New reception law to cover more people and more controls introduced

The new law on reception came into effect on 1 October 2026, replacing the Act on the Reception of Asylum Seekers. More people will be covered by SMA's reception and new control measures will be implemented. Other new rules include:

- restrictions for applicants to move to a different accommodation than the one allocated;
- presence checks at reception return centres;
- a reporting obligation for those who received a return decision;
- cases in which the daily allowance can be reduced linked to failing some obligations;
- access to labour market (as a general rule, the right to work will be granted only if the SMA has not made a decision on the case within 6 months of the registration of the application);
- changes in the division of responsibilities between the SMA and the municipalities (for instance in the provision housing).

Source(s)

- Swedish Migration Agency | Migrationsverket (1 October, 2026), Ny mottagandelag börjar gälla den 1 oktober [New Reception law came into force on October 1], https://www.migrationsverket.se/nyhetsarkiv/nyhetsarkiv/2026-10-01-ny-mottagandelag-borjar-galla-den-1-oktober.html

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