



Section 1: Who Needs This Guide

- Non-EU citizens staying longer than 90 days
- Holders of Permesso di Soggiorno (residence permit)
- Students, workers, freelancers, retirees



Section 2: What Documents You Need (With Warnings)

Essential documents:

- Passport (valid for the full duration of your stay)
- Permesso di Soggiorno (actual card, or *the receipt* from your application)
- Codice Fiscale (Italian tax code — critical)
- Proof of address (rental contract registered with Agenzia delle Entrate or recent utility bills)
- Proof of income or activity:
 - If working → work contract or Partita IVA (self-employed tax number)
 - If studying → university enrollment certificate
 - If retired → proof of pension



Important:

Make *two copies* of each document. Some ASL offices **keep** one copy.



Section 3: Health Contribution Payment (the F24 Form)

- If you're not working (freelancers, students, retirees), you must **pay a voluntary contribution** (iscrizione volontaria) to access healthcare.
- You fill out an F24 form at the Post Office (Poste Italiane).

How to fill F24:

- Section: *SEZIONE REGIONALE*
- Tax Code: 8846
- Description: *Iscrizione volontaria al SSN per l'anno 2025*
- Amount: Usually €149.77, but can vary based on region.



Pay at the Post Office.



Keep the receipt — **it is mandatory for ASL registration.**



Section 4: Finding Your Correct ASL Office

- ASL = Azienda Sanitaria Locale (Local Health Agency)
- You must register at the ASL **for your official address**.
- Google: "ASL + [your Comune/City Name]"
Example: "ASL Milano" or "ASL Roma 1".

Warning:

Some ASL offices serve multiple towns — check carefully which branch covers your street.



Section 5: Full Step-by-Step Registration Process

1. **Prepare all documents** (original + 2 copies).
2. **Fill out F24 form** and pay if needed.
3. **Go early** (ASL offices often close by 12:00 PM).
4. **At the front desk, ask:**
"Vorrei iscrivermi al Servizio Sanitario Nazionale per ottenere la Tessera Sanitaria."
("I would like to register with the National Health Service to get the health card.")
5. **Wait for your number** (bring snacks or water).
6. **When called, present your documents.**
7. **Choose your family doctor (Medico di base)** from their list.
8. **Receive a temporary registration certificate.**
9. **Your plastic Tessera Sanitaria arrives in 1–3 months** by mail.



Section 6: Common Problems (And How to Solve Them)

Problem	Why it Happens	What to Do
They reject your Permesso di	Some ASL workers wrongly think only the final card is valid.	Politely ask for the supervisor. Show the official circular that the
They ask for a weird extra document	Some ASL apply different rules regionally.	Ask for a written list. Return with correct papers.
They say you must pay again even if you	They lost the F24 payment.	Always bring 2 printed copies of your receipt.
They deny coverage without work	Explain you are paying voluntary contribution (Iscrizione Volontaria) —	

They refuse to assign you a doctor	Some cities have shortages. You can choose another doctor even in a nearby	
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Section 7: Legal Right to Health Care

- Under Italian law (D.Lgs. 286/98 Art. 34 and Art. 35), **foreign residents** with Permesso di Soggiorno have a **right to register** for the SSN (health system).
- ASL cannot legally deny you if you follow the process.

Section 8: Troubleshooting Script (What to Say)

If you face resistance:

“Per favore, può indicarmi il riferimento normativo?”
(Please, can you show me the law reference?)

“Ho diritto all’iscrizione volontaria al SSN secondo la legge vigente.”
(I have the right to voluntary registration to the SSN under the current law.)

Being calm and prepared **makes a huge difference!**

Section 9: Timeline Summary

- Preparing documents: 1–3 days
- Paying F24: 1 day
- ASL registration: 1–2 hours (waiting)
- Receiving Tessera Sanitaria: 1–3 months by mail
- Temporary certificate: active immediately

Section 10: Bonus Tips for Fast Success

- Go **early in the morning** before crowds.
- Bring **snacks, water, patience** — bureaucratic delays are normal.
- **Always stay polite** — raising your voice or arguing reduces chances of success.
- **Learn basic Italian phrases** (at least for greetings and questions).
- **Back up every receipt** — take photos of everything.

