refugee Council suggests that FACs should have a paediatrician, or at the very least a general practitioner, on site.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁵ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, *Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA)*, Geneva (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

¹⁰⁶ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, *Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA)*, Valais (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

¹⁰⁷ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, *Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA)*, Zurich (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

¹⁰⁸ Lucia DELLA TORRE, Stephanie MOTZ, Nula FREI and Barbara VON RÜTTE, in: OSAR (édit), *Manuel de la procédure d'asile et de renvoi*, 3rd ed, updated and expanded, Bern (2022), p 627.

b) Consent

UAMs who are considered to have legal capacity to act¹⁰⁹ are allowed to make their own medical decisions, although UAMs under 16 are accompanied on medical visits outside the FAC.¹¹⁰ The question of legal capacity to act is examined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the seriousness of the medical treatment.¹¹¹ The SEM may refuse to cover the cost of certain treatments consented to by a UAM, as it is the authority in charge of providing social aid.¹¹²

UAMs not considered to have legal capacity to act must be represented in order to receive medical treatment, with the exception of emergencies; this representative should be provided by the child protection authorities, not the SEM.¹¹³

2. Unaccompanied minors

Unaccompanied minors usually arrive after having experienced a traumatic journey and have family that was left behind.

Therefore, most UAMs suffer from psychological and sleep issues and need psychological and other support upon arrival.¹¹⁴

In the Canton of Geneva, UAMs are given a medical check-up upon arrival. This typically is carried out by the cantonal hospital (the *Unité Santé Jeunesse*).

The cantonal hospital has developed for migrants called the *Programme santé migrants*, to provide follow-up (not limited to minors).

Some of the hosting minors' facilities have their own infirmary on site (or nearby), but they rarely have a full-time nurse on site.¹¹⁵

However, in SeyMNAz, there are three nurses, who work from 9.00 to 22.00. The infirmary is located outside of the facility to ensure confidentiality and medical privacy.

The health care team follows the minors on a daily basis and each minor has an information sheet where, every week, the health care team writes in their needs (including specific psychological needs), allergies and follow-up.

The health care team also conducts information sessions about drugs, alcohol and sexual education.¹¹⁶

Regarding psychological care, follow-up, the hosting sites usually work with an external psychologist. The *Office medico-pédagogique* and the cantonal hospital's *Unité Santé Jeunesse* can put individual therapy in place.¹¹⁷

In the Canton of Valais, each UAM has a doctor's appointment upon arrival and follow-up care is ensured by the medical team where the minor resides. The medical team sets up doctor's appointment and makes sure the medical information is up to date.

Regarding psychological care, appointments for minors usually are made with the *Pedopsychiatry Service* at Sierre hospital or with independent psychiatrists who have experience with migrants.

¹⁰⁹ As defined under Article 12 of the Swiss Civil Code, RS 101 (cited: "CC").

¹¹⁰ PLEX, p 39.

¹¹¹ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point II.1.5.

¹¹² SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point I.2.1.2.

¹¹³ SEM, Manuel relatif à l'hébergement et l'encadrement des requérants d'asile mineurs non accompagnés (RMNA) dans les centres fédéraux pour requérants d'asile (CFA), 2nd ed. (1 November 2022), point I.2.1.2.

¹¹⁴ FOJ, Foyer Le SeyMNAz – Concept pédagogique, Geneva (2020), <https://www.foj.ch/foyer/foyer-seymnaz>.

¹¹⁵ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Geneva (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

¹¹⁶ FOJ, Foyer Le SeyMNAz – Concept pédagogique, Geneva (2020), <https://www.foj.ch/foyer/foyer-seymnaz>.

¹¹⁷ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Geneva (2021) <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

Group therapy also typically is available in structures that host UAMs.¹¹⁸

In Zurich, the infrastructures hosting the minors usually have their own medical team coming on site. Upon arrival, each minor has/her a medical check-up done by the medical team. If needed, the minors are referred to specialists outside the facility.

For psychological support, minors are referred to the Psychosozialen Dienstes, Schulpsychologischem Dienst, Kinder- und Jugendpsychiatrie und Psychotherapie or to external psychologists.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁸ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Valais (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

¹¹⁹ SERVICE SOCIAL INTERNATIONAL - SUISSE, Prise en charge des mineurs non accompagnés (MNA), Zurich (2021), <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/cartographie-cantonale-des-structures-de-prise-en-charge-pour-mna/137>.

E. Resources

1. Accommodation

a) Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

- State Secretariat for Migration
Telephone: +41 58 465 11 11
Website: <https://www.sem.admin.ch>
Website for FACs: <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/fr/home/asyl/asylverfahren/asylregionen-baz.html>
Address: Quellenweg 6, 3003 Bern-Wabern
Notes: Questions about asylum applications must be sent by postal mail and include the applicants first and last names, date of birth and "N" number
- Office cantonal de la population et des migrations (OCPM) - Service protection asile et retour
Telephone: +41 22 546 49 02
Website: <https://www.ge.ch/organisation/ocpm-service-protection-asile-retour>
Address: Route de Chancy 90, 1213 Onex (GE)
Notes: Immigration authorities (Canton of Geneva)
- Service de la population (SPOP) - Division étrangers
Telephone: +41 21 316 49 49
Website: <https://www.vd.ch/population/population-etrangere/asile/contacter-la-division-asile-et-retour>
Address: Avenue de Beaulieu 19, 1014 Lausanne (VD)
Notes: Immigration authorities (Canton of Vaud)
- Swiss Refugee Council
Telephone: +41 31 370 75 75
Email: info@osar.ch
Website: <https://www.refugeecouncil.ch>
Address: Weyermannsstrasse 10, 3001 Bern
- AsyLex
Email: info@asylex.ch
Website: <https://www.asylex.ch>
- Centre social protestant - Geneva
Telephone: +41 22 807 07 00
Website: <https://csp.ch/geneve>
Address: Rue du Village-Suisse 14, 1205 Geneva
Notes: Social assistance (Canton of Geneva); drop in hours for refugee assistance are Tuesdays, from 14.30 to 17.00
- Foyer Blue Sky
Telephone: +41 22 309 56 47
Website: <https://www.foj.ch/foyer/blue-sky>
Email: blue-sky@foj.ch
Address: Chemin de Gilly 40, 1212 Grand-Lancy (GE)
Notes: Housing (Canton of Geneva)
- MNA-Zentrum Lilienberg
Telephone: +41 79 159 75 98
Website: <https://aoz.ch/de/fuer-fachpersonen/betreuung-und-unterbringung/betreuung-minderjaehrige-und-junge-erwachsene>
Address: Mühlebergstrasse 100, 8910 Affoltern am Albis
Notes: Housing (Canton of Zurich)

- MNA-Aussenstelle Aubruggweg
Telephone: +41 44 752 08 27
Website: <https://aoz.ch/de/fuer-fachpersonen/betreuung-und-unterbringung/betreuung-minderjaehrige-und-junge-erwachsene>
Address: Aubruggweg 16, 8050 Zurich
Notes: Housing (Canton of Zurich)
- MNA-Wohngruppe Oerlikon
Telephone: +41 79 305 90 15
Website: <https://aoz.ch/de/fuer-fachpersonen/betreuung-und-unterbringung/betreuung-minderjaehrige-und-junge-erwachsene>
Address: Affolternstrasse 145, 8050 Zurich
Notes: Housing (Canton of Zurich)
- MNA-Wohngruppe Obstgarten
Telephone: +41 79 624 91 01
Website: <https://aoz.ch/de/fuer-fachpersonen/betreuung-und-unterbringung/betreuung-minderjaehrige-und-junge-erwachsene>
Address: Obstgartensteig 2, 8006 Zurich
Notes: Housing (Canton of Zurich)
- MNA-Wohngruppe Albisrieden
Telephone: +41 79 506 00 20
Website: <https://aoz.ch/de/fuer-fachpersonen/betreuung-und-unterbringung/betreuung-minderjaehrige-und-junge-erwachsene>
Address: Birmensdorferstrasse 660, 8055 Zurich
Notes: Housing (Canton of Zurich)

b) Unaccompanied minors

- Office cantonal de la population et des migrations (OCPM) - Service étrangers
Telephone: +41 22 546 47 95
Website: <https://www.ge.ch/organisation/ocpm-service-etrangers>
Address: Route de Chancy 88, 1213 Onex (GE)
Notes: Immigration authorities (Canton of Geneva)
- Service de la population (SPOP) - Division étrangers
Telephone: +41 21 316 46 46
Website: <https://www.vd.ch/population/population-etrangere/entree-et-sejour/contacter-la-division-etrangers>
Address: Avenue de Beaulieu 19, 1014 Lausanne (VD)
Notes: Immigration authorities (Canton of Vaud)
- Foyer SeyMNAz
Telephone: +41 22 309 58 02
Website: <https://www.foj.ch/foyer/foyer-seymnaz>
Email: seymnaz@foj.ch
Address: Chemin Désiré 4, 1203 Geneva
Notes: Housing (Canton of Geneva)
- Le Passage (Salvation Army)
Telephone: +41 22 338 23 90
Website: <https://armedusalut.ch/offre/le-passage-hebergement-durgence>
Address: Rue du Valais 10, 1202 Geneva
Notes: Housing (Canton of Geneva)

2. Education

a) Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

As a general rule, unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are integrated into the ordinary school attached to the relevant asylum centre, and no separate educational structure is specifically provided for them.

- ACCESS II (Service de l'accueil de l'enseignement secondaire II)
Telephone : +41 22 388 12 60
Website: <https://edu.ge.ch/secondaire2/service-de-laccueil-de-lenseignement-secondaire-ii/acces-ii-accueil>
Email : contact-access@etat.ge.ch

b) Unaccompanied minors

- Association Paidos
Telephone: +41 22 734 08 00
Website: <https://paidos.org>
Address: Rue de la Servette 20, 1201 Geneva

3. Administrative (all UAMs)

- Service de protection des mineurs (SPMi)
Telephone: +41 22 546 10 00
Website: <https://www.ge.ch/organisation/service-protection-mineurs>
Address: Route des Jeunes 1^E, 1227 Les Acacias (GE)
Notes: Child protection authorities (Canton of Geneva)
- Service des curatelles et tutelles professionnelles (SCTP)
Telephone: +41 021 316 66 66
Website: <https://www.vd.ch/djes/sctp>
Address: Chemin de Mornex 32, 1014 Lausanne (VD)
Notes: Legal representatives (Canton of Vaud)

4. Medical

a) Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

- Programme Santé asile et réfugiés (USAR) (Hôpitaux universitaires de Genève)
Telephone: +41 22 372 33 33
Website: <https://www.hug.ch/consultation/sante-asile-refugies-usar>
Address: Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil 4, 1211 Geneva

b) Unaccompanied minors

- Unité de médecine et soins dans la communauté (UMSCOM) (Hôpitaux universitaires de Genève)
Telephone: +41 22 372 53 11
Website: <https://www.hug.ch/consultation/soins-communautaires-umscm>
Address: Rue Hugo-de-Senger 4, 1205 Geneva

5. Other

a) Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

- Association Elisa-asile
Telephone: +41 22 733 37 57
Email: info@elisa.ch
Website: <https://www.elisa.ch>
Address: Chemin de Poussy 1 (Bâtiment A), 1214 Vernier (GE)
Notes: Legal assistance (Canton of Geneva)

b) Unaccompanied minors

- Centre social protestant – Berne-Jura
Telephone: +41 32 493 32 21
Website: <https://csp.ch/berne-jura/>
Address: Rue Centrale 59, 2740 Moutier
Notes: Legal assistance (Cantons of Bern and Jura)
- Centre social protestant - Geneva
Telephone: +41 22 807 07 00
Website: <https://csp.ch/geneve>
Address: Rue du Village-Suisse 14, 1205 Geneva
Notes: Legal assistance (Canton of Geneva)
- Centre social protestant - Neuchâtel
Telephone: +41 32 886 91 00
Website: <https://csp.ch/neuchatel/services/questions-de-migration>
Address: Rue des Parcs 11, 2000 Neuchâtel
Notes: Legal assistance (Canton of Neuchâtel)
- Centre social protestant - Vaud
Telephone: +41 21 560 60 60
Website: <https://csp.ch/vald/services/questions-de-migration>
Email: info@csp-va.ch
Address: Rue Beau-Séjour 28, 1003 Lausanne (VD)
Notes: Legal assistance (Canton of Vaud)
- Établissement vaudois d'accueil des migrants
Telephone: +41 21 503 50 00 or +41 79 263 88 54
Website: <https://www.evam.ch>
Email: info@evam.ch
Address: Route de Chavannes 33, 1007 Lausanne (VD)
Notes: General assistance (Canton of Vaud)
- Service social international Suisse (GE)
Telephone: +41 22 731 67 00
Website: <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/mineurs-non-accompagnes/330>
- Service social international Suisse (ZH)
Telephone: +41 44 366 44 77
Website: <https://www.ssi-suisse.org/fr/mineurs-non-accompagnes/330>

Annex D

Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (France)

A. Welcome & Accommodation

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

It should be noted that in France, no distinction is made between an unaccompanied minor seeking asylum and an unaccompanied minor (UAM). Before reaching the age of 18, unaccompanied minors may apply for asylum, which will be granted if they meet the conditions for asylum.

This is governed by Articles 711-1 et seq of the Code on the Entry and Stay of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum.

a) Arrival

Upon arrival on French territory, in order to receive care from the child welfare services for the Department¹, unaccompanied minors must undergo an assessment by the Department to determine their age and whether they are isolated. This is a decentralised state body, administered by a General Council. The Department finances child welfare services for the placement of minors.

In principle, before any assessment, a request is made to the State for information relating to the identification of the young person, along with any pre-existing decisions or assessments in other Departments.

Unaccompanied minors are registered in the AEM (*aide à l'évaluation de la minorité* - assistance with assessing minority status) file. As per the Decree of 30 January 2019, Departments have the option to request that prefectures receive foreigners claiming to be minors check whether the individual already appears in one of the databases managed by the Ministry of the Interior. Such a check can provide information on the identity and migration history of the person concerned. This Decree authorises the creation of a national file listing foreign nationals claiming to be minors, whose minority status is under assessment (the **AEM file**), in order to more easily identify those who have submitted applications in multiple Departments.

Appendix 1: list of the addresses and contact details for child welfare services by Department.

b) Temporary emergency reception

The Decree of 24 June 2016 provides that: "The president of the departmental council of the place where a person claiming to be a minor and temporarily or permanently deprived of the protection of his or her family is located **shall set up temporary emergency accommodation for a period of five days**, starting from the first day of his or her care, in accordance with the conditions set out in the second and fourth paragraphs of Article L. 223-2."

