

How to get a sim-card

Address

After arriving in Russia, a foreign student must obtain *SNILS*, undergo biometrics and receive a local SIM card in order to use Russian applications, in particular the portal *Gosuslugi* («state services»). These services are only available at the address Krasnogo Tekstilschika street, 10-12 lit. O (MFC, «My Documents»), so make sure to arrive exactly there! You cannot get this kind of documents at other MFCs.

Also, don't forget to check the MFC's working hours.

Before the visit

1. Install the *Gosuslugi* portal application on your phone in advance — the building has poor Internet and a weak Wi-Fi signal.
2. Take a power bank / battery charger with you just in case.
3. Keep in mind that the procedure can take a while - 2-4 hours.
4. Prepare the following documents: 1) a passport 2) a notarised translation of your passport 3) a migration card 4) your registration at the place of stay.

A form for obtaining your *SNILS*

1. Before you begin the document process, you must complete the *SNILS* form. This can be done to the left of the MFC entrance, by entering the doors near the «apply for a passport translation» banner. The forms and a sample should be available there.
2. Complete the *SNILS* form according to the sample.
3. After checking once again that you have all the required documents from the list above, enter the MFC building.
4. To access the 7th floor, where the document processing will take place, you may have to wait in line. There will be a security guard inside who lets people up the stairs after a certain amount of time and checks that they have the required documents. If you have everything, you will be allowed to go through.
5. Go up to the 7th floor.

Getting your *SNILS*

1. On the 7th floor, you'll meet another security guard who checks your documents once again and redirects you to an employee who can help you issue a talon.
2. Wait for your talon number to be called out and monitor the line on the information board.
3. After that, the MFC staff will issue a *SNILS* for you.

Biometrics and a SIM card

1. After you received your *SNILS*, you should find the office of Russian telecom operators on the same 7th floor (for example, T-Mobile, Beeline, etc).
2. In this office you will undergo the biometrics and purchase a SIM card (don't forget to find out the cost in advance).
3. Also, you can buy a SIM card at any mobile phone store and then go back to the MFC building for subsequent registration.
4. After that, get a new talon for the SIM card registration. Wait for your turn.

Linking your phone number to *Gosuslugi*

1. After registering the SIM card, the staff will send you to the office where you can link a phone number to your account in the *Gosuslugi* application.
2. That's all, you're free to go!

Good luck!