How do I apply for the reception allowance?

You can apply for a reception allowance by filling in the application form. The application should be submitted to the reception centre either in person, by letter or by e-mail. In your application you must give details of the resources available to you and the income you receive. Remember to sign the application form. If you have a Finnish bank account or a foreign bank account, that you are using in Finland, deliver a record of your bank transactions from 2 months' time.

The application must be submitted for three months in advance. The application must be submitted to the reception centre during the month for which you wish to receive the allowance. The application must be received by the reception centre no later than the calendar week following the end of the month. An application received after this date will be considered a retroactive application. The reception allowance cannot be be granted retroactively except in exceptional circumstances.

If you have been employed, please provide the reception centre with a copy of your employment contract and pay slips. If your work contract ends, provide a copy of your employment certificate. If you receive any other benefits, provide a copy of the benefit decision or other proof of the period for which the benefit was granted and the amount of the benefit.

To apply for a supplementary allowance, you must submit receipts for your expenses to the reception centre. For medicines, please enclose a copy of your prescription doctor gave you. If you are applying for an allowance for travel expenses, please indicate the appointment or visit to which the trip relates.