This Decree of 24 June 2016 was amended by Decree 2023-1240 of 25 December 2023, which stipulates that "[t]he duration of the temporary emergency accommodation provided for in I of Article L. 221-2-4 (of the Social Action and Families Code) shall be five days from the first day of care for the

¹ In France, the Department is responsible for assessing and taking in minors. There are 101 Departments in France (see Appendix 3).

person claiming to be a minor and temporarily or permanently deprived of the protection of their family". **The accommodation may be extended twice, each time for the same length of time.** The president of the Department council shall immediately inform the public prosecutor of this reception and any extensions thereof (Art R221-11 of the Social Action and Families Code).

For the purposes of assessment, unaccompanied minors must be placed in temporary accommodation **for up to five days**, and this accommodation may be extended twice, each time for the same length of time.

This temporary reception is financed by the State on the basis of a lump-sum amount of €250 per young person, per day, allowing costs generated by the reception of unaccompanied foreign minors shared between State and local authorities.

c) Interview

During the period of temporary emergency accommodation, the Departmental services, or their delegates, conduct an interview in a language understood by the person concerned. These interviews must be conducted by professionals with training or experience that gives them knowledge of:

- migration routes and the geopolitical considerations of the countries of origin;
- child psychology.

This interview focuses on the young person's family situation, the reasons for their departure, the conditions of their journey, their current situation and their plans, which constitute the body of evidence. After the interview concludes:

- either, the young person is considered a minor and the public prosecutor issues a temporary placement order, which is confirmed by a juvenile court judge, and the minor is to be taken into care without delay by the child welfare services for the Department; or
- the interviewers express doubts about the minority and/or isolation of the person being assessed. The person is notified a decision to refuse care, which includes a report with the interviewers' opinion. They also are informed of the rights granted to adults in terms of accommodation, emergency assistance, medical assistance, asylum applications and residence permits, which also is included in the report.

In addition, the applicant is informed of the possibility of appealing the decision before a juvenile court judge and of legal aid services that can assist them in filing an appeal. The lawyers act on behalf of the court and the individual is not charged for their services.

During the period between the Department's refusal to take charge and the date of the hearing before the juvenile court judge, which can last several months, no automatic shelter is provided. However, some cities, such as Paris, may offer the shelter. Moreover, through a partnership between the City of Paris and the AURORE association, the latter can assist young people with education. The FTDA association offers accommodation to the most vulnerable children.

In other Departments, associations have been set up to help individuals during this period, such as by providing tents and meals.

In Paris, the following associations are very active:

- Association UTOPIA 56: <https://utopia56.org/>
- LES MIDIS DU MIE Association: <https://www.lesmidisdumie.fr/>

Appendix 2: non exhaustive list of associations working to support unaccompanied minors.

d) Placement

When the interview concludes that the person is a UAM, they are placed in a collective structure (e.g. hostel, shared apartment, semi-autonomous living situations for older children) or with a foster family. In effect, the general legal provisions related to child protection also apply to UAM. Such structures report directly to the child welfare services for the Department. The child is placed under the responsibility of the President of the Child Welfare Service for the Department (**ASE**).

In Paris, the ASE is located at: SEMNA 10/12 Cour Saint-Eloi – 75012 Paris.

In France, there is a system for distributing foreign UAM between Departments, in order to "*limit as much as possible the disparities between departments in terms of the influx of young people*". This distribution is based on a distribution key, corresponding to the proportion of the population under the age of 19 in each Department (i.e. the number of young people up to and including the age of 18). The minor is not necessarily placed in the Department in which they underwent the minority assessment.

Furthermore, it should be noted that, for voluntary minors, agreements may be entered into between the Departmental Council Website where we can find the contact details the council of each Department:

- <https://lannuaire.service-public.fr/navigation/cg>

Finally, hotel accommodation, which, until recently was common, has been banned by the Child Protection Act of 7 February 2022; the implementing decree of which was published on 16 February 2024:

- <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000045133771>; and
- <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000049156376>.

B. Educational infrastructure

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

France does not differentiate between UAMs and other children.

When a minor is placed with the Child Welfare Service, they enter the school system. In France, school is compulsory until the age of 16. This means that minors under the age of 16 must attend school.

UAMs take level tests, called CIO – CASENAV, to assess newly arrived non-native French speakers.

UAMs can join a class called UP2A, which is a reception class for learning French and catching up.

C. Administrative Infrastructures

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

In France, the Department is responsible for assessing and taking charge of unaccompanied minors.

Each Department delegates this responsibility to an association, to evaluate the UAMs. In principle, one association per department.

The assessment centers are:

- **PARIS**
Accueil MNA de Paris-France Terre d'asile
Address: 127 rue de Tolbiac, 75013 Paris
Telephone: (+33) 01 88 40 68 42
Open from Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
This service receives individuals who present themselves as minors deprived of family protection and request care under child protection.
It provides shelter for five days and an assessment of minority status.
- **SEINE-SAINT-DENIS**
PEMIE-Red Cross
Address: 1-15 Rue Benoit Frachon, 93000 Bobigny.
Telephone: 01 82 46 81 00
Open Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed on Thursday afternoons)

Support unit for UAMs recognised as minors (CAMNA)
Address: 2 rue Pablo Picasso, 93000 Bobigny.
Open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 5.30pm (closed on Thursday mornings)
- **VAL DE MARNE**
Assessment and shelter service France Terre d'Asile
Address: 6, rue Albert Einstein, 94000 Créteil
Telephone: 01 42 07 09 02
Open from Monday to Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- **YVELINES**
Departmental Council
Address: 2 Place André Mignot, 78012 Versailles
Telephone: 01 39 07 78 78
- **ESSONE**
Department Council: MAMIE centre (mission to assist unaccompanied foreign minors)
Address: Boulevard de France, 92012 Evry
Telephone: 01 60 91 91 91
- **NORD**
E-M-A
Address: 17 rue Thumesnil, 59 000 Lille
Telephone: 09 72 45 05 26
- **RHÔNE**
Reception and support service for UAMs (**SAMIE**)
Address: 10, rue Louis Blanc 69, 200 Vénissieux
Telephone: (+33) 04 78 94 99 52

Rhône Departmental Council - Departmental Office
Address: 29-31 cours de la liberté, 69483 Lyon
Telephone: (+33) 08 00 86 98 69
- **BOUCHES-DU-RHÔNES**
Reception and support service for UAMs (**ADDAP 13**)
Address: 14 quai Rive Neuve, 13007 Marseille
Telephone: 04 91 33 60 83

- CHARENTE-MARITIME
Departmental Council 85
Address: Boulevard de la République, 17076 La Rochelle
Telephone: 05 46 31 70 00
- CÔTE D'OR
Departmental Council
Address: 53 bis rue de la Préfecture, 21035 Dijon
Telephone: 03 80 63 66 00
- HAUTE-GARONNE
Departmental Council
Address: 1, boulevard de la Marquette, 31090 Toulouse
Telephone: 05 34 38 32 21
- GIRONDE
Evaluations CDEF 463
Address: avenue d'Eysines, 33110 Le Bouscat

Departmental Council
Address: 1 esplanade Charles de Gaulle, 33074 Bordeaux
Telephone: 05 56 99 33 33
- ILE ET VILAINE
Departmental Council
Address: 1 Avenue de la Préfecture, 35042 Rennes

MIE Mission
Telephone: 02 90 02 91 01
- INDRE-ET-LOIRE
Departmental Council
Address: Place de la Préfecture, 37927 Tours
Telephone: 02 47 31 47 31
- ISÈRE
ADATE
Address: 5 Place Sainte Claire, 38000 Grenoble
Telephone: 04 76 44 46 52
- LOIRE ATLANTIQUE
Assessment service for minority and isolated newly arrived foreign young people (**AEMINA**)
Address: 17 Boulevard des Martyrs Nantais, 44000 Nantes
Telephone: 02 51 82 28 66
- BAS-RHIN
Departmental Council
Address: Place du Quarier Blanc, 67964 Strasbourg
Telephone: 03 88 76 67 67
- SEINE-MARITIME
Departmental Council
Address: Quai Jean Moulin, 76001 Rouen
Telephone: 02 35 03 55 55

Appendix 3: List of French departments

D. Medical facilities

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

When an unaccompanied minor is placed with the Child Welfare Services, they are covered by the universal health coverage (**CMU**) for isolated EU minors.

UAM are entitled to medical care and follow-up under the French public health system.

The Child Welfare Service is solely responsible for submitting applications for social security affiliation (associations cannot therefore help minors in their efforts to obtain health insurance).

Minors are entitled to the full range of French medical services: treatment, hospitalisation and psychiatric care.

When a UAM is not placed with Child Welfare Services, they may be eligible for State Medical Assistance (**AME**). More information is available on the following website:

- <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/download/pdf/circ?id=12928>

Appendix 4: CERFA form 11573*09

Before applying for to access their healthcare-related rights, or while waiting them for them to become effective, UAMS can go to PASS (health access centres). These structures, whose role is defined under Article L.6112-6 of the Public Health Code, are located in, or near, hospitals in most major cities. Young people have free access to healthcare there; the professionals who receive them also are responsible for liaising with public or organisations providing voluntary social assistance. The list of PASS centres in Île-de-France region is available on the Agency's website, which can be consulted online on the following website:

- https://www.iledefrance.ars.sante.fr/permanences-dacces-aux-soins-de-sante-pass-hospitalieres-et-equipes-mobiles-psychiatrie-precarite?utm_source=chatgpt.com

In cases of absolute necessity, the Fund Emergency and Vital Care (F FSUV) can be used to finance emergency care provided by a public hospital for individuals who do not benefit from AME. Healthcare professionals (doctors, along with hospital social workers) are responsible for taking the necessary steps to secure this. The circular of 16 March 2005 explicitly provides for this:

- <https://affairesjuridiques.aphp.fr/textes/circulaire-dhosdssdgas-n-2005-141-du-16-mars-2005-relative-to-the-coverage-of-emergency-care-provided-to-foreigners-residing-in-France-illegally-and-who-are-not-beneficiaries-of-l/>

Urgent care is, "[o]nly urgent care that, if not provided, is covered would be life-threatening or could lead to a serious and lasting deterioration in the health of the person or unborn child. Care intended to prevent the spread of a disease to those around the patient or to the community (such as infectious diseases such as tuberculosis or AIDS) must also be considered urgent".

All costs relating to care provided in a healthcare facility, either as part of hospitalisation or as outpatient care, are covered by the State. Beneficiaries also are exempt from paying upfront costs.

Services provided under this "*emergency care*" procedure are billed to the primary health insurance fund, where the facilities are located. The directors of the establishments are responsible for informing the relevant Departments.

E. Appendices

- Appendix 1: List of child welfare services by department
- Appendix 2: Non exhaustive list of associations working to support unaccompanied minors
- Appendix 3: List of French departments
- Appendix 4: CERFA form 11573*09 for AME

Appendix 1

	Département	Mail	Tél	Adresse postale	Autres liens utiles
1	Ain	crip@ain.fr	04 74 32 32 80	DGA Solidarité- Domaine enfance- adoption 13, avenue de la Victoire BP 50415 01012 Bourg-en-Bresse Cedex	
2	Aisne	informationspreoccupantes@aisne.fr	03 23 24 63 69	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L' AISNE Direction de la Prévention et de l'Action Sociale Service d'aide à l'Enfance et à la Famille 28, rue Fernand Christ 02011 LAON cedex	
3	Allier	crip03@allier.fr	04 70 34 40 63	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L' ALLIER Aide Sociale à l'Enfance et à la Famille 1, avenue Victor Hugo BP 1669 03016 MOULINS cedex	
4	Alpes-de-Haute- Provence	crip04@le04.fr	04 92 30 07 07	Conseil départemental des Alpes de Haute- Provence Pôle Solidarités Service de l'Aide Sociale à l'Enfance Place des récollets 04000 Digne-les-Bains	http://www.mondepartement04.fr/fileadmin/mediatheque/cg04/document/03-pour-moi/CRIP.pdf
5	Hautes-Alpes	celluledepartementale@hautes-alpes.fr	04 92 40 39 21	Conseil départemental des Hautes-Alpes Hôtel du Département Place Saint Arnoux - CS 66005 05008 GAP Cedex	

6	Alpes-Maritimes	protectiondelenfance@departement06.fr	08 05 40 06 06	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES ALPES MARITIMES Service de l'Aide Sociale à l'Enfance Antenne Départementale de Recueil, d'Évaluation et de Traitement des Informations Préoccupantes (A.D.R.E.T) B.P 3007 06201 NICE Cedex 3	
7	Ardèche	crip07@ardeche.fr	04 75 66 78 47	Direction enfance santé famille (Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes) Pôle Astier-Froment BP 737 07007 Privas	
8	Ardennes	crip08@cd08.fr	0 810 08 9000	Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes 13 place Winston Churchill 08000 Charleville-Mézières	https://www.cd08.fr/solidarite/enfance-et-parentalite/signaler-un-enfant-en-danger
9	Ariège	cellule09enfance@ariego.fr	0 800 09 10 19	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'ARIEGE Service Enfance Prévention Hôtel du Département 5-7, rue du Cap de la Ville – BP 23 09001 FOIX cedex	

10	Aube	crip10@aube.fr	03 25 42 48 57	DIDAMS - Direction Enfance Famille - Dr Sylvie PLIQUE Cité des Vassaulles - CS 50770 10026 TROYES CEDEX	http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUK_EwjZqd_drdDaAhWCwxQKHZHPBc8QFggnMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.aube.fr%2Finclude%2FviewFile.php%3Fidtf%3D6038%26path%3D41%252F6038_1480521970_PRESENTATION-CRIP-10.pdf&usg=AOvVaw1nPchGzNFVE1HY3ZS_Tm9r
11	Aude	cip11@aude.fr	04 68 11 66 42 ou 43	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'AUDE Pôle des Solidarités Direction Adjointe Enfance Famille ASE - Cellule Informations Préoccupantes Allée Raymond Courrière 11855 CARCASSONNE cedex 9	
12	Aveyron	uped@aveyron.fr	05 65 73 68 66 05 65 73 68 46	Conseil départemental de l'Aveyron Unité de Protection de l'Enfance en Danger 4 rue de Paraire CS 23109 12031 Rodez Cedex 9	

13	Bouches-du-Rhône	crip13@cg13.fr	04 13 31 93 11 0 800 13 13 00	DEPARTEMENT DES BOUCHES DU RHONE Direction Enfance Famille CRIP13 4 Quai d'Arenc - CS 70095 13304 MARSEILLE cedex 02	
14	Calvados	crip@calvados.fr	02 31 57 16 93	Service Aide sociale à l'enfance 17, avenue Pierre Mendes-France - 14035 Caen CEDEX 1 02 31 57 16 41	
15	Cantal	crip@cantal.fr	04 71 46 48 93	CRIP - SIPEIJ Conseil Général du Cantal 28, avenue Gambetta 15015 AURILLAC Cédex	http://www.cantal.fr/fichier/s/voscotes/1397551541_Plaquette-CRIP.pdf
16	Charente	crip16@lacharente.fr	05 16 09 76 20 05 16 09 67 85	Conseil départemental de la Charente Direction de la jeunesse et de la protection de l'enfance Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes 31 boulevard Émile Roux CS 60000 16917 Angoulême Cedex 9	http://www.udaf16.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/CRIP_cd16.pdf
17	Charente-Maritime	crip17@charente-maritime.fr	05 46 31 70 00	Département de la Charente-Maritime Direction de l'enfance et de la famille - CRIP 85 boulevard de la République CS 60003 17076 La Rochelle Cedex 9 - France	
18	Cher	crip18@departement18.fr	02 48 25 25 76 02 48 27 80 65	Conseil départemental du Cher Direction enfance, santé, famille Rue Heurtault de Lamerville – BP 612 18016 Bourges cedex	http://www.departement18.fr/ProcEDURE-pour-signaler

