Ireland
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1. General information

Geopolitically, Ireland is divided between the Republic of Ireland (officially named Ireland and a member of the European Union), which covers five-sixths of the island, and Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom.

**Language**
The two official languages of the Republic of Ireland are Irish and English.

**Administrative settings**
In the Republic of Ireland, local government arrangements are based on which county you live in. Certain counties have been broken up into smaller administrative areas due to their population size. These are:
- Dublin: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Dublin
- Cork: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Cork
- Limerick: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Limerick
- Galway: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Galway
- Waterford: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Waterford
- Tipperary: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Tipperary

**Population**
The population in the Republic of Ireland is around 5 million people.

**Emergency contacts**
- For ambulance, Gardaí (police), fire brigade, coast guard: 112 and 999
- Women’s Aid 24hr National Freephone Helpline: 1800 341 900
Driving licence

Ukrainians fleeing the war can exchange their Ukrainian driving licence for an Irish driving licence. More information is available here in Ukrainian: https://www.rsa.ie/services/alerts/advice-for-ukrainian-drivers

Ukrainian embassy in Ireland

- Address: 16, Elgin Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland D04 NY31
- Phone: +353 1 668 5189
- Fax: +353 1 668 7917
- Email: emb_ie@mfa.gov.ua
- Website: https://ireland.mfa.gov.ua/
- Work schedule: Monday-Friday 9:00-18:00

2. Entry to Ireland

Ukrainian citizens do not need a visa to travel to Ireland. On arrival, a standard 90 day entry permission will be given at port of entry.

Where normal travel documents are not available, transport carriers have been asked to accept Government issued identity documents including, for example, national ID cards, birth certificates, internal passports and expired passports, which are not usually acceptable for international travel, instead of a national passport, whenever appropriate.

Irish Immigration authorities have also requested that boarding is not refused to anyone fleeing Ukraine without first contacting immigration authorities in Ireland.

These are emergency/temporary provisions and may change.

Health screening / COVID-19 requirements / vaccinations

As of 6 March 2022, travellers to Ireland are not required to show proof of vaccination, proof of recovery or a negative PCR test result upon arrival. Moreover, there are no post-arrival testing or quarantine requirements for travellers to Ireland.
3. Temporary protection

You can avail of temporary protection to reside in Ireland if you are:

- A Ukrainian national living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022.
- Nationals of a third country (a non-EU country other than Ukraine) or stateless persons with refugee status or an equivalent national protection status in Ukraine living there before 24 February 2022.
- Family members of persons above whose family already lived in Ukraine prior to 24 February 2022. Those family members include a spouse or partner, unmarried minor children, and their other close dependent family relatives who have been living with them as part of the family unit.
- Other people who were legally and permanently residing in Ukraine who cannot safely return to their country of origin, including nationals from non-EU countries or stateless persons.

People who can safely return to their country of origin will be assisted in doing so.

Temporary protection can also be granted to Ukrainian nationals who had arrived in Ireland before 24 February 2022 where:

- they had been granted a short-term 90 day visa e.g. they had arrived for visit or business reasons;
- their current immigration permission to reside in Ireland is not extended or renewed.

Where can you register for temporary protection in Ireland?

There are three different ways to register for the letter of temporary protection. This letter will enable you to access all supports as soon as possible and gives you legal permission to reside in Ireland for a period of 1 year, which may be extended for further periods.

A. Upon arrival at Dublin airport

- You should present to an immigration officer for passport control and hand over any identification documentation available.
- The immigration officer will identify you as a potential beneficiary of the temporary protection directive and ask some basic questions in relation to your individual needs.
- You will be brought to the Citywest Convention Centre where a
Which documents do you need for registration?
Any documentation proving that you are eligible for temporary protection, such as:

- identity and travel documents;
- supporting documents on family ties (marriage certificate, birth certificate, adoption certificate, etc.);
- any other essential information to prove that the requirements for temporary protection are met.

What is the procedure to access temporary protection in Ireland?
Upon arrival at Citywest Convention Centre, people from Ukraine will be met by representatives from the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The IOM representatives will explain, in English, Ukrainian or Russian, the process and what you need to do in order to be granted temporary protection.

