



"Nasc" is the Irish word for "Link"

Nasc, the Irish Immigrant Support Centre is a non-Governmental organization that seeks to respond to the needs of immigrants in the area of Cork, Ireland.

Our Vision: To contribute to an environment of social inclusion for all communities, based on the principles of equality, social justice and human rights.

Mission: Nasc is a source of support and self-development for migrants, individually and collectively, and uses its experiences to promote fair, consistent and transparent policies.

There are three parts to our work:

- One to one Advice & Advocacy
- Group capacity building
- Policy & Campaigning

This information leaflet was produced by Nasc and funded by Citizens Information Board.



Disclaimer: The contents of this leaflet are intended for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal advice. Nasc does not accept liability for the use or misuse of the information contained in this leaflet. Thank you for your co-operation.

Family Reunification for Refugees

Who qualifies?

Persons who have been granted refugee status can apply for family reunification.

Which family members can you include in your application?

Refugees are entitled to have their **spouse, unmarried children under 18 years old and parents** (if the recognized refugee is a minor) join them in Ireland for the purpose of family reunification.

Refugees may also apply for other **dependent family members** to join them in Ireland. Applicants will be required to prove that the family member is financially and or medically dependent on them. Permission for family reunification with dependent family members is not an automatic entitlement and will be granted at the discretion of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform. Dependent family members may include a grandparent, parent, brother, sister, child, grandchild, ward or guardian of the refugee.

Documents Required:

It is advisable to submit the documents listed below as soon as possible. Failure to submit documents may result in a delay in the decision making process.

- Copy of letter granting refugee status
- Copy of GNIB card
- 2 passport sized photographs of family member.

All documents listed below must be original and must include a certified English translation if necessary. This list is not exhaustive.

Husband/Wife:

- Birth Certificate
- National ID Card (if applicable)
- Passport
- Marriage Certificate
- Divorce / Death Certificate of previous spouse(s) (if applicable)

Children (under 18 years old and unmarried):

- Birth Certificate
- National ID Card (if applicable)
- Passport

- Statement of Parental Authorisation (granting permission for the child to travel to Ireland) from other parent if not travelling with child to Ireland.
- Death Certificate of other parent (if applicable)
- Evidence of sole legal guardianship if death certificate is not available (if applicable)
- Letter of authorisation from current guardian if child is not in the care of a parent.

Parents (of refugee under 18 years old and unmarried):

- Birth Certificate of refugee
- Parents Birth Certificates
- National ID (if applicable)
- Passports

Dependent Family Members:

- Birth Certificate
- National ID (if applicable)
- Passport
- Marriage Certificate (if applicable)
- Death / Divorce Certificates (if applicable)
- Court certified documentary evidence of custodial rights over a family member i.e. adopted or fostered children.
- Evidence of financial dependency on the Refugee i.e. money transfer receipts, bank statements, postal orders.
- Evidence of physical and / or mental dependency i.e. detailed medical reports
- Evidence of refugee's financial and domestic circumstances.

Application Process

1. A letter, signed by the refugee and giving details of the family members that they wish to apply for (i.e. name, date of birth and current address of family member) should be posted to:

Family Reunification Section

INIS

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

13-14 Burgh Quay

Dublin 2

2. The Office of Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC) is responsible to investigating applications for family reunification. ORAC will send a questionnaire to the refugee. The questionnaire should be filled out and returned to ORAC.

3. When ORAC finishes its investigation, the application is returned to the Family Reunification Section at INIS, where a final decision will be made.

Please note: During the process detailed above, the refugee may receive letters from both ORAC and the Family Reunification Section at INIS requesting further information. All requests for further information must be responded to in writing.

Positive Decision:

You will receive a letter from INIS informing you that your application has been successful. The passport for the family member wishing to travel to Ireland will be forwarded to the Visa Office. You will be instructed to contact the Visa Office after a certain period of time in order to collect the passport.

Negative Decision:

You will receive a letter from INIS informing you that your application has not been successful along with a report outlining the reasons why permission has not been granted. You have the right to ask for a review of this decision. It is advisable to seek legal advice before seeking a review of a negative decision.

How Nasc Can Help:

Nasc is able to provide assistance with every step of the family reunification process.

Other useful contacts:

Office of Refugee Applications Commissioner

79-83 Lower Mount Street

Dublin 2

Tel: 01 6028000 and www.orac.ie

The UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR:

Merrion House

Suite 4, 1-3 Lower Fitzwilliam Street

Dublin 2

Tel: 01-6314613 and www.unhcr.ie

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

7 Hill Street

Dublin 1

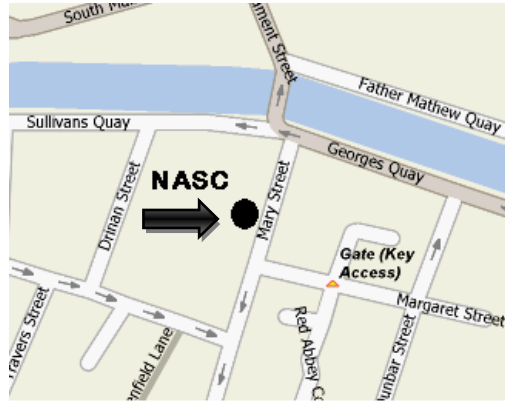
Tel: 01-8787900 and www.iomdublin.org

Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS) at:

13/14 Burgh Quay

Dublin 2

Tel: 01-6167700 and www.inis.gov.ie



CONTACT US:

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You can visit or phone our drop-in service at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00 am to 1:00 pm

2:00 pm to 4.30 pm