19	Corrèze	poc19@correze.fr	05 55 93 73 35	Conseil départemental de la Corrèze Hôtel du département Marbot Bâtiment B - Service ASE 9 rue René et Emile Fage 19005 Tulle Cedex	
2a	Corse-du-Sud	crip.2a@corsedusud.fr	0800-000-119	Cellule de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes BP 414, 20183 Ajaccio Cedex	
2b	Haute-Corse	crip2b@haute-corse.fr	04 95 54 34 74 04 95 55 06 34	Direction de l'Enfance Cellule de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes (CRIP2B) Hôtel du Département Rond-point du Maréchal Leclerc 20405 BASTIA CEDEX 9	
21	Côte-d'Or	enfanceendanger@cotedor.fr	0800-101-119	1, rue Joseph Tissot 21 035 Dijon	
22	Côtes d'Armor	crip22@cg22.fr	0-810-11-22-11	CELLULE DE RECUEIL DES INFORMATIONS PRÉOCCUPANTES BP2372 22023 Saint-Brieuc cedex 01	https://www.parents-toujours.info/IMG/pdf/CRIP.pdf
23	Creuse	crip@creuse.fr	05 44 30 24 61 05 44 30 24 60	Pôle Jeunesse et Solidarités 13 rue Joseph Ducouret 23000 Guéret	
24	Dordogne	cg24.cdip@dordogne.fr	05 53 02 27 89	C.D.I.P. Cité administrative bugaud 24 016 PERIGUEUX Cedex	
25	Doubs	sdrip25@doubs.fr	03 81 258 119	Service départemental de recueil des informations préoccupantes 18 rue de la Préfecture 25000 Besançon	

26	Drôme	dromesolidarités@ladrome.fr	04 75 79 70 78 0 810 01 26 26	CRIP Drôme Direction enfance famille santé 13 avenue Maurice Faure 26000 Valence	<a href="http://www.ladrome.fr/sites/default/files/guidesignaleme
ntbd_def.pdf">http://www.ladrome.fr/sites/ default/files/guidesignaleme ntbd_def.pdf
27	Eure	crip-27@csg27.fr	02 32 31 94 32	Hôtel du Département Boulevard Georges Chauvin CS 72101 27021 Evreux Cedex	
28	Eure-et-Loir	crip@eurelien.fr	02 37 20 13 20	19 place des Epars 28026 Chartres	
29	Finistère	/	02 98 76 63 36	32 boulevard Dupleix 29196 Quimper cedex	<a href="https://www.finistere.fr/var/f
inistere/storage/original/appl
ication/8839c3c8d6c488f301
5d8a2552e76741.pdf">https://www.finistere.fr/var/f inistere/storage/original/appl ication/8839c3c8d6c488f301 5d8a2552e76741.pdf
30	Gard	alerte.enfance@gard.fr	0-810-800-030	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU GARD Direction de la Petite Enfance, de l' Enfance et de la Famille "Alerte enfance Gard" 10, rue Villeperdrix - BP 7129 30913 NIMES cedex	
31	Haute-Garonne	def-serv-enfance-en-danger@cd31.fr	0-800-31-08-08	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA HAUTE GARONNE Service de l'enfance en Traitement de l'information préoccupante 1, bd de la Marquette 31090 TOULOUSE cedex 9	
32	Gers	crip@gers.fr	05 62 67 42 22	Hôtel du Département du Gers 81 route de Pessan BP 20569 32022 Auch Cedex 9	

33	Gironde	crip33@gironde.fr	05 56 99 33 33	Direction de la protection de l'Enfance et de la Famille - Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes de Gironde 1 Esplanade Charles de Gaulle 33074 Bordeaux Cedex	
34	Hérault	soded34@herault.fr	04 67 67 65 62	Conseil départemental de l'Hérault Pôle des solidarités Direction Enfance et Famille / SODED Hôtel du Département 1000, rue d'Alco 34087 MONTPELLIER cedex 4	http://www.herault.fr/enfance-famille/contact/service-observatoire-departemental-enfance-danger-soded
35	Ille-et-Vilaine	crip35@ille-et-villaine.fr	02 99 02 38 02	CRIP 35 1 avenue de la Préfecture, CS 24218, 35042 Rennes Cedex	http://www.ille-et-vilaine.fr/en/article/enfant-en-danger-comment-alerter
36	Indre	saubel@indre.fr	02 54 08 38 94	Département de l'Indre Direction de la Prévention et du Développement Social (D.P.D.S.) Service d'action sociale et de développement local (SASDL) 4 rue Eugène Rolland - BP 601 36020 Châteauroux cedex	
37	Indre-et-Loire	crip37@departement-touraine.fr	02 47 31 43 30	Monsieur le Président du Conseil départemental d'Indre-et-Loire CRIP 37 Place de la Préfecture 37927 TOURS CEDEX 9	

38	Isère	crip38@isere.fr	04 76 00 32 63	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'ISERE Direction des Solidarités Service Protection Maternelle et Infantile et Parentalités Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes 7 rue Fantin Latour CS 41096 38022 GRENOBLE cedex 1 CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'ISERE Direction de l'Insertion et de la famille Service de l'Accompagnement de l'enfant et de sa famille Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes B.P. 1096 17-19, rue Commandant l'Herminier 38022 GRENOBLE cedex 1	
39	Jura	jep39@jura.fr	0 800 11 90 39	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU JURA Direction Générale des Services Direction des Solidarités et de la Santé Départementale Service Enfance Famille Pôle "Jura Enfance à Protéger" 355, boulevard Jules Ferry 39015 LONS LE SAUNIER	

40	Landes	charlene.ricous@landes.fr	05 58 05 40 73	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES LANDES Aide Sociale à l'Enfance 23, rue Victor Hugo 40025 MONT DE MARSAN cedex	
41	Loir-et-Cher	crip41@cg41.fr	02 54 56 06 96	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU LOIR ET CHER DADTP Cellule de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes 34, avenue Maunoury - Porte D 41020 BLOIS cedex	
42	Loire	cdpp42@loire.fr	04 77 29 27 52	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA LOIRE Cellule Départementale de Protection des Personnes 31 rue de la République – B. P. 159 42403 SAINT CHAMOND CEDEX	
43	Haute-Loire	cased@hauteloire.fr	0 810 043 119	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA HAUTE LOIRE Cellule d'Aide et de Soutien pour l'Enfance et l'Adolescence (CASED) Hôtel du Département 1, place Monseigneur de Galard- CS 20310 43009 LE PUY EN VELAY cedex	
44	Loire-Atlantique	crip44@loire-atlantique.fr	02 51 17 21 88	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LOIRE ATLANTIQUE Direction générale adjointe de la Solidarité Veille Enfance en Danger 44 3, quai Ceineray - BP. 94109 44041 NANTES cedex 1	

45	Loiret	crip45@loiret.fr	02 38 25 46 06	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU LOIRET Direction de l'Enfance et de la Famille « Ecoute enfance en Danger » 3, rue Chateaubriand – BP 6417 La Source 45064 ORLEANS cedex 2	
46	Lot	cellule.utile@lot.fr	05 65 53 44 72	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU LOT Service Protection de l'Enfance Avenue de l'Europe Regourd – BP 291 46005 CAHORS cedex	
47	Lot-et-Garonne	cded47@lotetgaronne.fr	05 53 69 40 74	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LOT ET GARONNE DGADS-DEF-CRIP 26 Rue Louis Vivent 47000 AGEN	
48	Lozère	medo@lozere.fr	04 66 49 42 10	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LOZERE Direction de la Solidarité Départementale Service Enfance Famille Mission Enfance en Danger et Observatoire (MEDO) Rue de la Rovère - BP 24 48001 MENDE cedex	
49	Maine-et-Loire	crip49@maine-et-loire.fr	02 41 81 45 40	Département de Maine et Loire DGADSS Service Enfance en danger CS94104 49941 ANGERS Cedex 9	

50	Manche	crip@manche.fr	02 33 05 55 50	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA MANCHE Maison des solidarités de La Manche Mission enfance - CRIP 50050 SAINT LÔ Cedex	
51	Marne	crip@marne.fr	03 26 69 52 42	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA MARNE Service Social et de la Prévention Cellule départementale des Informations préoccupantes 2 bis, rue de Jessaint - CS 30454 51038 CHALONS EN CHAMPAGNE	
52	Haute-Marne	urtip52@haute-marne.fr	03 25 32 87 51	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA HAUTE MARNE Direction de la Solidarité Départementale Service Enfance Jeunesse Unite de recueil et de traitement des informations préoccupantes 1 rue du Cdt Hugueny – BP 509 52011 CHAUMONT cedex	
53	Mayenne	crip@lamayenne.fr	02 43 59 57 84	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA MAYENNE Direction de la Solidarité Enfance Famille Insertion Cellule de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes 2, bis boulevard Murat - CS 3888 53030 LAVAL cédex	

54	Meurthe-et-Moselle	cemma@departement54.fr	0 810 27 69 12	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE MEURTHE ET MOSELLE Direction Enfance Famille Cellule pour la protection de l'enfance en Meurthe et Moselle Accueil (CEMMA) Esplanade J. Baudot CO 90019 54035 NANCY cédex	
55	Meuse	crip55@meuse.fr	03 29 77 37 08	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA MEUSE Service de l'Enfance et de la Famille 3, rue François de Guise – BP 504 55012 BAR LE DUC cedex	
56	Morbihan	infos.preoccupantes@morbihan.fr	02 97 54 57 73	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU MORBIHAN DGISS - CRIP 56 Direction Adjointe Protection de l'Enfance 32 bd de la résistance 56000 VANNES	
57	Moselle	cdip57@moselle.fr	0 800 05 67 89	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA MOSELLE Direction de l'Enfance, de la Famille et de l'Insertion Cellule Départementale de recueil, de traitement et d'Evaluation des Informations Préoccupantes (CDIP) 28-30 Avenue André Malraux 57046 METZ cedex 1	

58	Nièvre	secretariat-famille-enfance@nievre.fr	03 86 60 69 00 03 86 60 58 80	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA NIEVRE Service Famille Enfance Hôtel du Département 62, rue de la Préfecture 58039 NEVERS cedex	
59	Nord	infopreoccupante@lenord.fr	03 59 73 80 16	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU NORD Direction Générale Adjointe chargée de l'Action Sociale Direction de l'Enfance et de la Famille Pôle développement, Mission Enfance Hôtel du Département - 51 rue Gustave Delory 59047 LILLE cedex	
60	Oise	crip@oise.fr	03 44 06 60 20	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'OISE Pôle Solidarité Direction enfance et Familles Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes 1 rue Cambry - CS 80941 60024 BEAUVAIS Cedex	
61	Orne	crip@orne.fr	02 33 81 63 06	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'ORNE Service ASE Hôtel du Département 13, rue Marchand Saillant 61016 ALENCON cedex	

62	Pas-de-Calais	informationspreoccupantes@pasdecalais.fr	03 21 21 89 89	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU PAS DE CALAIS Direction de l'Enfance et de la Famille Service Départemental de la Prévention et de la Protection de l'Enfance Bureau de Coordination du Signalement et de l'Enfance en Danger Hôtel des Services du Département 62018 ARRAS cedex 9	
63	Puy-de-Dôme	crip63@puy-de-dome.fr	04 73 42 20 50	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU PUY DE DOME Direction Enfance et Famille Service de l'Aide Sociale à l'Enfance Cellule de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes (CRIP) Hôtel du département - 24, rue Saint-Esprit 63033 CLERMONT FERRAND cedex 1	
64	Pyrénées-Atlantiques	cded@le64.fr	05 59 11 42 45	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES PYRENEES ATLANTIQUES Cellule départementale de l'enfance en danger (C.D.E.D) Enfance-Famille-Santé publique Hôtel du Département - 64, avenue Jean Biray 64058 PAU cedex 9	
65	Hautes-Pyrénées	crips65@ha-py.fr	08 00 11 90 65	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES HAUTES PYRENEES CRIP65 5Rue Gaston Treyt 65000 TARBES	

66	Pyrénées-Orientales	crip66@cd66.fr	04 68 85 87 45	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES PYRENEES ORIENTALES Direction Générale des Solidarités Direction Enfance Famille – Pôle Enfance en Danger/Adultes Vulnérables CRIP 2, rue Joseph Sauvy - BP 90142 66001 PERPIGNAN Cedex	
67	Bas-Rhin	balpap.specrip@bas-rhin.fr	03 69 06 70 70	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU BAS RHIN Service de Protection de l'Enfance - CRIP Hôtel du Département Place du Quartier Blanc 67964 STRASBOURG cedex 9	
68	Haut-Rhin	crip5@haut-rhin.fr	03 89 30 66 66	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU HAUT RHIN Direction de la Solidarité Service ASE / CRIPS 68 100, avenue d'Alsace - BP 20351 68006 COLMAR cedex	
69	Rhône	enfance-endanger@grandlyon.fr (communes limitrophes de Lyon) enfance-endanger@rhone.fr	04 72 61 72 62 04 26 83 84 63	Métropole de Lyon Direction Protection de l'Enfance Service Informations Préoccupantes et Intérêt de l'Enfant 20 rue du Lac CS 33569 69505 LYON CEDEX 03	

70	Haute-Saône	crip@haute-saône.fr	03 84 95 72 74	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE HAUTE SAONE Direction de la Solidarité et de la Santé Publique Service ASEF - CRIP 70 Place du 11ème Chasseurs – BP 90347 70006 VESOUL cedex	
71	Saône-et-Loire	cellule@cg71.fr	03 85 400 600	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE SAONE ET LOIRE DGAS - Direction de l'enfance et des Familles Service Coordination et Développement de la Prévention Espace Duhesme - 18, rue Flacé 71026 MACON cedex 9	
72	Sarthe	contact.enfanceendanger@sarthe.fr	02 43 54 72 11	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA SARTHE Aide Sociale à l'Enfance Cellule de recueil, de traitement et d'évaluation des informations préoccupantes 2, rue des Maillets 72072 LE MANS cedex 9	
73	Savoie	crip73@cg73.fr	04 79 60 29 25	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE SAVOIE Délégation départementale enfance jeunesse famille Place François Mitterrand BP 1804 73018 CHAMBERY cedex	

