

## 3.6 Governmental Aid for Studies

There are two main criteria that need to be fulfilled in order to be eligible for Finnish governmental aid for studies:

- The residence in Finland needs to be *permanent*
- The reason for the residence in Finland needs to be *some other than studies*

Additional eligibility criteria depend on the applicant's nationality:

### Citizens of a Nordic Country

The governmental study aid will be granted from the student's home country. In order to be eligible for Finnish governmental study aid, the Nordic citizen has to reside in Finland for some other reason than studying and the person's municipality of residence needs to be registered to Finland.

### Citizens of the EU/EEA -countries

Generally, Finnish governmental study aid is not granted to citizens of the EU/EEA countries. However, if they originally have come to Finland to work, they are entitled to governmental study aid under certain conditions. The same applies to their family members.

### Citizens of Non-EU/EEA Countries

Finnish governmental study aid may be granted to citizens of non-EU/EEA countries if the person has a permanent residence permit (code P), a continuous (A) residence permit, or a P-EY permit (for non-EU/EEA citizens who have lived in Finland for a longer period). A person with a residence permit for students (B) is not eligible for Finnish governmental study aid.

When you apply for governmental study aid, remember to fill in and enclose the "Appendix for foreign residents"-form with the application form. For more information about Finnish governmental study aid, and to get the application forms, please contact the local Kela/Fpa office and visit the website [www.kela.fi](http://www.kela.fi). See also chapter 3.3 for more information about Kela/Fpa.

Please note that if you are eligible for Finnish governmental study aid you should be aware of the different conditions concerning working alongside your studies and taxation of the grants received.