You will then be assisted in filling out forms required by the Department of Social Protection to give them a Personal Public Service number which gives them access to social welfare and public services in Ireland. Finally, Immigration Officers record the details of each person, taking photographs of the person and a copy of their passport and/or other ID documents.
Which documents will you receive as a beneficiary of temporary protection?

A document confirming the temporary protection is issued to you by the Department of Justice. This document will enable you to access all necessary supports as soon as possible and gives you legal permission to reside in Ireland for a period of 1 year which may be extended for further periods.

Duration of temporary protection

The temporary protection document gives you legal permission to reside in Ireland for a period of 1 year which may be extended for further periods.

Your rights as a beneficiary of temporary protection in Ireland

- accommodation
- access to the labour market
- access to medical care
- social welfare assistance and means of subsistence
- education
- family reunification
More information about these rights

Accommodation

♦ Initial reception
If you or your family require accommodation, you should let Immigration Officials know and you will be referred to the International Protection Accommodation Service. If you do not require accommodation immediately, you can request it at any time later on.

Please contact the Ukrainian International Protection Accommodation Service Helpdesk at ukrainetempaccom@equality.gov.ie and someone will assist you.

The Citywest Convention Centre is currently being used as a processing centre to register beneficiaries of temporary protection seeking assistance with accommodation and to match them with current accommodation available in the system.

Waiting times vary significantly depending on the number of arrivals and the availability of accommodation.

Every effort is made to minimise waiting times and to ensure those waiting are made comfortable with food, a rest area and a children’s play area provided.

♦ Temporary emergency accommodation
Since the conflict began, the International Protection Accommodation Service has placed people in temporary emergency accommodation through different channels.

♦ Hotels, guest houses, Bed and Breakfasts, and student accommodation. Rooms in these types of property have been contracted to provide accommodation. Families and adults of the same sex are required to share rooms. Generally, meals are provided rather than self-catering options. Laundry is provided. Single people do not have their own rooms.
- Religious properties. The department has contracted properties belonging to religious orders such as former convents for use as accommodation. In some cases, meals are provided. In other cases, self-catering options are available. Laundry is covered. Accommodation is often dormitory style where adults of the same sex share accommodation. Where these properties have individual rooms, priority is given to allocating them to families. Single people do not have their own rooms.
- Scout facilities / youth hostels. The department has contracted scout facilities or youth hostels. Accommodation is normally dormitory style. Meals may be provided or self-catering options may be available, depending on the property. Laundry is covered.
- Local authority facilities. These are generally emergency camp-bed style accommodation in community centres. Meals are provided. Beneficiaries of temporary protection are accommodated in these facilities for short periods and then moved to accommodation in the other categories (hotels, guesthouses, holiday villages, religious properties).
- Accommodation pledged by the general public. Pledges of accommodation, shared and unshared, were made through the Irish Red Cross.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection may be entitled to apply for state housing support such as:

- Rent Supplement: [https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/supplementary_welfare_schemes/rent_supplement.html](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/supplementary_welfare_schemes/rent_supplement.html)

Beneficiaries of temporary protection are advised that accommodation is temporary. Provisions are in place to assist with moving to longer-term pledged accommodation. Beneficiaries of temporary protection are advised that this may not be in the same area as their initial temporary accommodation.

Requests to move within temporary accommodation are not facilitated due to the large number of arrivals and those seeking accommodation.

As accommodation capacity is very limited, beneficiaries of temporary protection are often required to move accommodation, such as when a hotel needs the accommodation for other guests, such as for a wedding. Accommodation is allocated to urban and rural areas across the country. The allocation of accommodation in a town or a village depends on the accommodation available when you arrive in Ireland.
**Access to labour market**

Beneficiaries of temporary protection can work legally in Ireland once they have received their letter confirming they have been granted temporary protection under the EU directive. They are then also entitled to the full range of statutory employment rights and protections in the same manner as Irish workers.


**Social welfare and means of subsistence in the reception system**

Beneficiaries of temporary protection are entitled to social welfare payments in the same manners as eligible Irish nationals.

