

Information for host households of refugees from the Ukraine

Many refugees from Ukraine are accommodated by a host household in the Netherlands. If you are one of these host households and you provide accommodation to a refugee with a temporary residence permit in Ukraine for study or work, this information is important for you. We refer to these refugees as 'third-country nationals', because they fled from Ukraine, but come from other countries. As of 4 September 2023, they will no longer receive temporary refugee status in the Netherlands. If your guest is a third-country national, this may have financial implications for you as a host household as of 4 September 2023.

What will change?

Refugees who hold a temporary residence permit in Ukraine for study or work will no longer be covered by the Temporary Protection Directive as of 4 September 2023. Your guest has received a letter from the IND stating how this will affect him or her. In this letter, your guest is presented with the choice of whether or not to proceed with the asylum procedure. If your guest does not wish to do so, he or she must leave the Netherlands by 4 September 2023 at the latest.

If your guest would like to proceed with the asylum procedure, your guest remains entitled to accommodation, but under the rules of COA. In that case, your guest can, if you agree, continue to live in your host household. Before you decide to continue the accommodation, we will inform you of the implications.

Potential financial implications for host households

If you choose to continue providing accommodation to a guest with a temporary Ukrainian residence permit (third-country national), this may have implications for your social security benefit, municipal taxes and other benefits. Below, we explain what the implications may be.

- **Social security benefit.** The number of household members determines the amount of your social security benefit. This is called the cost-sharing standard: the more adult household members you have, the lower your benefit will be. If your guest is 21 or older and not a student, your guest counts as a household member. Your municipality may decide to make an exception for people in a crisis situation. Municipalities are not obliged to do this, but you can inquire about this.

- **Municipal taxes.** The amount of some municipal taxes, such as sewerage and cleaning charges, depends on the number of household members in a home. This is different per municipality. You will pay extra for an additional household member.

- **Housing benefit.** The third-country national counts as a co-occupant for the purpose of the housing benefit. If your guest has income from work, your joint income will be higher. This may mean you will receive less or no housing benefit. For more information, visit the website of the Tax and Customs Administration:

<https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/nl/huurtoeslag/content/maximaal-inkomen-huurtoeslag>. You can also make a test calculation on this website.

- **Childcare benefit.** If your guest is your benefit partner and he or she does not have a job, you will not be entitled to the childcare benefit. If your guest does have income from work, your joint income will be higher. This may mean you will receive less childcare benefit. You can make a test calculation on the website of the Tax Administration:

<https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/nl/toeslagen/content/wat-is-mijn-toetsingsinkomen>.

- **Healthcare benefit.** If your guest counts as a benefit partner, this may affect your healthcare benefit. If your guest has income from work, your joint income will be higher. This may mean you will receive less or no healthcare benefit. For more information, visit the website of the Tax Administration:

<https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/nl/zorgtoeslag/content/maximaal-inkomen-voor-zorgtoeslag>. You can also make a test calculation on this website.

- **Child benefit budget.** If your guest counts as a benefit partner, this may affect your child benefit budget. For example, you may no longer be considered a single parent, which lowers the budget. If your guest has income from work, your joint income will be higher. This may mean you will receive less or no child benefit budget. For more information, visit the website of the Dutch Tax Administration: <https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/nl/kindgebonden-budget/content/maximaal-inkomen-kindgebonden-budget>. You can also make a test calculation on this website.

You can check whether your guest will become your benefit partner after 4 September at <https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/nl/toeslagen/content/hulpmiddel-heb-ik-een-toeslagpartner> or by contacting the Tax and Customs Administration at 0800 - 0543.

Continuing or stopping as a host household

If you want to continue to provide your guest with accommodation after 4 September 2023 while your guest continues with the asylum procedure, you do not have to do anything now. COA will contact your guest. If you wish to stop being a host household, your guest may arrange alternative accommodation or shelter with another host household according to COA's rules. Your guest may also move to a regular COA (emergency) accommodation after 4 September. COA will contact your guest about this as well.

If your guest does not apply for asylum, he or she must leave the Netherlands on 4 September. If you continue to accommodate your guest in this situation, government benefits or allowances may be stopped.

Where can you ask questions?

If you still have questions after reading this flyer, you can contact RefugeeHomeNL, an organisation that guides host households in the Netherlands: <https://www.rhnl.nl/>.

Host families and refugees with questions can contact the Dutch Council for Refugees (VluchtelingenWerk), accessible via the website refugeehelp.nl: refugeehelp.nl/non-ukrainian-citizenship. Via the contact page, you can make an online appointment or an in-person appointment.