

## *Initial information for displaced persons of Ukraine*

**All displaced persons from Ukraine who stayed on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Ukraine, can enter Germany without any visa until May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 and stay in Germany until May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 without any residence permit.**

**For a longer stay displaced persons of Ukraine do not have to apply for asylum.** The European Union has decided to grant them so-called temporary protection. The admission to Germany takes place in a simplified procedure after § 24 residence act. The entitled groups of people include in particular:

- Ukrainian nationals, which had their residence before February 24th, 2022
- stateless persons and nationals of third countries other than the Ukraine, who had international protection or national protection of the same value in Ukraine before February 24th, 2022, and
- family members of the persons named under letters above
- other non-Ukrainian third-country nationals who can prove legal and not only temporary residence or permanent residence in Ukraine according through an Ukrainian residence permit and who are unable to safely and permanently return to their country of origin.

During the temporary protection you will be allowed for employment, and you will get support, if necessary, especially with accommodation, meals, and medical issues. If you belong to the entitled group of people, follow the following steps after your arrival in Germany:

### **1. Registration at an accommodation, meals, or medical treatment, if necessary**

If you need accommodation, meals, medical treatment, or any other kind of support after your arrival, you will receive these from the authorities and aid organizations at the place of your residence. Please first inform yourself about the contact points and further information for displaced persons from the Ukraine on the websites of the city. Also at many train stations are information stations of various humanitarian associations, which you can speak to in your native language and can help you.

If you cannot find any concrete information there, contact the **immigration authorities** at your actual place of residence (see under 2.) or exceptionally an admission facility. You will be registered there. The registration also helps to decide about the distribution of those who are searching for help within Germany. Personal bonds that you have to people who are already in Germany can be considered.

In addition to registration of your personal data, such as surname, first name and birth date also a photo will be taken of you as biometrical data and fingerprints. As a proof of your registration a so-called **proof of arrival** will be issued to you. With this proof of arrival, you can contact the **social welfare** office at your local place, or you will be assigned accommodation directly.

If you do not receive any other information about the procedure at your local place, you can apply for your residence permit for temporary protection under § 24 of the residence act at the same time of your registration (see under 2.)

## 2. Application for a residence permit at the immigration authorities

The exemption from the obligation to own a residence permit for temporary protection ends on May 23rd, 2022. If you want to be admitted to Germany for temporary protection after this date, please apply quickly to the immigration authorities for a residence permit in accordance with § 24 of the residence act. If you fulfill the requirements for being granted a residence permit for a different purpose of residence, for example that of studying or employment, you can also apply for this. You can find the responsible immigration authority here:

<https://bamf-navi.bamf.de/de/Themen/Behoerden/>.

In some cases, the visit to the immigration office is dependent by an online appointment registration or you need a negative corona test certificate. Therefore, you should first find out more on the website of the immigration office. With the application for the residence permit, you will usually receive a so-called fictional certificate, which you will need for all further contact with the authorities. The fictional certificate will already contain a note that you are permitted to take up employment.

As soon as this is possible in view of the large number of people applying for temporary protection, the immigration authority will replace the fictional certificate with a residence permit. This is generally issued as an own document in credit card format with a memory chip and is valid until March 4th, 2024. The residence permit can also be issued in the form of an adhesive label and be placed inside your passport. In this case, the previous issue of a fictional certificate may not be necessary. A fee will not be charged for the issuance.

## 3. Further information and advice

If you need advice, for example on the registration of your children for school, attending a German course or looking for a job, contact a **migration advice center for adult immigrants (MBE)**. You can find MBE advice centers local or online at <https://www.mbeon.de/home/>. The churches in Germany, charitable and other non-governmental organizations in Germany also offer through the Internet, for example with the search term "advice (or information) for immigrants" to ask for help.

Upon your application, you can be admitted to an **integration course** by a regional office of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. There you will learn German and everything you need to know about Germany. You can find the responsible regional office here: <https://bamf-navi.bamf.de/de/Themen/Behoerden/>. Providers of integration courses, which you can find on the Internet, will also accept your application, and give you advices on the courses.

### Other accommodation options

If you do not belong to any of the groups of people mentioned above, you have to approve your long-term legal stay in Germany on a different base by the immigration authorities. This can be the application for a residence permit for the purpose of education or studying or starting work, provided you meet the requirements for this. Applying for an asylum application to the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees may also be an option. Because it is difficult to change to a different purpose of residence at a later date, you should seek advice before applying for asylum as to whether this is the best option for you.

Please only contact the above-mentioned authorities, contact points, and aid organizations with all your concerns. Be careful of offers of help from people who appear untrustworthy.