Welcome and integration

This page contains information to support Ukrainians with leave under the Ukraine Scheme to integrate into life in the UK.

The government has produced a number of guidance pages to Ukrainians to support them with the early stages of integration

in the UK:

- This Welcome Guide from the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities contains key information on key aspects of integration such as accessing healthcare, schools and education, legal rights and more.
- There is also this week one guidance to support with the initial steps upon arrival in the UK. This includes information about opening a bank account, applying for welfare benefits and registering biometrics.
- Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities have produced this guidance for steps to be taken 4-6 months after arrival in the UK including accessing private accommodation or a new sponsorship.
- There is also a welcome guide for children under the age of 18 who are arriving without a parent or legal guardian.
- Practical guide for Ukrainians in the UK and UK Hosts

If you are unhappy or feeling unsafe with your host, please contact your Local Authority.

Banking

Opening a bank account is one suggested as one of the key initial integration steps upon arrival in the UK. The government have produced information on opening bank accounts on the welcome guide and week one guidance for Ukrainian arrivals.

There is also some key information on banking available from various sources.

- Refugee Council have a guide for people who have been granted Refugee status in England – it is not specific to Ukrainians, but is a useful resource.
- Several banks have produced guides and information on their own websites:
  - Natwest
  - Santander
  - RBS
  - Nationwide
  - Monzo
  - Lloyds Bank

Health

Below are some useful resources that can support migrants including Ukrainians to access healthcare.

- Doctors of the World have produced a translated leaflet and video explaining how to register with a GP and book a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Doctors of the World have produced a translated leaflet explaining migrants' right to healthcare in the UK.
- Doctors of the World have produced a translated leaflet explaining the different services within the NHS and how to seek medical advice and healthcare

Biometric Residence Permit (BRP)

Biometric residence permits (BRPs) are cards that were used to prove immigration status. You might have a BRP if you were granted permission to live or work in the UK on or before 31 October 2024.

All BRPs have now expired and have been replaced by eVisas. An eVisa is a digital record of your identity and immigration status.

If you have an expired BRP and still have permission to stay in the UK, you need to create a UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) account to get access to your eVisa.

Source URL: *https://www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/ukraine-hub/welcome-and-integration*