**Public health**

Beneficiaries of temporary protection are considered ordinarily resident in Ireland for a limited period and therefore will be entitled to access healthcare services in the same manner as Irish citizens.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection will be able to get healthcare services from the Health Service Executive (HSE) including access to COVID-19 vaccinations, general practitioners, community care and hospital or emergency care, as well as access to services for children’s health, mental health, disabilities, maternity care, older people and many more.

**Medical care/medical prescription**

There is a simplified and streamlined process for beneficiaries of temporary protection to apply to the Health Service Executive for a medical card to get specific healthcare services free of charge in Ireland (e.g. visits to a local General Practitioner and prescriptions). Beneficiaries of temporary protection will automatically qualify.

More information is available here: [https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukrainian-refugees.html#medical-card](https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukrainian-refugees.html#medical-card)
A copy of the simplified application form is available on the Health Service Executive website and is also available in both Ukrainian and Russian. In addition, applications can be submitted either manually or online at https://www.mymedicalcard.ie/. You will need to provide generalities, a Personal Public Service number, and a general practitioner’s acceptance and signature (if no General Practitioner is indicated, one will be assigned by default).

If a beneficiary of temporary protection is not able to speak English, the medical staff may arrange interpretation services. In some cases, the hospital or health clinic can provide an interpreter.

The Health Service Executive has issued public health guidance to inform local service response models. It has also established a dedicated webpage on access to healthcare services:

- in English: https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukrainian-refugees.html
- in Ukrainian: https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukraine-nationals-uk.html
- in Russian: https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukraine-nationals-ru.html

**Psychosocial support**
You will be able to access health services in the same manner as people who are already living here, including Irish citizens.

**Disabilities**
You will be able to receive disability services in the same manner people who are already living here, including Irish citizens.

**COVID-19**
You will have access to COVID-19 vaccinations. These can be requested from your chosen general practitioner, pharmacist, accessed through Health Service Executive vaccination centres, or through directly provided vaccination clinics in locations convenient for access for those in International Protection Accommodation Service settings.

Health guidance specific to the needs of beneficiaries of temporary protection who have arrived in Ireland has been developed and includes:

- guidance on prevention of COVID-19 in congregated settings;
Access to education
The Department for Education established the Regional Education and Language Teams (REALT) to support the needs of the children of beneficiaries of temporary protection arriving in Ireland.

In Dublin, a specific mechanism to assess the minor’s educational background and English language skills was established by the Youth and Education Service for Refugees and Migrants.

If a beneficiary of temporary protection needs to learn English, the Education and Training Board, after an assessment of the language level, will arrange appropriate language and other learning supports free of charge.

Vaccinations for children
The Health Service Executive is also providing vaccination catch-up services, including childhood immunisations, prevention of other vaccine preventable diseases such as influenza, polio, measles and outbreak management.

Primary and secondary school
Children aged between 4 and 18 will be supported in accessing public primary or post-primary education provided by the state as appropriate. Beneficiaries of temporary protection may approach any local primary or post-primary school and seek information on how to enrol a child in the school. The Tusla Education Support Service can assist in finding a school for a child.

University
The Minister for Further and Higher Education has indicated that beneficiaries of temporary protection will be treated as if Irish and are eligible for EU fees rather than international fees.

Education titles recognition / refer to the relevant source of information
The state agency responsible for promoting the quality, integrity and reputation of Ireland’s further and higher education system developed a guide to help those arriving from Ukraine comparing their qualifications to similar awards on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications. The guide is also available in Ukrainian and Russian.
Family reunification
You may be entitled to avail of family reunification (in Ireland or in another Member State of the EU) if the spouse or partner, or any children under age 18, have temporary protection in another EU Member State. This will be subject of co-operation between Ireland and the Member State concerned.

Mandatory check-up with a veterinarian for pets
Temporary arrangements have been put in place to allow people to travel from Ukraine to Ireland with their pets, even if the pets are not in compliance with EU Pet Travel Regulations 576/2013.

4. International protection
There is no requirement for those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine to seek international protection (also known as asylum) to receive the support and protection of the Irish state. The EU temporary protection directive provides a quicker and more streamlined alternative in these circumstances.

