

Department of Social Protection supports for those arriving from Ukraine under the EU Temporary Protection Directive

Update as at: 8th July 2022

Welcome to our fifth newsletter, we hope you find it of assistance.

In this edition the focus is on:

- How can students with Temporary Protection access higher education in Ireland?
- What supports are available to minors arriving in Ireland under the EU Temporary Protection Directive?
- Why are people with Temporary Protection and receiving a Jobseekers payment being asked to attend their local Intreo or Branch Office?

For information on topics covered in previous editions please see page 4

Introduction

The European Union has put in place a temporary protection Directive to allow Ukrainian citizens and others fleeing Ukraine access to a wide range of supports including social welfare income supports. The Department of Social Protection is providing support and services to assist people covered by this Directive who are fleeing Ukraine and who arrive in Ireland.

The Department has published information on gov.ie in both Ukrainian and Russian and interpretive services are available in all our Reception Centres and Offices.

Current Numbers

PPSNs have been issued to some 41,861 people as at close of business 3rd July 2022.

- 49% of Ukrainian arrivals are adult women
- 34% are children
- 17% are adult males
- 4% of the adults are aged 66 or over

Income Supports:

- Income supports are being paid in respect of c. 32,700 people
- There are c.20,500 primary claims with an average of 1.7 people on each claim.
- Child benefit is now also being paid in respect of 12,744 children

For more information on income supports please visit [Gov.ie/dsp/Ukraine](https://gov.ie/dsp/Ukraine)

How can students with Temporary Protection access higher education in Ireland?

A National Student and Researcher (NSR) Helpdesk was established on 4 May 2022. Displaced Ukrainian students and researchers wishing to continue their education in Ireland can contact this central helpdesk established by the government.

The helpdesk will direct students to third-level institutions or researcher positions that meet their educational needs. It is staffed by admissions experts and research advisors.

Contact the National Student and Researcher Helpdesk at NSRHelpdesk@mu.ie or by calling +353 (0)1 474 7788.

[gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Employment, childcare and education \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

The Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science Simon Harris TD has announced a range of new measures to provide access to further and higher-level education for the academic year 2022/2023 to displaced Ukrainian students living in Ireland.

The measure will ensure displaced Ukrainians will be treated as European students and will not be subjected to international fees.

The national Erasmus grant allocation will also be used to fund financial supports for qualified persons who undertake full-time studies in Higher Education Institutions, as well as displaced academic staff.

Displaced Ukrainian students will also be eligible to access the Springboard+ programme [HEA - Springboard+ \(springboardcourses.ie\)](http://springboardcourses.ie) and Post Leaving Cert Courses (PLC).

[gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Minister Harris announces new measures to provide access to further and higher education for displaced Ukrainian students \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

What supports are available to minors arriving in Ireland under the EU Temporary Protection Directive?

The Child and Family Agency (TUSLA), has statutory responsibility for the care of any unaccompanied children (minors) in the State. TUSLA have advised that where there is a private arrangement for the child's care, they assess the arrangement. Where TUSLA finds that this arrangement satisfies their criteria in relation to the care and safety of the child, there is no further involvement from a financial support perspective provided from TUSLA.

Children in such placements, including those availing of the Temporary Protection Directive and those that are not deemed to be a qualified child for the purpose of primary scheme payments, may have an entitlement to other supports from the Department of Social Protection.

An Officer administering SWA may provide support by way of an Other Supplement to that child. Payment amounts in these cases would be at the age-appropriate Increase for a Qualified Child rate of €40 per week for a child under 12 years or €48 per week for a child over 12 years. This payment which is means tested and examines the means, if any, of the child, can be nominated to the adult who has the care of the child. Applications can be made with the community welfare service at local Intreo Offices.

Why are people with Temporary Protection and receiving a Jobseekers payment being asked to attend their local Intreo or Branch Office?

Persons covered by the Temporary Protection Directive, in receipt of a Jobseekers payment and are fully unemployed are being invited into their local Intreo or Branch Office to confirm their ongoing eligibility to their Jobseekers payment. The eligibility criteria for a Jobseekers payment are available online at www.gov.ie/deasp. Select 'Social Welfare Schemes and Services' and follow the links.

To continue to be eligible to receive Jobseekers Allowance a person must:

- be over 18 and under 66 years of age
- satisfy a means test
- be habitually resident in Ireland (satisfied by temporary protection status)
- be capable of work
- be available for full-time work
- be genuinely seeking work
- be fully or partly unemployed (at least 4 days out of work in every 7)

People will receive a letter inviting them to attend their local Intreo or Branch office. The invitation will provide a date and time to attend. A 'Jobseekers Allowance – Confirmation of Ongoing Eligibility Declaration' form will be included with the invitation (English (on front) & Ukrainian (on the back)). People should complete the form and bring it with them to their appointment.

It is essential that customers attend this appointment. If a customer fails to attend as requested, their payment may be suspended and subsequently closed. Customers are asked to bring the following items with them when they attend:

- 1. Public Services Card** If they do not have a Public Services Card, they should bring the following documents:
Evidence of identity for example their passport or drivers' licence or National ID Card
- 2. Temporary Protection Letter** as issued by the Department of Justice
If a person does not have this letter, they should still attend the appointment
- 3. Mobile Phone**
- 4. Jobseekers Allowance – Confirmation of Ongoing Eligibility Declaration form.**

If a customer wishes to Close their claim because they no longer require the payment or are no longer eligible then they should visit <https://services.mywelfare.ie/> and select the close claim option

Close Claim

What can I do to help?

You have a key role to play in supporting people when they arrive at their new accommodation and helping them to settle into our communities. In relation to Social Protection entitlements, it would be most helpful if:

- Where people are unsure about what to do next, you explain the information outlined in our newsletters
- And support people through the steps if needed

Reminder of all useful links:

[Gov.ie/Ukraine](#) – a dedicated site with information on the Irish government’s response to the Ukraine crisis, and all the government supports available

[Gov.ie/DSP/Ukraine](#) – a page with information on all social welfare supports for those affected, this information is available in both the Ukrainian and Russian languages

[gov.ie/findyourintreo](#) – this directory gives a list of the locations, contact details and opening hours of all our offices including the dedicated Ukraine Support Centres

[Jobsireland.ie](#) – this website helps those who are looking for employment and employers who have vacancies. It has tailored information for those affected in both the Ukrainian and Russian languages

<https://services.mywelfare.ie/en/topics/out-of-work-payments/benefit-of-work-estimator/> - a quick way of checking how or if income from work, including part time work, could affect a payment from the Department of Social Protection

[www.irishimmigration.ie/faqs-for-ukraine-nationals-and-residents-of-ukraine](#) FAQs – for Ukraine Nationals and Residents of Ukraine provided by the Department of Justice.

In our previous editions we featured:

- How does the person get their PPSN?
- How does the person get their income support payment?
- What Income Support payments are people entitled to
- What happens if the person moves address?
- How do people receive their payment?
- Getting paid to a Bank Account
- What happens if a person wants to start work/ How can Intreo Offices help persons find work?
- If a person starts work, how will this affect their income support payment?
- How can people request to change their Post Office when they have moved address?
- Can a person that is in receipt of an income support payment from the Department take holidays or leave the country?
- What obligations does a Jobseekers Allowance recipient have?
- How is employment classified?
- Supports available to have a person’s qualifications recognised
- How working remotely in Ukraine is treated for Tax purposes in Ireland
- How International Protection differs from Temporary Protection under the EU Directive