74	Haute-Savoie	celluleenfanceendanger@hautesavoie.fr	04 50 33 20 33	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE HAUTE SAVOIE Direction de la Protection de l'Enfance Antenne de liaison Enfance en Danger Cellule Enfance en danger 74 26, avenue de Chevène - BP 22200 74023 ANNECY cedex	
75	Paris	crip75@paris.fr	01 53 46 86 81	DÉPARTEMENT DE PARIS Direction de l'Action Sociale, de l'Enfance et de la Santé Bureau de l'aide Sociale à l'Enfance Cellule de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes 4bis/6 Boulevard Diderot 75012 PARIS	
76	Seine-Maritime	cdpe76@seinemaritime.fr	02 35 03 51 15	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE SEINE MARITIME Direction ASE / PMI Cellule Enfance en Danger Quai Jean Moulin - BP 3049 76041 Rouen CEDEX 1	
77	Seine-et-Marne	crip77@departement77.fr	01 64 14 77 38	DÉPARTEMENT DE SEINE ET MARNE Direction Générale Adjointe des Solidarités (DGAS) Direction Principale Enfance Adolescence Famille (DPEAF) Mission Développement de la Prévention Globale (MDPG) dont CRIP CS 50377 77010 MELUN cedex	

78	Yvelines	ccip@yvelines.fr	01 39 07 74 30	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES YVELINES Cellule Centralisée des Infos Préoccupantes Hôtel du Département 2, place André Mignot 78012 VERSAILLES Cedex	
79	Deux-Sèvres	crip@cg79.fr	01 39 07 74 30	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES DEUX SEVRES Direction Enfance Famille - Service Aide Sociale à l'Enfance Bureau Informations Préoccupantes et Signalements (BIPS) 74 Rue Alsace Lorraine - BP 531 79021 NIORT cedex	
80	Somme	espace.droitsenfant@somme.fr	03 22 97 22 97	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA SOMME Direction Enfance et Famille Espace des Droits de l'Enfant Centre Administratif Départemental Boulevard du port – BP 32615 80026 AMIENS cedex 1	
81	Tarn	enfance-danger-ds@tarn.fr	05 37 89 62 23	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU TARN Direction de la Solidarité Direction Enfance Famille Service ASE – Cellule Enfance en Danger 81013 ALBI cedex 9	

82	Tarn-et-Garonne	cdpe@ledepartement82.fr	0 800 00 82 82	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU TARN ET GARONNE La Cellule Départementale de la Protection de l'Enfance Direction de la Solidarité départementale 7 allées de Mortarieu 82000 MONTAUBAN	
83	Var	crip83@var.fr	0 800 10 10 83	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU VAR Direction de l'Enfance / S.I.P Service Informations Préoccupantes 132 Avenue Lazarre Carnot 83000 TOULON	
84	Vaucluse	aled@vaucluse.fr	0 800 084 001	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU VAUCLUSE Antenne de Liaison Enfance en Danger A.L.E.D. 6, boulevard Limbert BP 958 84092 AVIGNON cedex 09	
85	Vendée	crip85@vendee.fr	02 28 85 88 85	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA VENDÉE Service ASE 40, rue Foch 85923 LA ROCHE SUR YON cedex 9	
86	Vienne	signalement-enfance@departement86.fr	05 49 45 93 61	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA VIENNE DGAS - Aide Sociale à l'Enfance Cellule de Recueil d'Informations Préoccupantes 39, rue de Beaulieu 86034 POITIERS cedex	

87	Haute-Vienne	contact.cellule-protectionenfance@haute-vienne.fr	05 44 00 11 84	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA HAUTE VIENNE Pôle solidarité enfance Direction Prévention protection de l'enfance Cellule départementale des informations préoccupantes 11 rue François Chénieux - CS 83112 87031 LIMOGES CEDEX 1	
88	Vosges	crip88@vosges.fr	03 29 38 52 39	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES VOSGES Pôle Développement de la Solidarité Cellule Départementale de Recueil des Informations Préoccupantes 2, rue Grennevo 88026 EPINAL cedex	
89	Yonne	crip89@yonne.fr	03 86 72 84 60	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'YONNE Sous-Direction « Enfance et Famille » CRIP 1, rue de l'Etang Saint Vigile 89089 AUXERRE cedex	
90	Territoire de Belfort	antenneprotectionenfance@territoiredebelfort.fr	03 84 90 95 38	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU TERRITOIRE DE BELFORT Pôle Protection de l'Enfance Hôtel du Département Place de la Révolution Française 90020 BELFORT cedex	

91	Essonne	crip@cd-essonne.fr	01 60 91 31 08	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'ESSONNE Direction de la Prévention et de la protection de l'Enfance Cellule de recueil des informations préoccupantes Tour Malte - Boulevard de France 91012 EVRY cedex	
92	Hauts-de-Seine	crip92@hautsde-seine.fr	0 800 00 92 92	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DES HAUTS DE SEINE Pôle Solidarités - CRIP 92 Direction Famille Enfance Jeunesse Hôtel du Département 2/16 boulevard Soufflot 92015 NANTERRE cedex	
93	Seine-Saint-Denis	crip@seinesaintdenis.fr	0 800 00 093	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE SEINE SAINT DENIS Direction de l'Enfance et de la Famille CRIP 93 Service de l'Aide Sociale à l'Enfance 93006 BOBIGNY cedex	
94	Val-de-Marne	dpej-crip@valdemarne.fr	0 811 900 200	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU VAL DE MARNE Cellule départementale de l'urgence, des signalements et de l'observatoire Immeuble des Solidarités 7/9, voie Félix Eboué 94009 CRETEIL cedex	

95	Val-d'Oise	cdip95@valdoise.fr	01 34 25 76 62	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DU VAL D'OISE Direction de l'Enfance / CDIP 2 avenue du Parc CS 20201 Cergy 95032 CERGY PONTOISE Cedex	
97 1	Guadeloupe	sseped@cg971.fr	05 90 21 58 93 ou 98	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE GUADELOUPE Direction Enfance Famille et Jeunesse Service du Signalement de l'Ecoute & de la Prévention de l'Enfance en Danger- (SSEPED) 1, rue Duplessis 97110 POINTE A PITRE GUADELOUPE	
97 2	Martinique	/	05 96 55 25 75	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE MARTINIQUE Centre Administratif Départemental Cellule de Recueil de l'Information Préoccupante Boulevard Chevalier Sainte Marthe 97264 FORT DE France	
97 3	Guyanne	cip@cg973.fr	05 94 39 04 00	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE GUYANNE Aide Sociale à l'Enfance 36, rue du 14 Juillet 97300 CAYENNE GUYANNE	

97 4	La Réunion	crip.dfe@cg974.fr	0 800 22 55 55 02 62 90 33 95	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE LA REUNION Direction Famille Enfance - SAEAO CRIP 974 2, rue de la Source 97488 SAINT DENIS cedex LA REUNION	
97 5	Mayotte	bass.maltraitance@cg976.fr	02 69 64 37 77	CONSEIL DEPARTEMENTAL DE MAYOTTE CELLULE BASS MALTRAITANCE - CRIP 97600 MAMOUDZOU	

Appendix 2

List of associations

- Adjaam,
<https://aadjam.org/>
- AADH,
<https://aadh.fr/>
- ADMIE,
<http://www.admie.fr/>
- ALTERALIA
<https://www.alteralia.com/>
- Apprentis d'Auteuil,
<https://www.apprentis-auteuil.org/>
- Cimade,
<https://www.lacimade.org/>
- Comede,
<https://www.comede.org/>
- Droit à l'école,
<https://droitalecole.org/>
- ECPAT France,
<https://ecpat-france.fr/>
- EMMAUS SOLIDARITE
<https://www.emmaus-solidarite.org/>
- Fasti,
<https://www.fasti.org/>
- Fondation Abbé Pierre,
<https://www.fondation-abbe-pierre.fr/>
- Gisti,
<https://www.gisti.org/spip.php?page=sommaire>
- InfoMIE,
<https://www.infomie.net/>
- Ligue des Droits de l'Homme,
<https://www.ldh-france.org/>
- Les midis du MIE
<https://www.lesmidisdumie.fr/>
- Médecins du Monde,
<https://www.medecinsdumonde.org/>
- Médecins Sans Frontières,
<https://www.msf.fr/>

- Secours Catholique Caritas France,
<https://www.secours-catholique.org/>
- UNICEF France,
<https://www.unicef.fr/>
- Utopia 56
<https://utopia56.org/>

Appendix 3

Régions & Départements
2025 français

Listes, Cartes
& Informations officielles



Les Départements français en 2025

Liste - Carte - Informations

Liste Départements • Listes Excel & PDF • Carte Départements •
Caractéristiques • Départements disparus

Consultez la liste officielle des **101 départements français** : **96** départements situés en France métropolitaine (dont 2 en Corse) et **5** départements d'Outre-mer (DOM).

Les départements métropolitains sont numérotés de **01** à **95** (les deux départements Corse, 2A et 2B, remplaçant le département n°20) et les départements d'Outre-mer de **971** à **976**.

LISTE des départements ⇅

CARTE des départements ⇅

Pour **télécharger la liste complète des départements** au format tableau **Excel, LibreOffice Calc** ou **PDF**, rendez-vous dans notre section "Téléchargements" en cliquant sur le bouton ci-dessous ⇅

Téléchargements ⇅



Numéro ◇	Nom ◇			(km²) ◇
01	Ain	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Bourg-en-Bresse	5 762,4
02	Aisne	Hauts-de-France	Laon	7 361,7
03	Allier	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Moulins	7 340,1
04	Alpes-de-Haute-Provence	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Digne-les-Bains	6 925,2
05	Hautes-Alpes	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Gap	5 548,7
06	Alpes-Maritimes	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Nice	4 298,6
07	Ardèche	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Privas	5 528,6
08	Ardennes	Grand Est	Charleville-Mézières	5 229,4
09	Ariège	Occitanie	Foix	4 889,9
10	Aube	Grand Est	Troyes	6 004,2
11	Aude	Occitanie	Carcassonne	6 139
12	Aveyron	Occitanie	Rodez	8 735,1
13	Bouches-du-Rhône	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Marseille	5 087,5
14	Calvados	Normandie	Caen	5 534,5
15	Cantal	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Aurillac	5 726
16	Charente	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Angoulême	5 956
17	Charente-Maritime	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	La Rochelle	6 863,8
18	Cher	Centre-Val de Loire	Bourges	7 235
19	Corrèze	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Tulle	5 856,8
2A	Corse-du-Sud	Corse	Ajaccio	4 014,2
2B	Haute-Corse	Corse	Bastia	4 665,6
		✓ Bourgogne-		

23	Creuse	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Guéret	5 565,4
24	Dordogne	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Périgueux	9 060
25	Doubs	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Besançon	5 232,6
26	Drôme	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Valence	6 530
27	Eure	Normandie	Évreux	6 039,9
28	Eure-et-Loir	Centre-Val de Loire	Chartres	5 880
29	Finistère	Bretagne	Quimper	6 733
30	Gard	Occitanie	Nîmes	5 852,8
31	Haute-Garonne	Occitanie	Toulouse	6 309,3
32	Gers	Occitanie	Auch	6 256,8
33	Gironde	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Bordeaux	9 975,6
34	Hérault	Occitanie	Montpellier	6 101
35	Ille-et-Vilaine	Bretagne	Rennes	6 774,7
36	Indre	Centre-Val de Loire	Châteauroux	6 790,6
37	Indre-et-Loire	Centre-Val de Loire	Tours	6 126,7
38	Isère	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Grenoble	7 431,5
39	Jura	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Lons-le-Saunier	4 999,2
40	Landes	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Mont-de-Marsan	9 242,6
41	Loir-et-Cher	Centre-Val de Loire	Blois	6 343,4
42	Loire	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Saint-Étienne	4 780,6
43	Haute-Loire	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Le Puy-en-Velay	4 977,1
44	Loire-Atlantique	Pays de la Loire	Nantes	6 874,4
45	Loiret	Centre-Val de Loire	Orléans	6 775,2

48	Lozère	Occitanie	Mende	5 166,9
49	Maine-et-Loire	Pays de la Loire	Angers	7 106,6
50	Manche	Normandie	Saint-Lô	5 951,5
51	Marne	Grand Est	Châlons-en-Champagne	8 169,1
52	Haute-Marne	Grand Est	Chaumont	6 210,6
53	Mayenne	Pays de la Loire	Laval	5 175,2
54	Meurthe-et-Moselle	Grand Est	Nancy	5 245,9
55	Meuse	Grand Est	Bar-le-Duc	6 211,4
56	Morbihan	Bretagne	Vannes	6 822,6
57	Moselle	Grand Est	Metz	6 216,3
58	Nièvre	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Nevers	6 816,7
59	Nord	Hauts-de-France	Lille	5 742,8
60	Oise	Hauts-de-France	Beauvais	5 860,2
61	Orne	Normandie	Alençon	6 103,4
62	Pas-de-Calais	Hauts-de-France	Arras	6 671,4
63	Puy-de-Dôme	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Clermont-Ferrand	7 969,7
64	Pyrénées-Atlantiques	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Pau	7 644,8
65	Hautes-Pyrénées	Occitanie	Tarbes	4 464
66	Pyrénées-Orientales	Occitanie	Perpignan	4 116
67	Bas-Rhin	Grand Est	Strasbourg	4 755
68	Haut-Rhin	Grand Est	Colmar	3 525,2
69	Rhône	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Lyon	3 249,1
70	Haute-Saône	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Vesoul	5 360,1
71	Saône-et-Loire	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Mâcon	8 574,7
		✓ Pays de la		

74	Haute-Savoie	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Annecy	4 387,8
75	Paris	Ile-de-France	Paris	105,4
76	Seine-Maritime	Normandie	Rouen	6 277,6
77	Seine-et-Marne	Ile-de-France	Melun	5 915,3
78	Yvelines	Ile-de-France	Versailles	2 284,4
79	Deux-Sèvres	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Niort	5 999,4
80	Somme	Hauts-de-France	Amiens	6 170,1
81	Tarn	Occitanie	Albi	5 757,9
82	Tarn-et-Garonne	Occitanie	Montauban	3 718,3
83	Var	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Toulon	5 972,5
84	Vaucluse	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Avignon	3 567,3
85	Vendée	Pays de la Loire	La Roche-sur-Yon	6 719,6
86	Vienne	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Poitiers	6 990,4
87	Haute-Vienne	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Limoges	5 520,1
88	Vosges	Grand Est	Épinal	5 873,8
89	Yonne	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Auxerre	7 427,4
90	Territoire de Belfort	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	Belfort	609,4
91	Essonne	Ile-de-France	Évry-Courcouronnes	1 804,4
92	Hauts-de-Seine	Ile-de-France	Nanterre	175,6
93	Seine-Saint-Denis	Ile-de-France	Bobigny	236,2
94	Val-de-Marne	Ile-de-France	Créteil	245
95	Val-d'Oise	Ile-de-France	Pontoise	1 245,9

973	Guyane	Guyane	Cayenne	83 533,9
974	La Réunion	La Réunion	Saint-Denis	2 503,7
976	Mayotte	Mayotte	Dzaoudzi	376

Où est le département 20 ?

