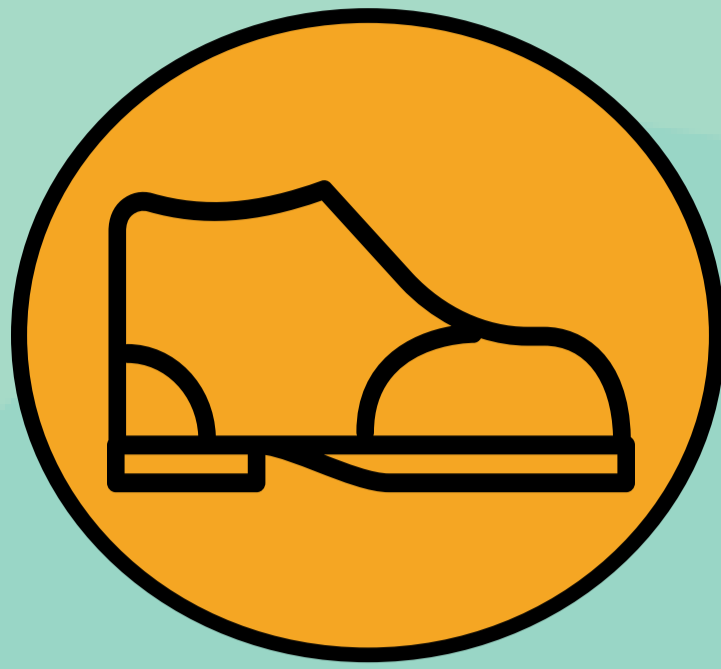




# An Unaccompanied or Separated Minor's Path to Asylum

Working with Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children (UMSC) Seeking Legal Protection Series



**1** The child flees home, either with family or alone.

The child may become separated along the way.



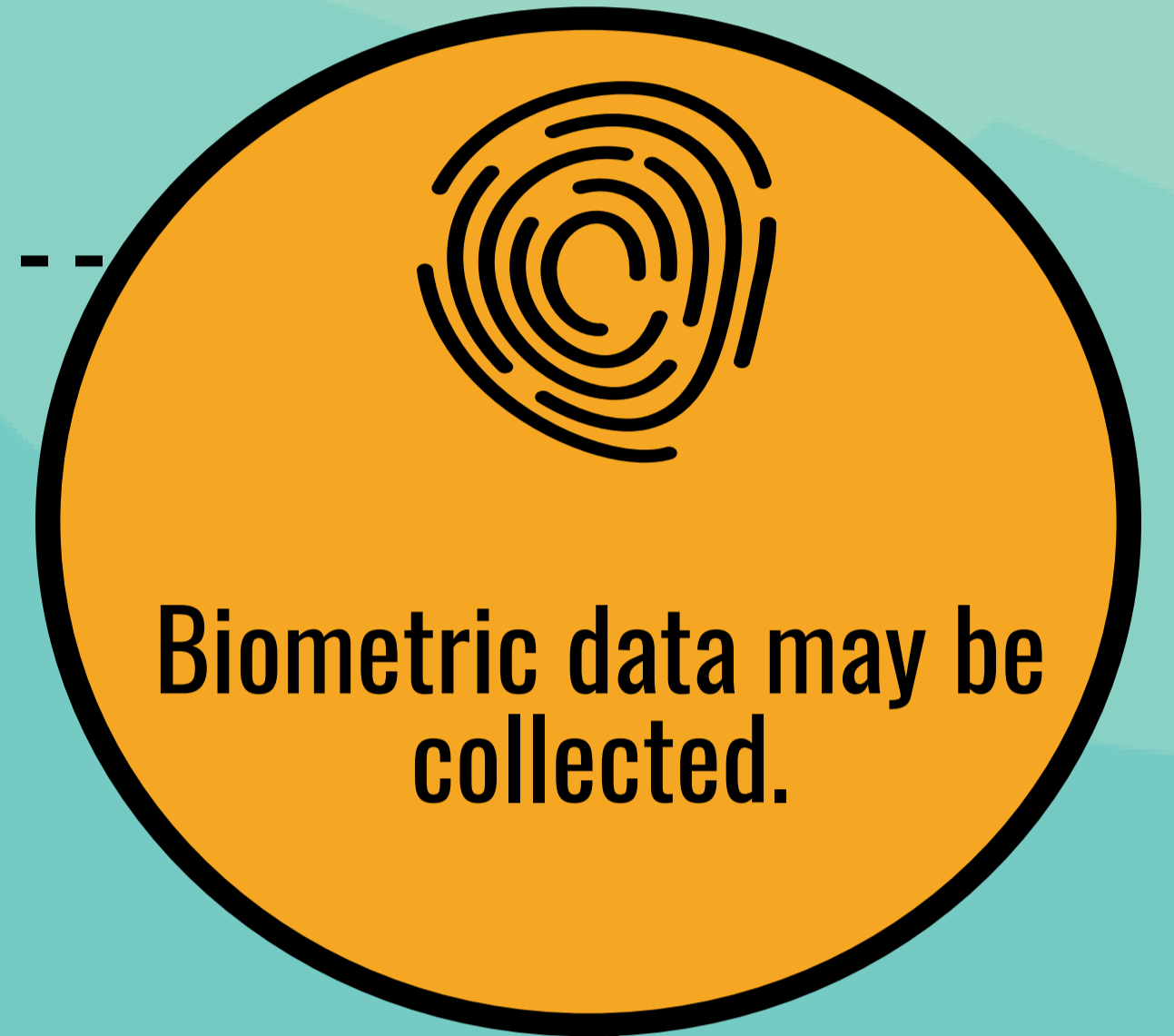
**2** The child arrives at a border or a reception center.



**3** The child must express verbally or in written form his/her desire for asylum.



**4** The application will be submitted to the appropriate authorities.



Biometric data may be collected.

If a minor is at least 14 years of age, she can submit the application in person. If not, the application needs to be submitted by means of a legal representative.

**6** The claim will either be granted or forwarded for a trial hearing.



**5** An interview will be conducted where the child will present his/her reasons for soliciting protection.



**7** If granted, the child should either be placed in a protected residence or reunification measures should be underway.



If more evidence is needed, the child will present evidence of age or their country of origin.



**9** If denied asylum, the child may stay in resident centers until they are required to leave the country (usually between 15 and 30 days).

According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, children should never be detained. In the case of an age dispute, alternative lodging should be pursued.



**8** Some children may be held in detention centers pending their hearing, particularly if the case is based on an age dispute.

For more information on legal protection for unaccompanied minors, visit [childhub.org](http://childhub.org)



CHILD PROTECTION HUB  
FOR SOUTH EAST EUROPE

This graphic was developed by Sarah Gilkerson, 2018.