While you can, of course, always choose to apply for international protection, you cannot benefit from temporary protection at the same time.

Temporary protection will provide you with immediate access to the labour market, along with access to social welfare income supports, accommodation and other state support. If you choose to apply for international protection, you should be aware that you will not be able to access employment until 6 months after making your application.

Additional support
The European Union Agency for Asylum has a ‘Who is Who - temporary protection’ platform. It provides an up-to-date and comprehensive overview of the measures used by EU+ countries to implement temporary protection for persons fleeing the war available here: https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/temporary-protection
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Driving licence for Ukrainians fleeing the war</td>
<td><a href="https://www.rsa.ie/services/alerts/advice-for-ukrainian-drivers">https://www.rsa.ie/services/alerts/advice-for-ukrainian-drivers</a></td>
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<td>Available in Ukrainian</td>
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<td>Ukrainian embassy in Ireland</td>
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<td><strong>Temporary protection</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Information on temporary protection for people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishimmigration.ie/uk/information-on-temporary-protection-for-people-fleeing-the-conflict-in-ukraine/">https://www.irishimmigration.ie/uk/information-on-temporary-protection-for-people-fleeing-the-conflict-in-ukraine/</a></td>
<td>Ukrainian, Russian and English</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FAQs – for Ukraine Nationals and Residents of Ukraine on travel to Ireland</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishimmigration.ie/uk/faqs-for-ukraine-nationals-and-residents-of-ukraine/">https://www.irishimmigration.ie/uk/faqs-for-ukraine-nationals-and-residents-of-ukraine/</a></td>
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**Social welfare**

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**Accommodation**

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<tr>
<td>The Open Community, the national support organisation for Ireland’s Community Sponsorship Programme for Refugees</td>
<td><a href="https://theopencommunity.ie/">https://theopencommunity.ie/</a> Available in English</td>
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<td><strong>Public health</strong></td>
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<td>Healthcare services for Ukrainian nationals in Ireland</td>
<td><a href="https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukraine-nationals-uk.html">https://www2.hse.ie/services/healthcare-in-ireland/ukraine-nationals-uk.html</a> Available in Ukrainian and English</td>
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<td><strong>Access to education</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Work</strong></td>
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<td>JobsIreland is a website which connects anyone who is looking for employment with employers who are advertising vacancies</td>
<td><a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/service/593824-jobsireland/">https://www.gov.ie/en/service/593824-jobsireland/</a> Available in English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irish Refugees Council, a non–governmental organisation providing information on support provided by the Irish government</td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/ukraine-information-note">https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/ukraine-information-note</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Irish Refugees Council, a non–governmental organisation providing information for those from Ukraine in a dedicated section</td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/irish-government-resources">https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/irish-government-resources</a></td>
<td>Available in English</td>
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<td>Portal with information related to resources provided by the Irish government, access to healthcare</td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/access-to-healthcare">https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/access-to-healthcare</a></td>
<td>Available in Ukrainian and English</td>
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<td>Portal with information related to resources provided by the Irish government on housing</td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/housingukraine">https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/housingukraine</a></td>
<td>Available in English</td>
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<td>Portal with information related to resources provided by the Irish Government on Education for adults</td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/adult-education">https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/adult-education</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Portal with information related to resources provided by the Irish Government on Education for children</td>
<td><a href="https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/school">https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/school</a></td>
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<td>Information platforms (websites)</td>
<td>More information about temporary protection in specific countries</td>
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<td>Email address</td>
<td><a href="https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/Pages/Temporary-protection.aspx">https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/Pages/Temporary-protection.aspx</a></td>
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**UNHCR Ireland dedicated pages on how to reach Ireland, temporary protection and some FAQ in their website.**

https://help.unhcr.org/ireland/ukraine-situation/

Available in Ukrainian, Russian and English

**Special provisions for pets brought by people from Ukraine**


Available in English

**Special arrangements for owners and pets from Ukraine and for EU citizens**


Available in Ukrainian and English

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UNHCR Ireland dedicated pages on how to reach Ireland, temporary protection and some FAQ in their website.