On remarquera dans cette liste qu'il n'y a pas de département 20.

Le fait que le numéro 20 ne soit pas attribué à un département français s'explique par le fait qu'en 1976, la Corse, alors département unique portant le n°20, est divisée en 2 départements.

Mais il n'est pas possible de leur attribuer les numéros 20 et 21 sans décaler ensuite toute la numérotation des départements, il est donc choisi les codes **2A pour la Corse-du-Sud** (préfecture Ajaccio) et au **2B pour la Haute-Corse** (préfecture Bastia) en remplacement du département n°20.

Téléchargements ↓

Département Numéro	Département Nom	Région	Chef-lieu	Villes Principales	Superficie (km²)	Population (2022)	Densité (hab./km²)
01	Als	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Bourgen-Bresse	Bourgen-Bresse, Nantua, Châtillon-sur-Loire	5 762,4	657 806	114,2
02	Seine	Hauts-de-France	Laon	Laon, Guignes, Compiègne	7 361,7	529 374	71,9
03	Als	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Moulins	Moulins, Montluçon, Vichy	7 340,1	339 628	46,7
04	Alpes-de-Haute-Provence	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Digne-les-Bains	Digne-les-Bains, Forcalquier, Sisteron	6 925,2	165 451	23,9
05	Hautes-Alpes	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Gap	Gap, Briançon, Embray	5 545,7	145 605	26,3
06	Alpes-Maritimes	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Nice	Nice, Monaco, Menton	4 396,6	1 997 410	255,3
07	Ardeche	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Privas	Privas, Tournon-sur-Rhône, Charleville-Mézières	5 525,5	329 325	59,6
08	Ardenne	Grand Est	Charleville-Mézières	Charleville-Mézières, Reims, Vervins	5 228,4	296 701	51,6
09	Ardèche	Occitanie	Figeac	Figeac, Rodez, Millau	4 889,9	153 954	31,5
10	Aube	Grand Est	Troyes	Troyes, Nogent-sur-Seine, Nogent-sur-Vernoy	6 954,2	311 405	51,9
11	Aube	Occitanie	Carcassonne	Carcassonne, Narbonne, Limoux	6 139,0	379 217	61,1
12	Aveyron	Occitanie	Rodez	Rodez, Millau, Villefranche-de-Rouergue	6 705,1	279 904	42,0
13	Bouches-du-Rhône	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Marseille	Marseille, Aix-en-Provence, Istres	5 967,5	2 540 070	426,6
14	Calvados	Normandie	Caen	Caen, Bayeux, Lisieux	5 514,5	467 547	125,7
15	Cantal	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	Aurillac	Aurillac, Riom, Clermont-Ferrand	5 728,0	144 379	25,2
16	Charente	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	Angoulême	Angoulême, Cognac, Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port	5 958,0	351 718	59,1

Téléchargez gratuitement la liste des départements français aux formats *Microsoft Excel*, *LibreOffice Calc* ou *PDF* ci-dessous :

Format **Excel** (.xls)

Format **LibreOffice** (.ods)

Format **PDF** (.pdf)

Le fichier inclut de multiples informations sur les départements : chef-lieu, villes, superficie, population, densité, région...

Carte de France Plastifiée - 91x61cm



Une carte de France d'excellente qualité, indiquant les nouvelles régions, départements, territoire & villes.
À afficher pour apprendre la géographie sans s'en rendre compte !

Prix & infos »

Poster France éducatif effaçable



Un poster grand format (43x69cm) avec une partie effaçable pour s'entraîner et mémoriser la géographie de la France.
Idéal pour l'apprentissage des enfants...et des adultes !

Prix & infos »

Puzzle France magnétique Bois - 36x36 cm





Un puzzle en bois pour reconstituer la France à partir de ses départements et régions.

Pour apprendre et faire apprendre en s'amusant !

[Prix & infos »](#)

Carte des Départements français • 2025

Carte des départements de la France



Carte des départements français

Cartes des départements à télécharger

Carte des départements (noms + numéros) à imprimer

DÉPARTEMENTS FRANÇAIS



Pour afficher ou consulter comme référence, vous pouvez **télécharger gratuitement** une carte de France des **départements (noms & numéros)** aux formats **.PDF** et **.JPG**.

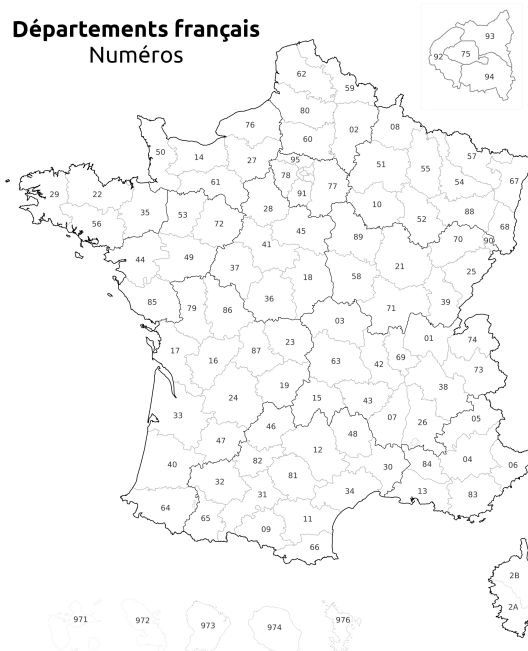
Fichiers imprimables directement sur une **feuille A4**.

Téléchargez carte des DÉPARTEMENTS au format **.PDF** »

Téléchargez carte des DÉPARTEMENTS au format **.JPG** »

...

Carte des départements (numéros) à imprimer



Pour vérifier vos connaissances sur les départements français, vous pouvez **télécharger gratuitement** une carte de France **renseignant uniquement les numéros des départements** aux formats **.PDF** et **.JPG**.

Fichiers imprimables directement sur une **feuille A4**.

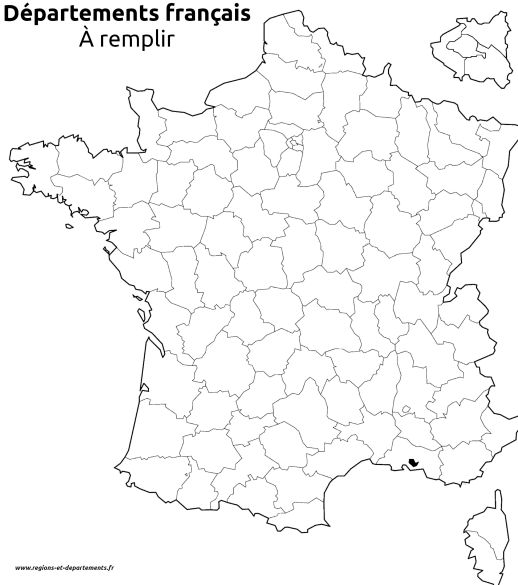
Téléchargez carte NUMÉROS départements au format **.PDF** »

Téléchargez carte NUMÉROS départements au format **.JPG** »

Fond de carte vierge des départements (contours) à imprimer

▼

Départements français À remplir



Pour vérifier vos connaissances sur les départements français, vous pouvez **télécharger gratuitement** un fond de carte de France des départements **vierge à remplir** aux formats **.PDF** et **.JPG**.

Fichiers imprimables directement sur une **feuille A4**.

Téléchargez fond de carte DÉPARTEMENTS au format **.PDF** »

Téléchargez fond de carte DÉPARTEMENTS au format **.JPG** »

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Caractéristiques des départements français

Département

Le département est une circonscription administrative de l'État, créé lors de la Révolution française (décret du 22 décembre 1789). C'est une collectivité locale autonome placée sous l'autorité d'un préfet et administrée par un Conseil général élu au suffrage universel pour 6

d'outremer constitue une région à lui seul.

...

Histoire des départements français - Dates clés

- **22 décembre 1789** : création des départements français durant la Révolution française après des demandes formulées dans les cahiers de doléances. Ce sont les députés de l'Assemblée Nationale Constituante qui décident de créer les départements qui remplaceront **les provinces** de l'Ancien Régime.
- **26 février 1790** : le nombre et les limites des départements sont déterminés, principalement en fonction des contraintes géographiques et hydrographiques du territoire français. Les départements sont alors au nombre de 83.
- **1810** : le nombre de départements est alors de 130, suite aux annexions territoriales de la Révolution et les conquêtes de Napoléon. Ce sera le nombre maximum de départements que comptera la France.
- **1848** : l'Algérie est annexée à la France et 3 départements sont ainsi créés (Département d'Alger, Département d'Oran, Département de Constantine). Le département de Bône sera ajouté en **1955**. Ces départements algériens existeront jusqu'en **1962**, date de l'indépendance de l'Algérie.
- **1946** : création des départements d'outremer (Guadeloupe, Guyane, Martinique et La Réunion).
- **1976** : Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon devient département d'outremer. Il sera ensuite transformé en "collectivité d'outremer" en 1985.
- **1976** : la Corse est découpée en 2 départements (Corse-du-Sud et Haute-Corse).
- **2007** : réorganisation des régions et départements décidée par le président Sarkozy dans le but de simplifier l'organisation de l'Etat et simplifier ses processus.
- **2011** : Mayotte devient un département d'outremer.
- **2016** : en conséquence de la révision générale des politiques publiques de 2007, le nombre de [régions françaises](#)

...

Superficie, Population et Densité des départements français

Superficie

- Le département français le plus grand est le département de la **Guyanne** (973) avec une superficie de 83 533,9 105 km² km²
- Le département français le plus petit est le département de **Paris** (75) avec une superficie de 105 km²

Population

- Le département français le plus peuplé est le département du **Nord** (59) avec 2 607 746 habitants
- Le département français le moins peuplé est le département de la **Lozère** (48) avec 76 633 habitants

Densité de population

- Le département français le plus densément peuplé est le département de **Paris** (75) avec 20359,6 habitants par km²
- Le département français le moins densément peuplé est le département de la **Guyane** (973) avec 3,4 habitants par km²

...

Président.e.s des Départements français • 2025

Le chef des services du département est le **président du conseil**

départementaux français en y accédant via le bouton ci-dessous :

Liste officielle des président.e.s de département »

Informations détaillées de chaque département

Pour en savoir plus sur un département en particulier, accédez à sa **page dédiée** en cliquant sur le bouton correspondant ci-dessous :

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

Ain (01)

Aisne (02)

Allier (03)

Alpes-de-Haute-Provence (04)

Hautes-Alpes (05)

Alpes-Maritimes (06)

Ardèche (07)

Ardennes (08)

Ariège (09)

Aube (10)

Aude (11)

Aveyron (12)

Bouches-du-Rhône (13)

Calvados (14)

Cantal (15)

Charente (16)

Charente-Maritime (17)

Cher (18)

Corrèze (19)

Côte-d'Or (21)

Côtes d'Armor (22)

Creuse (23)

Dordogne (24)

Doubs (25)

Drôme (26)

Eure (27)

Eure-et-Loir (28)

Finistère (29)

Gard (30)

Haute-Garonne (31)

Gers (32)

Gironde (33)

Hérault (34)

Ille-et-Vilaine (35)

Indre (36)

Indre-et-Loire (37)

Isère (38)

Jura (39)

Landes (40)

Loir-et-Cher (41)

Loire (42)

Haute-Loire (43)

Loire-Atlantique (44)

Loiret (45)

Lot (46)

Lot-et-Garonne (47)

Lozère (48)

Maine-et-Loire (49)

Manche (50)

Marne (51)

Haute-Marne (52)

Mayenne (53)

Meurthe-et-Moselle (54)

Meuse (55)

Pas-de-Calais (62)	Puy-de-Dôme (63)		
Pyrénées-Atlantiques (64)	Hautes-Pyrénées (65)		
Pyrénées-Orientales (66)	Bas-Rhin (67)		
Haut-Rhin (68)	Rhône (69)	Haute-Saône (70)	
Saône-et-Loire (71)	Sarthe (72)	Savoie (73)	
Haute-Savoie (74)	Paris (75)	Seine-Maritime (76)	
Seine-et-Marne (77)	Yvelines (78)	Deux-Sèvres (79)	
Somme (80)	Tarn (81)	Tarn-et-Garonne (82)	
Var (83)	Vaucluse (84)	Vendée (85)	Vienne (86)
Haute-Vienne (87)	Vosges (88)	Yonne (89)	
Territoire de Belfort (90)	Essonne (91)		
Hauts-de-Seine (92)	Seine-Saint-Denis (93)		
Val-de-Marne (94)	Val-d'Oise (95)		



Carte complète des Départements de France





Carte des Numéros des Départements français

Anciens départements français disparus

Au cours de l'Histoire, de multiples remaniements du découpage administratif de la France ont eu lieu. Au fil de ces modifications, certains départements ont disparu ou on été renommés. Accédez à la liste de ces anciens départements via le bouton ci-dessous :

[Anciens départements français disparus »](#)

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Si votre séjour en France n'est pas régulier, l'aide médicale de l'Etat peut prendre en charge vos dépenses de santé pour les soins dispensés en ville et dans un établissement de santé. Le droit à l'AME d'une durée de douze mois est conditionné, pour les personnes majeures, à une double condition de résidence en France (**3 mois minimum de séjour irrégulier**) et de ressources qui doivent être inférieures à un certain seuil. Si les conditions sont remplies, vous serez convoqué(e) pour la remise de votre carte d'admission à l'AME.

Le droit à l'AME est ouvert également pour les personnes qui se trouvent à votre charge : conjoint, partenaire d'un PACS, concubin, enfants mineurs, ou enfants jusqu'à l'âge de 21 ans s'ils poursuivent des études ou sont dans l'incapacité permanente de travailler, cohabitant(e) (personne non mentionnée précédemment qui se trouve à votre charge effective, totale et permanente depuis plus de douze mois, par exemple, un neveu de 25 ans).

Même si vous ne remplissez pas la condition de résidence en France ou de ressources, vous pouvez dès à présent faire la demande pour les personnes mineures à votre charge sans avoir à joindre de justificatif de résidence ou de ressources.

Comment déposer votre demande ?

Pour une première demande, vous ou une autre personne majeure de votre foyer, devez vous présenter physiquement à l'accueil de l'organisme d'assurance maladie de votre lieu de résidence pour y déposer votre dossier. En cas de prise en charge dans un établissement de santé ou une permanence d'accès aux soins de santé (PASS), votre dossier est transmis directement à votre organisme d'assurance maladie par l'établissement concerné (dans un délai de 8 jours).

