

The EU Disability Card – An Aid for Participation

The EU Disability Card was introduced in Finland in June 2018. The Disability Card promotes equality, participation, and mobility for disabled individuals in Europe. With the card, it is easy to demonstrate the need for assistance and support in various leisure customer service situations.

The Disability Card is an aid for communication, participation, and creating positive customer experiences.

The card is voluntary for both card users and service providers. The card costs 10 euros and is valid for 10 years. Service providers can register as Disability Card destinations on the website vammaiskortti.fi. In Disability Card destinations, services are aimed to be developed to be more accessible and supportive for people in need.

Who can get the EU Disability Card?

You can apply for the EU Disability Card if you have a previously granted and valid decision on a benefit or service that qualifies you for the card. You do not need a new decision to obtain the card.

You can obtain the Disability Card with one of the following benefits or services:

Benefits from the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela):

- disability allowance for children under 16 years old
- disability allowance for individuals aged 16 and older
- care allowance for pension recipients
- interpretation service for the hearing impaired (A)
- interpretation service for the deaf and visually impaired (A)
- interpretation service for the speech impaired (A).

Other decisions:

- daytime activities according to the Disability Services Act
- support for mobility according to the Social Welfare Act (also known as transport service decision)
- transportation service according to the Disability Services Act
- visual impairment card (A)
- caregiver agreement (Disability Card intended for the care recipient) (A)
- accompaniment service (A)
- service housing according to the Disability Services Act (A)
- personal assistance (A)
- decision and related services according to the special care program (A)
- decision on special support (A)
- decision on respiratory paralysis (A)

(A)= You can receive an A-marking on your card. With it, you can indicate that you need to have an assistant or support person with you if you wish.

How is the EU Disability Card applied for?

Applying for the Disability Card consists of two phases:

1. The Social Insurance Institution of Finland's (Kela) Request Form for the EU Disability Card (Form VK1) is filled out and submitted to Kela with attachments. Kela verifies the applicant's eligibility for the card and the A-marking. From the card ordering system, a link for ordering the card is sent to the email address provided in the application.

2. The applicant or the person assisting in the application logs into the card ordering system through the link received in the email and completes the card order online. At this stage, the card information is verified, the applicant's photograph is added to the order, and the card is paid for through online banking. If you need assistance, for example, with a separate invoice, you can contact the Disability Card Office.

If you do not log into the system within four (4) months, the information will be automatically removed from the system.

Detailed application instructions can be found at the address www.vammaiskortti.fi

Disability Card Office

For more information about the EU Disability Card and related matters, you can contact the Disability Card Office.

Customer service: Tel. 0800-122533 (free of charge, in Finnish and English) open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9–12 and Wednesdays from 12–15

Email: info@vammaiskortti.fi

Website: www.vammaiskortti.fi

Facebook/[vammaiskortti](https://www.facebook.com/vammaiskortti)

Instagram [@vammaiskortti](https://www.instagram.com/vammaiskortti)

The Support Center Hilma for Disabled Immigrants

Telephone helpline number: 044 9016441

Service Mon-Thurs from 10–15

