



Horizon 5

Information Bulletin for Migrants in Geneva

Community Centers : registration

« Maisons de quartier » are community centers that organize (among other things) activities for children during school holidays. If you want to register your child for one of those activities, find out about the nearest « Maison de quartier » and ask for registration dates. You can find a list of community centers at the CCSI reception desk.

Permit renewal in case of domestic violence

On 1 July 2013, the law against forced marriage came into force and changed art. 50 of the Loi sur les Etrangers (Federal Act on Foreign Nationals), which concerns the extension of residence permits obtained by marriage.

From now on, foreign women separated from their husband because of domestic violence have a right to the renewal of their residence permit, without any prerequisite or other conditions, even if the marriage lasted less than three years.

Domestic workers : national campaign

The national campaign « No domestic worker is illegal » started in Bern on 13 March 2013. You can find more information on the campaign (dates of events, articles, demands) and sign the petition on our campaign website: www.aemni.ch.

If you want to join the regional campaign group, please mention it to the CCSI reception or write us at admin@ccsi.ch. You are most welcome !

School support classes

The individual support classes given by ARA for children facing school difficulties are only available for the ones who have been attending school for at least two years. If your child fits this description, you can get help from a tutor as well as financial support by calling the ARA reception at 022.809.60.60.

If necessary, make an appointment at CCSI and we will provide you with an income certificate.

New leaflet « Living in Geneva »

The « Collectif de soutien aux sans-papiers de Genève » (Support Group in favour of undocumented residents in Geneva) has published a new brochure, available in French, Spanish, Portuguese and English.

It contains social and legal information, as well as a list of organizations that might help. This brochure is intended for those without legal status. Ask for it at your next appointment or download it from our website.

On-line resources for our consultants

If you have any questions regarding health insurance or if you are looking for information in the event of a police control, please visit our website (www.ccsi.ch) and click on « Pour les migrant(-e)-s ». You will find useful information, such as a list of public writers, who will assist you in writing letters in French.

School restaurants

Several school restaurants being currently overcrowded, requests are sometimes rejected, or the institution might ask you to present a work certificate before accepting your child.

If you experience such difficulties, please let us know, as we will do our best to help you with the school restaurants.

Our opening hours

The opening hours of CCSI (telephone and reception) are as follows:

- Monday: 1.30-4.30 pm
- Tuesday, Wednesday:
8.30-11.30 am and
1.30-4.30 pm
- Thursday, Friday :
8.30-11.30 am

Our contact number is : **022.304.48.60**. If you have an appointment with one of the consultations outside of office hours, please wait in the hall by the elevators. Someone will come to fetch you.

Important

Please note that CCSI is not able to assist you in finding work or housing in Geneva.

Daycare

Once your child has been pre-registered for a place in daycare (for Geneva city, go to BIPE, Rue Rousseau 4 ; for Carouge, go to CIAPE, Av. Vibert 25; for the other communes, make an appointment at CCSI), CCSI can write a letter to support your request.

To do so, you must **make an appointment in February or March 2014, in preparation for August 2014, with the Permanence « Petite enfance, santé et genre »**. But please note that this letter is by no means a guarantee to find a place in daycare. The cost of a place in daycare depends on your income.

Meet & play for pre-schoolers

For children in pre-school age, Geneva offers several meeting and playing places (open to all and free) where parents and their children meet other parents and children, as well as childcare professionals.

Here are a few addresses in Geneva city:

- Le Cerf-Volant, Bd. Carl-Vogt 82, 1205 Genève (Monday - Friday 2.30-6.30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday morning 9 am - noon, Saturday 2 - 6 pm)
- Espace parents-enfants, rue du Temple 10, 1201 Genève (Monday and Thursday 10 am - 1.30 pm, Tuesday 5.30 - 8.30 pm, Wednesday 10 am - 4.30 pm)
- UPA, chemin Surinam 7, 1203 Genève (Monday and Thursday, 9-11.30 am).

Your contribution

From 1st January 2012, we kindly ask you for an **annual financial contribution of 50 francs** (this amount can of course be negotiated if you have financial difficulties).

This decision was taken in order to face the financial difficulties our association is going through, as our funds are diminishing. The subsidies we receive are not enough to cover the operating costs.

We ask you to contribute to our organization efforts, and **thank all of you who paid their contribution in 2013.**

Obtaining a EU permit: housing conditions

If you are an EU citizen and you have found a job, your employer will ask for a residency and work permit on your behalf. Unfortunately, conditions are very strict.

On the permit application form, your address must be indicated and a second form, completed and signed by your landlord, must be attached, as well as a copy of the lease contract for your apartment. If one of these documents is missing, they will be requested by the « Office cantonal de la population ». If you are not able to provide them, it is very unlikely that your permit will be granted.

In order to get permits for your family members (family reunification), your accommodation must be considered sufficiently large by the authorities. Should this not be the case, granting permits for your family will not be possible !

Health insurance : caution !

Do not sign any documents related to your health insurance with an insurance broker who has come to your home without getting in touch with us beforehand.

Even if you receive the subsidy, you have to keep in mind that it does not cover complementary insurance premiums, and you will have to pay them if you subscribe to them.

Your children's **dental expenses** are not covered by the basic health insurance. In case of dental problems, go to the dental clinic related to your child's school. If necessary, we can provide you with an income certificate.

Primary school : registration

Any child living in Geneva, regardless of its legal status, has the right and the obligation to go to school. Children born before 01.08.2009 start school on August 26th 2013.

However, to be accepted at school, your child must have an health insurance.

For children without a residence permit, CCSI is in charge of the affiliation with the child's legal guardian. Make an appointment or come directly to the reception with the legal guardian(s) and child's ID. Your child will be able to start school as soon as you have come by the CCSI.

Subsidy for children's health insurance

As of January 2013, the health insurance subsidy no longer covers the entire cost of the insurance premium. For example, for parents whose children are affiliated to Helsana, the insurance premium will now cost 4,35 francs per month and per child, even for those who were granted the full subsidy (100 francs/month). It is best to pay this amount quickly, otherwise reminder costs will be added!

If you haven't yet, **make an appointment and we will assist you in requesting the health insurance subsidy for 2013.** This deduction is a right which depends on your salary, it will not put you at a disadvantage in the treatment of other procedures.

In order to ask for the 2014 subsidy, make an appointment as of December 2013.