Pour un renouvellement, vous pouvez envoyer directement votre dossier à votre organisme d'assurance maladie. Vous pouvez également le déposer auprès d'un centre communal ou intercommunal d'action sociale ou auprès des services sanitaires et sociaux de votre lieu de résidence, ou des associations ou organismes à but non lucratifs agréés à cet effet.

Peuvent déposer leur première demande, dans les mêmes conditions que pour une demande de renouvellement, les mineurs isolés, les personnes à mobilité réduite (sur présentation d'une attestation sur l'honneur de situation de handicap due à une diminution des capacités de déplacement), les personnes sous curatelle (tuteur doit présenter le jugement de tutelle/curatelle renforcé).

Le demandeur et les personnes à charge

Rubrique "Nom" :

indiquez votre nom de famille. Il s'agit du nom de naissance suivi du nom d'usage (facultatif et s'il y a lieu).

Rubrique "Si vous n'avez pas d'adresse personnelle ou si vous êtes hébergé(e)" :

joignez à la demande une attestation de domiciliation établie par un Centre Communal ou Intercommunal d'Action Sociale (CCAS ou CIAS) ou un organisme agréé, ou une attestation sur l'honneur, établie par la personne qui vous héberge.

Vous devez joindre la copie **de l'un des documents suivants qui prouve votre identité et celle des personnes qui sont à votre charge (conjoint(e), partenaire d'un PACS, concubin(e), enfants et cohabitant(e)) et vivent en France :**

- passeport (copie de toutes les pages y compris les vierges),
- carte nationale d'identité (copie recto/verso),
- titre de séjour antérieurement détenu,
- extrait d'acte de naissance ou livret de famille,
- tout autre document de nature à attester votre identité et celle des personnes à votre charge.

Pour le (la) cohabitant(e), vous devez joindre une déclaration sur l'honneur, signée par vous-même et cette personne, attestant qu'elle vit sous votre toit et qu'elle se trouve à votre charge effective, totale et permanente depuis plus de douze mois.

Votre résidence en France

Vous résidez en France, en situation irrégulière, depuis plus de trois mois (c'est-à-dire au-delà de la période de validité du visa, de la période de dispense de visa ou de la période de libre circulation pendant laquelle vous êtes en situation régulière) :

Joignez la copie **de l'un des documents ci-dessous :**

- passeport indiquant la date d'entrée en France (toutes les pages, même blanches),
- contrat de location ou quittance de loyer datant de plus de trois mois,
- facture d'électricité, de gaz, d'eau ou de téléphone datant de plus de trois mois,
- avis d'impôt ou avis de situation déclarative à l'impôt sur le revenu (ASDIR), à la taxe foncière ou d'habitation
- quittance de loyer ou facture d'électricité, de gaz, d'eau ou de téléphone, datant de plus de trois mois, établie au nom de l'hébergeant lorsque le demandeur est hébergé par une personne physique,
- attestation d'hébergement établie par un centre d'hébergement et de réinsertion sociale datant de plus de trois mois,
- attestation de domiciliation établie par un organisme agréé, datant de plus de trois mois, si vous n'avez pas de domicile,
- tout autre document de nature à prouver que cette condition est remplie.

Vos ressources et celles des personnes à votre charge et obligation alimentaire

Indiquez la **nature** et le **montant** de vos **ressources** et de **celles des personnes à votre charge, perçues en France et à l'étranger (imposables ou non)**, pendant les douze derniers mois (si vous avez plusieurs enfants, indiquez, dans la même colonne, le montant total de leurs ressources). Joignez les **documents relatifs à vos ressources** en votre possession.

Les **ressources des membres de votre famille** habitant en France, en situation régulière (**père, mère, conjoint, enfants**), ne sont pas prises en compte pour vous attribuer l'aide médicale de l'Etat. En revanche, après votre admission à l'aide médicale, le préfet est habilité à leur demander le remboursement des sommes versées à ce titre.

Un contrôle de vos déclarations peut être opéré auprès de l'administration fiscale ou d'autres organismes (art. L.114-12, L.114-14 et L.114-19 du Code de la Sécurité Sociale).

Vous souhaitez corriger une erreur ? Vous avez besoin d'aide ?

Vous avez la possibilité de **corriger les informations que vous avez déclarées dans ce formulaire en application du droit à l'erreur**. Pour ce faire, ou si vous désirez des informations complémentaires, vous pouvez prendre contact avec votre caisse d'assurance maladie : par téléphone au **3646** Service gratuit + prix appel ou consulter le site **www.ameli.fr**

**Vous bénéficiez
du droit à l'erreur**

Le demandeur

Nom
(nom de famille (de naissance) suivi du nom d'usage (facultatif et s'il y a lieu))

Prénom(s) Date de naissance

Nationalité : Européenne * ☐ Autre pays ☐

N° de Sécurité sociale ou d'AME (si vous en avez un)

N° d'allocataire (allocations familiales - si vous en avez un)

Adresse en France N° tél. portable

Code postal Commune

Si vous n'avez pas d'adresse personnelle ou si vous êtes hébergé(e) ► cochez la case ☐ et joignez les justificatifs mentionnés dans la notice

Avez-vous déjà bénéficié de l'AME ? non ☐ si oui ☐ année département :

• Si vous, ou l'une des personnes à votre charge, avez reçu des soins au cours des trois derniers mois ► cochez la case ☐

IMPORTANT : lorsque la demande a été déposée après le début d'une hospitalisation ou de soins, la décision d'admission à l'AME prend effet au jour d'entré dans l'établissement ou la date des soins. Pour cela, il est nécessaire que la demande ait été présentée dans un délai de 90 jours à compter du jour de sortie de l'établissement ou de la délivrance des soins. Les droits sont alors ouverts rétroactivement. Vous devez fournir les justificatifs des soins reçus à l'hôpital ou en ville en votre possession.

Votre résidence en France

• Vous résidez en France de façon stable depuis le (joignez les justificatifs mentionnés dans la notice)

Les personnes à votre charge résidant en France (conjoint(e), partenaire d'un PACS, concubin(e), enfants et cohabitant(e))

Nom	Prénom(s)	Lien de parenté	Date de naissance

Vos ressources et celles des personnes à votre charge

Indiquez les montants cumulés au cours des douze derniers mois et joignez les justificatifs mentionnés dans la notice

Nature des ressources	Vous	Votre conjoint(e), partenaire d'un PACS ou concubin(e)	Enfant(s)	Cohabitant(e)
► Ressources perçues à l'étranger	€	€	€	€
► Salaires	€	€	€	€
► Pensions, retraites et rentes	€	€	€	€
► Autres ressources (aides financières, sommes d'argent versées par un tiers, etc) Précisez la nature	€	€	€	€
► Avez-vous perçu des prestations versées par l'assurance maladie, la caisse d'allocation familiale, le Pôle Emploi ?	oui ☐ non ☐	oui ☐ non ☐		oui ☐ non ☐
► Etes-vous logé(e) à titre gratuit ? Si oui, depuis quelle date ?	oui ☐ non ☐	oui ☐ non ☐		oui ☐ non ☐
► Pensions alimentaires versées	€	€		€

Je, soussigné(e), certifie sur l'honneur avoir pris connaissance de l'ensemble des informations figurant sur le présent formulaire et que les renseignements portés sur cette déclaration sont exacts. En cas de déclaration incomplète ou erronée, la décision d'admission à l'aide médicale peut être retirée.

Vous devrez alors rembourser le montant des dépenses prises en charge par l'aide médicale de l'Etat (article L. 252-3 du Code de l'action sociale et des familles).

Quiconque se rend coupable de fraude ou de fausse déclaration est passible de pénalités financières, d'amende et/ou d'emprisonnement (articles 313-1 à 313-3, 433-19, 441-1 et suivants du Code pénal, art. L. 114-17-1 du Code de la sécurité sociale).

Fait à , le Signature du demandeur :

Ci-contre, cachet de l'organisme ainsi que les nom et coordonnées de la personne ayant aidé le demandeur à compléter le document

Conformément au Règlement européen n° 2016/679/UE du 27 avril 2016 et à la loi "informatique et libertés" du 6 janvier 1978 modifiée, vous disposez d'un droit d'accès et de rectification aux données du traitement VISABIO auprès du ministère de l'europe et des affaires étrangères (direction des Français à l'étranger et de l'administration consulaire) ou du ministère de l'intérieur (direction de l'immigration). En cas de difficultés dans l'application de ces droits, vous pouvez introduire une réclamation auprès de la Commission Nationale Informatique et Libertés.

* Allemagne, Autriche, Belgique, Bulgarie, Chypre, Croatie, Danemark, Espagne, Estonie, Finlande, France, Grèce, Hongrie, Irlande, Islande, Italie, Lettonie, Liechtenstein, Lituanie, Luxembourg, Malte, Norvège, Pays-Bas, Pologne, Portugal, République Tchèque, République de Slovaquie, Roumanie, Sloénie, Suède, Suisse.

Pour l'établissement de votre carte d'admission à l'AME, vous devez joindre, **IMPERATIVEMENT**, à cette demande, votre photo d'identité récente (format 3,5 x 4,5 cm) ainsi que celle de chacune des personnes à votre charge âgées de 16 ans et plus, mentionnée sur la demande d'AME.

Les photos, en couleur, sur fond blanc, doivent être prises de face, tête nue, être récentes et parfaitement ressemblantes.

NE PAS UTILISER D'AGRAFES NI D'ADHESIFS

► LE DEMANDEUR

• Nom

• Prénom(s)

• Date de naissance

COLLER
LA PHOTOGRAPHIE
ICI

• Nom

• Prénom(s)

• Date de naissance

COLLER
LA PHOTOGRAPHIE
ICI

• Nom

• Prénom(s)

• Date de naissance

COLLER
LA PHOTOGRAPHIE
ICI

• Nom

• Prénom(s)

• Date de naissance

COLLER
LA PHOTOGRAPHIE
ICI

Annex E

Protection and care systems for unaccompanied minors (Germany)

A. Welcome & Accommodation

1. Unaccompanied minors – asylum seekers

With regard to child protection and thus the accommodation of unaccompanied minors, there is no distinction between persons who officially apply for asylum and unaccompanied minors who do not apply for asylum.

The reformed Common European Asylum System (CEAS) significantly strengthens and specifies the Union-law minimum standards applicable to unaccompanied minors (UAMs) in asylum and reception contexts. Of central importance are Directive (EU) 2024/1346 on reception conditions and Regulation (EU) 2024/1348 establishing a common asylum procedure, which introduce binding rules on representation, accommodation, education and medical care.¹

Furthermore, the Asylum Procedure Regulation establishes that, as a rule, unaccompanied minors should not be subject to the asylum border procedure. Only exceptional circumstances, such as serious threats to public security, may justify a derogation, and the exclusion of minors is formulated as a general principle of the system.² This significantly reinforces the legal position that accelerated border-procedure frameworks are ordinarily incompatible with the special protection needs of unaccompanied minors.

2. Accommodation and sanitary facilities

According to Articles 3 and UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (**CRC**) (<https://www.kinderrechte.de/kinderrechte/un-kinderrechtskonvention-im-wortlaut>), children and young people have the right to be accommodated, cared for and looked after in accordance with their best interests. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child entered into force in 1989 and was ratified by Germany in 1992.

European Union law places particular emphasis on the immediate and effective representation of unaccompanied minors. EU Member States are required to ensure that from the moment an application for international protection is lodged, a suitable person is designated to provide provisional support and that a representative (guardian) is appointed no later than 15 working days thereafter.³ The Asylum Procedure Regulation mirrors this obligation and clarifies that representation must enable the minor to effectively exercise their rights and comply with their procedural obligations.⁴

The accommodation of unaccompanied refugee minors in Germany is regulated as follows:

- If a person under the age of 18 enters Germany unaccompanied by a legal guardian, one of the 556 youth welfare offices in Germany is initially authorised and obliged to take temporary custody of the foreign child. (§42 a SGB-VIII - https://dejure.org/gesetze/SGB_VIII/42a.html);

¹ Directive (EU) 2024/1346 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast), OJ L 2024/1346, 22.5.2024, ELI: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1346/oj>; Regulation (EU) 2024/1348 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 establishing a common procedure for international protection in the Union and repealing Directive 2013/32/EU, OJ L 2024/1348, 22.5.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1348/oj>.

² Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, Recital 62 and Art. 53(1) (general exclusion of unaccompanied minors from the border procedure).

³ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Art. 27(1)(a)–(b) (provisional support and appointment of a representative within 15 working days).

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, Art. 23(1)–(2) (representation and support of unaccompanied minors).

- Germany is a federal State. There are 16 federal states. Since 1 October 2015, the federal states have had a statutory obligation to take children into care. The benchmark for this is a interstate and nationwide distribution procedure that is based on the needs of the children and young people. (§42 b SGB VIII - https://dejure.org/gesetze/SGB_VIII/42b.html);
- The youth welfare office must inform the Regional Distribution Office (*Landesverteilstelle*) of the temporary custody within seven working days. The Regional Distribution Office must notify the Federal Office of Administration (*Bundesverwaltungsstelle* - https://www.bva.bund.de/SharedDocs/Aufgaben/DE/U/Unbegleitete_minderj%C3%A4hrige_Ausl%C3%A4nder_uma.html) within three working days of the distribution of the UMA or of the exclusion of the distribution. (§42 a par 4 SGB VIII).

Furthermore, Directive (EU) 2024/1346 introduces a clear hierarchy of accommodation for unaccompanied minors. As a rule, they must be accommodated: (a) with adult relatives; (b) failing that, in a foster family; (c) failing that, in a specialised facility for minors; or (d) in other child-appropriate accommodation.⁵ Unaccompanied minors 16 years of age or older may be housed in accommodation for adult applicants, but only when this is in their best interests.⁶ In addition, EU Member States must keep siblings together where possible and limit relocations to a minimum.⁷

The Youth Welfare Office must check:

- Is it in the best interest of the child or young person to participate in the distribution procedure?
- Is a person related to the child or young person located in Germany or abroad?
- Does the child's or young person's welfare require them to be taken into care together with siblings or other unaccompanied foreign children or young people?
- Does the child's or young person's state of health preclude participation in the distribution procedure (within 14 working days of the start of temporary custody)? If so, a medical opinion should be requested.

If it has been determined that the UAM is fit for placement, the Regional Distribution Office, after being informed by the Federal Office of Administration (*Bundesverwaltungsstelle*), transmits the number of UAMs to the regional distribution office of the receiving state. From there, the data are passed on to the new responsible youth welfare office. The regional state that is responsible is determined in advance by the Federal Office of Administration using the Königstein Key and communicated to the State Distribution Office.

