

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

Update as at: 9 December 2022

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

### In this edition the focus is on:

- What happens if a person who has Temporary Protection decides that they wish to leave the state?
- What are the Christmas and New Year payment dates?
- What are the Christmas and New Year opening hours?
- How Intreo Centres help people find work

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.

Information for people arriving from Ukraine is available at Gov.ie [www.gov.ie/ArrivingFromUkraine](http://www.gov.ie/ArrivingFromUkraine)

### Current Numbers

PPSNs have been issued to some 67,064 people as at close of business 8 December 2022.

- 48% of Ukrainian arrivals are adult women
- 30% are children
- 21% are adult males
- 5% of the adults are aged 66 or over

### Income Supports:

- Income supports are being paid in respect of c. 49,625 people, including children
- There are c.30,900 primary claims with an average of 1.6 people on each claim.
- Child benefit is now also being paid in respect of 16,796 children

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

## What happens if a person who has Temporary Protection decides that they wish to leave the state?

Department of Social Protection assistance payments such as Supplementary Welfare Allowance or Jobseekers Allowance are not payable in respect of periods where a person is absent, whether temporarily or permanently, from the State (S. 249 (6) SWCA 2005 refers). However, these payments may be administratively made for up to two weeks in any calendar year in respect of periods of absence from the State. On that basis, temporary periods of absence of up to two weeks for Supplementary Welfare Allowance and Jobseekers Allowance in a calendar year can be facilitated.

One-Parent Family Payment and Jobseeker's Transitional payment can be paid up to a maximum of three weeks in a calendar year while a person is temporarily absent from the State.

A person should inform the Department of their proposed absence in advance of travel. Where a person will be temporarily absent from the state, for up to two/three weeks, (depending on their social welfare payment), in a calendar year, their payment can be temporarily suspended and paid when they return.

Where a person is going to be absent from the state for a period of more than those mentioned above, they should close their claim and they can reapply for income support on their return.

Where a person is living in accommodation provided by Ukraine Crisis Temporary Accommodation Team (UCTAT) they should contact their accommodation provider to clarify how any absence from the state may affect their accommodation placement. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) has provided some updated information around absences over the Christmas period here: [gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Christmas Absence Protocol \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

These arrangements are entirely separate to the payment of social welfare when absent from the state. There has been no change to existing arrangements for payment of social welfare while absent from the state.

## Christmas and New Year payment dates

Details of all payment arrangements for the Christmas period are provided below.

Weekly social welfare payments paid week commencing Monday 19 December will include an advanced payment for week commencing Monday 26 December. This applies to payments made at post offices, by cheque or directly into financial institution accounts.

Payment due date	Payment will be made on
19, 20, 21 December 2022	No change
22 December 2022	21 December 2022
23 December 2022	22 December 2022
2 January 2023	30 December 2022

This means there will be no payments made week commencing 26 December.

Weekly payments will be paid on normal dates from 3 January 2023.

## Christmas and New Year opening hours

Intreo Centres and Branch Offices will be closed on Monday 26 December 2022 and Tuesday 27 December 2022. Offices will re-open on Wednesday 28 December 2022. Offices will also be closed on Monday 2 January 2023.

## How Intreo Centres help people find work

Intreo Centres are here to help people, including people covered by the EU Temporary Protection Directive, find work while in Ireland. Trained and dedicated Employment Personal Advisors and Job Coaches work directly with jobseekers to assist them in their journey to employment.

Employment Services provide a walk-in service to anyone seeking support in their search for employment and an appointment with an officer will be made as soon as possible.

Employment Services has met with over 20,000 jobseekers who came to Ireland under the Temporary Protection Directive. They also writing to people who have not yet been met with to ascertain some detail about their English language proficiency and educational qualifications. This information will help determine what supports jobseekers may need. These letters will continue to issue, and we advise everyone to return this letter. People who do not respond to the letter will receive an invitation to attend the Intreo Centre in person.

If a person receives an invitation to attend an Intreo Centre they must attend or contact the Intreo if there is a reason that they cannot do so.

Jobs are advertised on our website jobsireland.ie and employers with jobs use this website to advertise vacancies across all areas and types of work. JobsIreland.ie also provides updates on recruitment events in the "What's Going On?" section – in English and also in Ukrainian and Russian.

## What can I do to help?

You have a key role to play in supporting people who receive letters from Employment Services. It would be most helpful if you could:

- Advise people to reply to the letter they receive from Employment Services about their English language proficiency and educational qualifications. This will help us determine what supports people may need
- Advise people that if they receive an invitation to attend an Intreo Centre they must attend or contact the Intreo if there is a reason that they cannot do so
- Encourage people to contact their Intreo Centre if they need supports to find a job
- Support people through these steps if needed

## Thank you for your help

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to you for all your assistance over the last number of months. Wishing you and your families the very best for Christmas and 2023.

### 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 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?
- Getting paid to a Bank Account
- 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
- 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?
- How to apply for Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance
- What should a person do if they lose their job?
- If I become a full-time student, what do I need to do?
- When a person starts work what happens to their Child Benefit claim?
- What is the Accommodation Recognition Payment?
- New process for income support applications
- What happens if a person that has Temporary Protection decides that they wish to leave the state?
- When a person is moving to new accommodation what do they need to do?
- Important update on the process for applying for income support
- What happens if a person’s circumstances change?
- How Intreo Centres help people find work
- If a person starts work, how will this affect their income support payment?