

# APPLYING FOR ASYLUM

In France, the asylum application must be carried out within 90 days of your arrival date.



## What is an asylum application ?

- It is asking for the **protection** of a country different from one's country of origin
- When you are **under threat of danger** (persecution because of your race, religion, nationality, an action to promote freedom, or risk of death penalty, torture, etc.)
- Asylum protection can take the form of **refugee status** or **subsidiary protection**
- The application can be made even if you **have entered France illegally**.

## 1 - First steps : go to a SPADA (Initial Reception Facility for Asylum Seekers).

- You will be provided with information on the asylum procedure.
- You will fill in an information form.

You will be given a summons to go to the Guichet Unique (asylum counter) between 3 and 10 days later.

### Reception at the SPADA

**By appointment in Ile-de-France :** call **01 42 500 900** (from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm from Monday to Friday)

**Without an appointment in other regions.**

## 2 - Go to the Guichet Unique counter :

Be sure to respect the date and time indicated on your summons!!

- registration of your asylum application;
- review of the information in the file;
- fingerprints taken to find out if you have already applied for asylum in another country;
- individual interview to trace your journey from your country of origin;
- choice of the language in which the interview with OFPRA will take place.

### Documents provided :

- an asylum application form;
- a guide for the asylum seeker;
- an asylum application certificate valid for 10 months under the normal procedure (6 months under the expedited procedure).

### Who receives you at the Guichet Unique counter?

- **prefecture officials** who determine which procedure you are subject to: normal or expedited procedure (see overleaf) ;
- **officials from OFII (French Office for Immigration and Integration)** who help you with your procedures (accommodation, entitlement to the allowance for asylum seekers (ADA) calculated according to your family, your resources and your type of accommodation).



**If, as a result of fingerprinting, your asylum application depends on another European country, you** must go to the country where your asylum application was made (Dublin Procedure). The prefecture will give you an asylum application certificate valid for 1 month, renewable for 4 months. It will allow you to remain on French territory until your transfer to the State that has acknowledged its responsibility.



**Tip :** As soon as you enter France, go to **Médecins du Monde (a healthcare association)** to receive first aid and to certify your arrival date. After 3 months of presence in France, you can apply for **State Medical Aid (AME)** : medical and hospital care cover for undocumented foreigners.

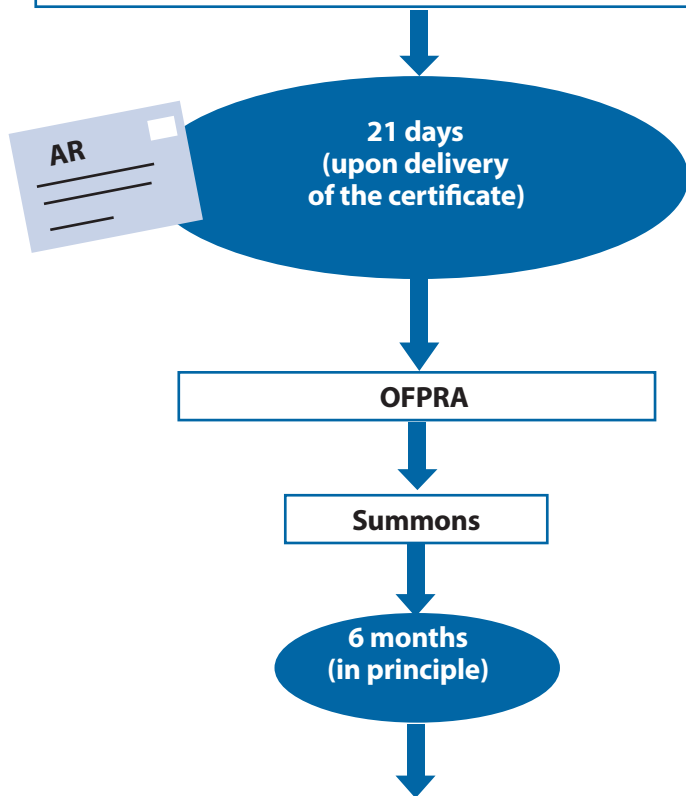
## If your asylum application depends on France

### File

- asylum application form completed and signed
- + photocopy of asylum application certificate
- + 2 passport-size photos
- + travel document tracing your journey

**The contents of the file must be drafted in French. Request help from an association ([https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/180824 - liste des associations habilitées.pdf](https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/180824_-_liste_des_associations_habilitees.pdf)) to fill in the form and complete your file.**

**Tip :** Never send the original of a document except when indicated.



### In which cases is the procedure expedited ?

- If you are a national of a safe country of origin (list of countries available on the OFPRA website).
- If a first asylum application has been definitively rejected and you ask for it to be re-examined.
- If you refuse to provide your fingerprints.
- If you attempt to commit fraud or hide certain information.
- If the 90-day period since you entered France has elapsed.
- If your presence in the country threatens public order, public security or the safety of France.

### Interview at OFPRA

It is important to go to this interview in the presence of an interpreter if necessary and accompanied by an association (<https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/fr/textes-documents/liste-des-associations-habilitees>) or a lawyer.