The Federal Office of Administration (*Bundesverwaltungsstelle*) is responsible for the distribution procedure, in order to ensure the fairness of distribution between the federal states intended by the legislator:

- Federal Distribution Centre for UAMs
e-mail: UMA@bva.bund.de

Responsible regional offices:

- Baden-Württemberg UMA@kvjs.de
- Bayern Labea.um@reg-mfr.bayern.de
- Berlin UMA.Bund@senbjw.berlin.de
- Brandenburg UMF-Brandenburg@mbjs.brandenburg.de
- Bremen landeskoordination.uma@soziales.bremen.de
- Hamburg UMA-Landesstelle-HH@leb.hamburg.de
- Hessen zuweisung@rpda.hessen.de

⁵ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Art. 27(9)(a)–(d) (hierarchy of accommodation).

⁶ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Art. 27(9), second sentence (placement of minors aged 16+ in adult facilities only if in their best interests).

⁷ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Art. 27(9), third and fourth sentences (keeping siblings together; minimising transfers).

- Mecklenburg-Vorpommern umA@ksv-mv.de
- Niedersachsen landesverteilstelle@ls.niedersachsen.de
- Nordrhein-Westfalen landesstelle-nrw@lvr.de
- Rheinland-Pfalz uma@lsjv.rlp.de
- Saarland umf-zentralstelle-saarland@soziales.saarland.de
- Sachsen uma@lja.sms.sachsen.de
- Sachsen-Anhalt UMA@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de
- Schleswig-Holstein UMA-LandesstelleSH@sozmi.landsh.de
- Thüringen uma@tmbjs.thueringen.de

The pedagogical support of children and young people during temporary custody must be ensured in accordance with the standards of SGB VIII. Young people can be placed temporarily with a suitable person, in a suitable facility or in another form of accommodation on a case-by-case basis.

The necessary health care must also be ensured. As a rule, minors cannot be accommodated in shared accommodation, as close supervision by youth welfare services cannot be guaranteed in this type there, meaning that a risk to the child's welfare cannot be ruled out. Exceptions can be made in the case of accommodation with accompanying family members, provided that the protection of the child is ensured and educational support is provided.

General youth welfare law accommodation also can be used for accommodation and care (§35 SGB VIII), including:

- full inpatient youth welfare facilities;
- socio-pedagogically supervised residential groups;
- pedagogically accompanied accommodation in their own apartments (§34 SGB VIII); and
- host families, foster families and kinship care (§33 SGB VIII).

See Guidelines for dealing with unaccompanied refugee minors in North Rhine-Westphalia 2017:

- https://www.mkjfgfi.nrw/sites/default/files/documents/handreichung_2017.pdf

That said, in practice, the situation regarding the accommodation of unaccompanied refugee minors currently is different.

In its appeal dated 2 January 2023, the Child Protection Association reported that accommodation for unaccompanied minors is getting increasingly worse. Adequate care and support currently are no longer guaranteed in many places in Germany. This is mainly due to the increased number of minors coming to Germany without their parents, as well as the increased shortage of skilled workers in the social sector. Many local authorities are overwhelmed with the care and accommodation of young refugees. Some federal states already have responded to the massive shortage of facilities and staff by lowering their standards (<https://kinderschutzbund.de/kindeswohl-fuer-alle-kinder-und-jugendlichen-sichern-unterbringungssituation-von-unbegleiteten-minderjaehrigen-fluechtlingen-wird-immer-prekaerer-fachkraefte-und-unbegleiteten-minderjaehrigen-fluech/>).

B. Educational infrastructure

1. School

The right to education can be found in numerous regulations under international and European law, such as Article 13 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (**ICESCR**), Art. 26 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (**UDHR**), Article 22 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (**GRCh**), Article 2 1st Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights (**ECHR**), Article 14 EU Charter, Article 14 Directive 2013/33/EU and - Articles 28 and 29 CRC, which are of particular importance here.

As noted above, Germany has signed and ratified the CRC. Domestically, the consent of the federal legislator to an international treaty means that this treaty becomes part of the German legal system. The Convention on the Rights of the Child therefore has domestic validity. As the consent to an international treaty is given by way of a simple federal law, the treaty itself also has the status of a simple federal law.⁸ They therefore take precedence over state law and over subordinate legal norms (ordinances, statutes, decrees, guidelines, etc.).⁹ However, the Convention on the Rights of the Child - like all other international human rights treaties - is subordinate to the Basic Law in accordance with the domestic rules in Germany.¹⁰

In German constitutional law, the right to education is derived from Article 2 par 1 Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (**GG**) in conjunction with Article 3 par 3 Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (**GG**) – the prohibition of discrimination. A fundamental ban on segregation follows from the ban on discrimination and the child's right to participate in the state education system is derived from Article 2 par 1 Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (**GG**).¹¹ Under German constitutional law, it is recognised that every child has a right to non-discriminatory, equal access to the school education system and that every child must be given the same opportunity for personal development. It can be deduced from this that the exclusion of an unaccompanied minor living in Germany from educational institutions is not compatible with German constitutional law.

The German school system is complicated, because each federal state has its own laws; the federal level only serves a coordinating function. Moreover, within federal states, the exact framework for school access also can differ from one local authority to another. The federal states are responsible for school law, but at the same time, authorities below the level of the federal states have a great deal of influence when it comes to organising school access and the provision of schooling.

With regard to education, the new Reception Conditions Directive establishes a concrete standard. Minor applicants must enjoy access to education under the same conditions as nationals.¹² Access to the education system must be granted as soon as possible and no later than two months after the application for international protection is lodged, accounting for school holidays.¹³ Education generally should take place within the mainstream education system; alternative arrangements only are permitted temporarily, for a maximum of one month.¹⁴ The Reception Conditions Directive expressly allows for preparatory and language classes.¹⁵

With respect to the practice in Germany, these provisions provide a robust Union-law benchmark in cases where unaccompanied minors remain excluded from regular schooling for extended periods.

All of the following explanations do not distinguish between minor asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors regarding access to school education. However, it should be noted that unaccompanied minors, unlike accompanied minors, are generally not accommodated in initial reception facilities in Germany.

⁸ Article 59 par 3 Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (**Grundgesetz – GG**).

⁹ Article 31 Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (**GG**).

¹⁰ Wapler **FRIEDERIKE**/Nadja **AKARKACH**/Mariam **ZOROB**/Johannes **GUTENBERG**, Universität Mainz (2017b): Umsetzung und Anwendung der Kinderrechtskonvention in Deutschland, [online] <https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/120474/a/14378149aa3a881242c5b1a6a2aa941/2017-gutachten-umsetzung-kinderrechtskonvention-data.pdf>.

¹¹ BVerfG, Beschluss v 22. Juni 1977, BvR 799/76.

¹² Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 16 par 1 (equal access to education).

¹³ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 16 par 2, first and second sentences (access as soon as possible and within two months).

¹⁴ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 16 par 2, third and fourth sentences (mainstream education; alternative only temporarily, max one month).

¹⁵ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 16 par 2, fifth sentence (preparatory and language classes).

Unaccompanied minors are assigned differently depending on the federal state, local authority and type of school. The responsible authority usually decides which school and class to assign them to based on their age, German language skills and, if applicable, their previous school education. In addition to attending state schools, there are often opportunities for minors to attend language courses outside of schools. For example, residential facilities for unaccompanied refugee minors sometimes offer their own language courses.

School attendance is compulsory in Germany for all children, as from six of age, including unaccompanied minors. In the federal states of Bavaria¹⁶ and Thuringia,¹⁷ compulsory schooling begins three months after their arrival, in Baden-Württemberg¹⁸ only after six months. In the federal states of Brandenburg¹⁹, Hesse²⁰, Lower Saxony²¹, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania,²² North Rhine-Westphalia²³, Rhineland-Palatinate²⁴, Saxony²⁵ and Saxony-Anhalt,²⁶ school attendance is compulsory from the time of assignment to the municipality or from the time of regular placement in care. In Berlin,²⁷ school attendance is compulsory from the moment a tolerated status is granted or an application for asylum is submitted. In Bremen,²⁸ Hamburg,²⁹ Saarland³⁰ and Schleswig-Holstein,³¹ compulsory schooling applies from the time of entry.

According to the CRC, unaccompanied minors must be referred directly to the youth welfare office after their first contact with the authorities in Germany. However, this is not always the case, especially in federal states in which compulsory schooling only begins when the minor is assigned to the local authority or from the time of regular custody, as well as for those in which it begins after an application for asylum has been made or a tolerated stay has been granted. Around half of the federal states have set up so-called clearing houses where the minors are looked after and, among other things, it is determined why they have fled and whether there are any relatives in Germany or in other EU States. Only then does the clearing procedure begin. That said, the term “clearing” is not a legal term and is used inconsistently. In practice, it refers to a series of interviews and examinations that are intended to clarify the refugees' state of health, what legal representation they are entitled to and how they will be accommodated. Only then are the minors allocated to the districts where they are to attend school.³²

Compulsory education ends after twelve years of schooling or when the child reaches the age of majority. Of these, nine or ten years are compulsory full-time schooling and the remainder is compulsory vocational schooling. Once there is access to a school or vocational school, school education can be completed even after majority is reached, provided the individual is not required to leave the country. Adolescents and young adults who are undergoing training are subject to compulsory vocational schooling in most federal states, regardless of their age.

2. Employment

After the end of compulsory schooling, whether and, if so, under what conditions, there still is access to education varies depending on the federal state. Most federal states provide for young people and young adults who are no longer required to attend school to attend pre-vocational or special training courses

¹⁶ Article 35 par 1 Bavarian law on education and teaching (Bayerisches Gesetz über das Erziehungs- und Unterrichtswesen – BayEUG).

¹⁷ §17 par 1 n° 2 Thuringian School Act (**Thüringer Schulgesetz – ThürSchulG**).

¹⁸ §72 par 1 n° 3 hBaden-Württemberg School Act (**Schulgesetz Baden-Württemberg – SchG BW**).

¹⁹ §36 par 2 Law on schools in the state of Brandenburg (**Brandenburgisches Schulgesetz – BbgSchulG**); Section 2 Ordinance on the integration of foreign-language pupils into general education and vocational schools and on the suspension of compulsory schooling (Verordnung über die Eingliederung von fremdsprachigen Schülerinnen und Schülern in die allgemein bildenden und beruflichen Schulen sowie zum Ruhen der Schulpflicht – EinglSchuV).

²⁰ §56 par 1 Hessian School Act (**Hessisches Schulgesetz – HSchG**); Section 46 (1) Ordinance on the organization of the school relationship (**Verordnung zur Gestaltung des Schulverhältnisses – VOGSV**).

²¹ §63 par 1 Lower Saxony School Act (**Niedersächsisches Schulgesetz – NSchG**).

²² §41 par 1 n° 1 School Act for the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (**Schulgesetz für das Land Mecklenburg-Vorpommern – SchulG M-V**).

²³ §34 par 6 School Act for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Schulgesetz für das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen – Schulgesetz NRW – SchulG).

²⁴ §56 par 2 Rhineland-Palatinate School Act (**Rheinland-Pfalz – SchulG**).

²⁵ §26 par 1 n° 1 School Act for the Free State of Saxony (**Schulgesetz für den Freistaat Sachsen – SächsSchulG**).

²⁶ §36 n° 1 School Act of the State of Saxony-Anhalt (**Schulgesetz des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt – SchulG LSA**).

²⁷ §41 (2) Berlin School Act (Schulgesetz Berlin – SchulG Berlin).

²⁸ §52 Bremen School Act (Bremisches Schulgesetz – BremSchulG).

²⁹ §37 par n° 1 Hamburg School Act (**Hamburgisches Schulgesetz – HmbSG**).

³⁰ §30 par 1 Law on the organization of the school system in Saarland (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Schulwesens im Saarland – SchoG); Section 1 (1) Law No. 826 on compulsory schooling in the Saarland (**Gesetz n° 826 über die Schulpflicht im Saarland – SchulPfG SL**).

³¹ §21 par 1 n° 1 Schleswig-Holstein School Act (**Schleswig-Holsteinisches Schulgesetz – SchulG SH**).

³² Flüchtlingshilfe, Uno (2024): Unbegleitete Minderjährige in Deutschland, [online] <https://www.uno-fluechtlingshilfe.de/hilfe-weltweit/fluechtlingsschutz/fluechtlingskinder/unbegleitete-minderjaehrige-in-deutschland>.

at vocational schools. The maximum age for starting such courses is, 18 in Brandenburg, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, North Rhine-Westphalia (for part-time training, up to 25 years), Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, Saxony-Anhalt and Schleswig-Holstein. In Baden-Württemberg, the maximum age is 20 years and in Bavaria (in individual cases, up to 25 years), Berlin, Hesse, Lower Saxony and Thuringia it is 21 years.³³

After completing compulsory full-time schooling, adolescents and young adults also can take up employment, learn a profession in a school-based or company-based apprenticeship or, if they have a relevant school-leaving certificate, begin a course of study. Special health and safety regulations apply to minors. An employer's ability to hire and employ the young person depends on their legal status, in particular whether their asylum application is still pending or whether they hold a valid residence permit.

Access to training also depends on whether it is company-based or school-based training. In company-based training, trainees are employed by a company and attend vocational school at the same time (the so-called "dual system"). School-based training only takes place at a vocational school and often includes internships or similar practical phases. School-based training is not legally considered employment. After three months of residence, the minor has granted access to the regular labour market and to in-company training, internships and the Federal Voluntary Service if the responsible immigration authority permits employment.³⁴ Whether a minor is allowed to work is therefore always at the discretion of the immigration authority. The Federal Employment Agency must also approve the commencement of employment. This does not apply to taking up in-company training, participation in the Federal Volunteer Service and certain types of internships (§32 Employment Ordinance (**Beschäftigungsverordnung – BeschV**)).³⁵

The immigration authority may refuse employment to minor asylum seekers from a so-called safe country of origin who have submitted an asylum application after August 31, 2015 (§60a par 6 n°1.3 Residence Act (**Aufenthaltsgesetz – AufenthG**); §61 par 2n°4 Asylum Act (**AsylIG**)).

The foreigner's authority may refuse employment to tolerated unaccompanied minors who are themselves responsible for making their deportation impossible (e.g. by misrepresenting their identity or providing false information; §60a par6 n° 12 Residence Act [**AufenthG**]).

C. Administrative infrastructure

Unaccompanied minors are taken into temporary care by the local youth welfare office immediately after their arrival. No distinction is made between asylum seekers and non-asylum seekers. There are 556 youth welfare offices in Germany, each of which is assigned to a federal state. Each federal state has a state youth welfare office that is responsible for the youth welfare offices.

These 17 state youth welfare offices are listed below:

- Behörde für Arbeit, Gesundheit Soziales, Familie und Integration (Sozialbehörde)
Überregionale Förderung und Beratung/ Landesjugendamt FS 4
Address: Adolph-Schönfelder-Straße 5, 22083 Hamburg.
Website: <https://www.hamburg.de/politik-und-verwaltung/behoerden/sozialbehoerde/wir-ueber-uns/amt-fs-30330>
- Die Senatorin für Soziales, Jugend, Frauen, Integration und Sport des Landes Bremen
Landesjugendamt
Address: Bahnhofplatz 29, 28195 Bremen.
Website: <https://www.soziales.bremen.de/jugend-familie/landesjugendamt-70659>

³³ TANGERMANN Julian/HOFFMEYER-ZLOTNIK Paula (2018): Unbegleitete Minderjährige in Deutschland: Herausforderungen und Maßnahmen nach der Klärung des Aufenthaltsrechtlichen Status; Fokusstudie der deutschen nationalen Kontaktstelle für das Europäische Migrationsnetzwerk (EMN), [online] <https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:0168-ssoar-67628-6>, Tabel 12.

³⁴ §61 par 2 n° 1 Asylum Act (**Asylgesetz – AsylIG**).

³⁵ TANGERMANN Julian/HOFFMEYER-ZLOTNIK Paula (2018): Unbegleitete Minderjährige in Deutschland: Herausforderungen und Maßnahmen nach der Klärung des Aufenthaltsrechtlichen Status; Fokusstudie der deutschen nationalen Kontaktstelle für das Europäische Migrationsnetzwerk (EMN), [online] <https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:0168-ssoar-67628-6>.

- Hessisches Ministerium für Arbeit, Integration, Jugend und Soziales.
Abt. II, Landesjugendamt
Address: Sonnenberger Straße 2/2a, 65193 Wiesbaden.
Website: <https://www.familienatlas.de/themen/aktionen-initiativen/interessensvertretungen/landesjugendamt>
- Kommunaler Sozialverband Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Landesjugendamt
Address: Am Grünen Tal 19, 19063 Schwerin.
Website: <https://www.ksv-mv.de/startseite>
- Kommunalverband für Jugend und Soziales Baden-Württemberg
Dezernat Jugend - Landesjugendamt
Address: Lindenspürstraße 39, 70176 Stuttgart.
Website: <https://www.kvjs.de/der-kvjs/struktur-des-kvjs/struktur-der-verwaltung/dez-4-jugend-landesjugendamt>
- Landesamt für Soziales, Jugend und Versorgung Rheinland-Pfalz
Landesjugendamt
Address: Rheinallee 97-101, 55118 Mainz.
Website: <https://lsjv.rlp.de/de/unsere-aufgaben/kinder-jugend-und-familie/landesjugendamt/>
- Landesverwaltungsamt des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt
Landesjugendamt
Address: Ernst-Kamieth-Straße 2, 06112 Halle (Saale).
Website: <https://lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de/das-lvwa/landesjugendamt>
- Landschaftsverband Rheinland
LVR-Landesjugendamt
Address: Kennedy-Ufer 2, 50679 Köln.
Website: https://www.lvr.de/de/nav_main/derlvr/organisation/lvrdezernate/jugend_1/landesjugendamt_1/landesjugendamt_1.jsp
- Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe
LWL-Landesjugendamt Westfalen
Address: Wareндorfer Straße 25, 48145 Münster.
Website: <https://www.lwl-landesjugendamt.de/de/>
- Ministerium für Bildung, Jugend und Sport des Landes Brandenburg
Abteilung Kinder und Jugend
Address: Heinrich-Mann-Allee 107, 14473 Potsdam.
Website: <https://mbjs.brandenburg.de/>
- Ministerium für Soziales, Gesundheit, Frauen und Familie des Landes Saarland
C 5 Kinder- und Jugendhilfe, Landesjugendamt
Address: Franz-Josef-Röder-Straße 23, 66119 Saarbrücken.
Website: <https://www.saarland.de/masfg/DE/portale/landesjugendamt/home>
- Ministerium für Soziales, Jugend, Familie, Senioren, Integration und Gleichstellung des Landes Schleswig-Holstein
Landesjugendamt
Address: Adolf-Westphal-Straße 4, 24143 Kiel.
Website: http://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Landesregierung/LJA/lja_node.html
- Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Soziales, Jugend und Familie
Außenstelle Hannover - Fachgruppe Kinder, Jugend und Familie
Address: Schiffgraben 30 – 32, 30175 Hannover.
Website: https://soziales.niedersachsen.de/startseite/kinder_jugend_amp_familie/landesjugendamt/

- Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Soziales und Gesellschaftlichen Zusammenhalt
Landesjugendamt
Address: Carolastraße 7a, 09111 Chemnitz.
Website: <https://www.landesjugendamt.sachsen.de/>
- Senatsverwaltung für Bildung, Jugend und Familie Berlin
Jugend und Familie, Landesjugendamt
Address: Bernhard-Weiß-Straße 6, 10178 Berlin.
Website: <https://www.berlin.de/sen/jugend/>
- Thüringer Ministerium für Bildung, Jugend und Sport
Abt. 4 - Kinder, Jugend, Sport und Landesjugendamt
Address: Werner-Seelenbinder-Str. 7, 99096 Erfurt.
Website: <https://bildung.thueringen.de/jugend/landesjugendamt>
- Zentrum Bayern Familie und Soziales
Bayerisches Landesjugendamt
Address: Winzererstraße 9, 80797 München.
Website: <http://www.blja.bayern.de/>

D. Medical infrastructure

In Germany, medical care is based on health insurance. Asylum seekers in Germany do not initially have health insurance, so their health care is guaranteed by state agencies, such as the social welfare office. According to §4 "[b]enefits in the event of illness, pregnancy and birth" of the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (**AsylbLG**), all refugees are entitled to medical treatment. This means that anyone who suffers from pain or is acutely ill is treated. Healthcare includes treatment by a doctor or dentist as well as the necessary vaccinations and medically required preventive examinations for children and adults.³⁶

According to §264.1 SGB V, *Länders* and municipalities can regulate, in cooperation with health insurance funds, how the medical treatment for persons not subject to compulsory insurance is structured. According to this provision, refugees either can be issued a treatment certificate by the responsible social authority, or a health card by a health insurance company. The costs incurred by the treatment are reimbursed by the social welfare authority in any case.³⁷

A claim for treatment in a hospital only exists if an illness is acute or painful. This also applies to chronic diseases for which failure to treat could lead to the disease becoming acute and the patient being at risk (e.g. hypertension, diabetes). For hospital treatment, a prior declaration of assumption of costs by the responsible social welfare agency is required, except in emergencies.³⁸

1. Medical facilities for minors, unaccompanied refugees and asylum seekers

Article 24 CRC guarantees the right of the child to the highest attainable standard of health. The EU Reception Conditions Directive (2013/33/EU) guarantees the right to unrestricted healthcare for unaccompanied foreign children and adolescents for the duration of the asylum procedure.

Furthermore, the Reception Conditions Directive clarifies that reception conditions and healthcare must ensure a standard of living adequate for subsistence, while safeguarding physical and mental health.³⁹

³⁶ ROMANO, J. (2016). Health Care for Refugees: A Handbook for Full-Time Professionals. In Health Care of Refugees: A Handbook for Full-Time Professionals (p. 6–72). <https://www.nds-fluerat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Gesundheitliche-Versorgung-von-Gefl%C3%BCchteten.pdf>.

³⁷ ROMANO, J. (2016). Health Care for Refugees: A Handbook for Full-Time Professionals. In Health Care of Refugees: A Handbook for Full-Time Professionals (p. 6–72). <https://www.nds-fluerat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Gesundheitliche-Versorgung-von-Gefl%C3%BCchteten.pdf>.

³⁸ ROMANO, J. (2016). Health Care for Refugees: A Handbook for Full-Time Professionals. In Health Care of Refugees: A Handbook for Full-Time Professionals (p. 6–72). <https://www.nds-fluerat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Gesundheitliche-Versorgung-von-Gefl%C3%BCchteten.pdf>.

³⁹ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 22 par 2 (adequate standard of living; physical and mental health).

With respect to minors, EU Member States explicitly are required to ensure access to rehabilitation services for victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation, torture or armed conflict, and to develop appropriate mental healthcare and qualified counselling, where needed.⁴⁰ The Reception Condition Directive also permits medical screening for public health reasons.⁴¹

Minors, unaccompanied refugees and asylum seekers receive the same benefits as persons with statutory health insurance. The responsibility for this lies with the reception facilities and youth welfare agencies, as they are under the care of the municipalities. According to §42 SGB VIII (child and youth welfare), a claim to treatment arises according to §40 SGB VIII, which guarantees access to necessary healthcare and the coverage of related medical costs for minors under youth welfare care.⁴²

The unaccompanied minors should be examined by a doctor as soon as possible in order to rule out contagious diseases or to be able to treat them immediately. Furthermore, the general and dental state of health should be determined and, if necessary, necessary interventions should be initiated. This includes necessary vaccinations and operations as well as the purchase of aids (such as glasses, mobility assistance). It is recommended to register with a statutory health insurance company, in accordance with §264 SGB V. Alternatively, treatment is carried out on a health certificate/treatment certificate, which is provided by the locally responsible youth welfare office.⁴³

An essential part of the clearing procedure is preparing the assistance plan in accordance with §36 SGB VIII, in which the need for youth welfare aid (the type of help required to respond to the individual educational needs) and any follow-up measures are examined. In particular, during the transition from the clearing phase to the follow-up measures phase, care must be taken to ensure that all actors (e.g. the institution, the guardian and the §42 youth welfare office) receive all the necessary information. This also includes medical and therapeutic needs.⁴⁴

The Youth Welfare Office (every town and district in Germany has its own welfare office; for further information see the list under *Section 3: Administrative infrastructure*) must ensure healthcare during the provisional taking into care period, the regular taking into care period, within the framework of inpatient follow-up measures and when providing assistance for young adults. In order to fulfil this obligation, the Youth Welfare Office grants health assistance in these cases in accordance with §40 SGB VIII. In accordance with §40 SGB VIII, the assistance must satisfy the needs in full. Therefore, the scope of the services also includes the costs for psychotherapy, if a need is determined.⁴⁵

In order to improve processing and simplify administration, children and adolescents who do not have health insurance are cared for by a statutory health insurance company, in accordance with their mandate. Although this does not create real membership in the health insurance company, these children and young people receive an electronic healthcare card with the status designation "*Member*". The scope of the benefits granted also is determined by the Health Insurance Act and corresponds with the entitlement to benefits of other persons with statutory health insurance. The costs of medical treatment are initially covered by the health insurance company. However, the actual cost bearer is the youth welfare office, which is why it reimburses the health insurance company quarterly for the entire treatment costs plus an administrative lump-sum fee. Since the scope of health services is based on the Health Insurance Act (**SGB V**), children and adolescents are entitled to psychotherapy (i.e. in the presence of a mental illness), in addition to the general entitlement to medical and dental treatment.⁴⁶

⁴⁰ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 26 par 4 (rehabilitation and mental health care for minors).

⁴¹ Directive (EU) 2024/1346, Article 15 (medical screening for public health reasons).

⁴² ROMANO, J. (2016). Gesundheitliche Versorgung von Geflüchteten: ein Handbuch für hauptamtliche Fachkräfte. In *Gesundheitliche Versorgung von Geflüchteten: Ein Handbuch für Hauptamtliche Fachkräfte* (p 6–72). <https://www.nds-fluerat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Gesundheitliche-Versorgung-von-Gefl%C3%BChteten.pdf>.

⁴³ Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Landesjugendämter. (2017). Handlungsempfehlungen zum Umgang mit unbegleiteten Minderjährigen: Verteilungsverfahren, Maßnahmen der Jugendhilfe und Clearingverfahren - 2. aktualisierte Fassung 2017. In 122. Arbeitstagung Der Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Landesjugendämter (p 2–72) [Report]. https://www.lvr.de/media/www/lvrde/jugend/jugendmter/rechtlicheberatung/dokumente_82/128_handlungsempfehlungen-zum-umgang-mit-unbge.pdf.

⁴⁴ Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Landesjugendämter. (2017). Handlungsempfehlungen zum Umgang mit unbegleiteten Minderjährigen: Verteilungsverfahren, Maßnahmen der Jugendhilfe und Clearingverfahren - 2. aktualisierte Fassung 2017. In 122. Arbeitstagung Der Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Landesjugendämter (p 2–72) [Report]. https://www.lvr.de/media/www/lvrde/jugend/jugendmter/rechtlicheberatung/dokumente_82/128_handlungsempfehlungen-zum-umgang-mit-unbge.pdf.

⁴⁵ BumF & BAfF. (o. D.-b). Arbeitshilfe zur Beantragung der Kostenübernahmen von Therapie mit minderjährigen Geflüchteten und jungen Volljährigen. https://www.baff-zentren.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/BumF_BAaF-Arbeitshilfe-Therapie-Jugend.pdf.

⁴⁶ BumF & BAfF. (o. D.-b). Arbeitshilfe zur Beantragung der Kostenübernahmen von Therapie mit minderjährigen Geflüchteten und jungen Volljährigen. https://www.baff-zentren.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/BumF_BAaF-Arbeitshilfe-Therapie-Jugend.pdf.

Psychotherapy begins with "*trial sessions*", which are the so-called probationary sessions. The healthcare card can be used for of up to five probationary sessions and one session to collect patient history. After that, the individual must apply for therapy via the responsible health insurance company. Translation costs can be covered by the youth welfare office. Any limits on benefits that could result from the Health Insurance Act do not apply to children and adolescents. §40 N° 2 SGB VIII states that healthcare assistance within the meaning of SGB VIII must satisfy fully the needs in the individual case and that the Youth Welfare Office also must be any costs that exceed what is granted by the Health Insurance Act. It is of particular importance that translation is covered, to the extent that the entitlement to medical assistance cannot be fulfilled without language assistance. It should be noted that psychotherapy can only be reimbursed by statutory health insurance if specific conditions are met, in particular that the treatment is provided by a psychotherapist accredited by a health insurance fund, as reimbursement is governed by the Health Insurance Act. If, despite proven efforts, no therapy place can be found with a psychotherapist in private practice, alternatively, a reimbursement can be applied for with respect to therapy from a therapist not registered with a health insurance company, provided they have a license to practice medicine.⁴⁷

E. Other infrastructure

- Caritas
Over this side you find Local Caritas advice centers
<https://www.caritas.de/hilfeundberatung/onlineberatung/migration/adressen>
- Diakonische Werk
<https://www.diakonie.de/informieren/unsere-themen/flucht-migration>
- Arbeiterwohlfahrt (AWO)
<https://awo.org/themen/migration-und-flucht/>
- Bundesverband Minderjährigkeit und Flucht
<https://b-umf.de/>
- Pro Asyl
<https://www.proasyl.de/>

⁴⁷ BumF & BAfF. (o. D.-c). Arbeitshilfe zur Beantragung der Kostenübernahmen von Therapie mit minderjährigen Geflüchteten und jungen Volljährigen. https://www.baff-zentren.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/BumF_BAfF-Arbeitshilfe-Therapie-Jugend.pdf.