



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

People with Status in International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS)

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11th June 2024



International Protection Accommodation Service

As a division of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY), the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) is responsible for the provision of accommodation and related services to people in the International Protection process. Under EU and International Law, Ireland is obliged to examine the claim of any person who arrives into the country and claims International Protection.

While that claim is being examined by the Department of Justice, IPAS offers accommodation and related services to International Protection applicants who wish to accept the offer of accommodation from the Irish State.



International Protection Accommodation Challenges

- Since the beginning of 2022, Ireland and many other European countries are experiencing a significant increase of new arrivals seeking International Protection (IP).
- Last year 2023, over 13,200 people arrived in Ireland seeking accommodation while their applications for International Protection are processed by the International Protection Office (IPO). In 2022, 13,600 people sought International Protection
- Over the period 2017-2019 an average of 3,500 people applied for protection each year, averaging 67 people per week.
- The arrival numbers remain significantly elevated. In the first 21 weeks of 2024, over 8,300 people have arrived in Ireland seeking accommodation from the State, averaging 398 people per week. This is more than five times the average from 2017-2019. The highest weekly applications in 2024 was over 610 applicants.



- As of 2nd June, there are nearly 31,032 people accommodated in the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) system as a whole (of whom 7,680 are children) compared with approximately 8,700 people at the end of February 2022.
- These figures are combined with the arrival of over 102,000 beneficiaries of temporary protection (BOTPs) displaced by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the largest displacement of people in Europe since the Second World War. Over 75,000 BOTPs have been accommodated in state-provided accommodation.
- Despite intensive efforts to source emergency accommodation, the Department is currently providing contingency material reception conditions in the form of an expense allowance of €113.80 per week to some International Protection (IP) applicants due to the severe shortage of accommodation. This is an increase of €75 per week from the standard expenses allowance of €38.80 for IP applicants in accommodation.
- Presently, over 5,600 people in IPAS accommodation are no longer applicants in the international protection process, having been granted status or permission to remain in Ireland.



People with status

3 forms of status granted by International Protection Office (IPO),
Department of Justice

- Refugee Status
- Subsidiary Protection
- Leave/Permission to Remain



People with Status

- At the end of April 2024, 5644 people remained in IPAS accommodation who had been granted a form of status (Refugee, Subsidiary Protection or Leave to Remain).
- Length of time with Status

Length of time	No of People
Less than 1 Year	2902
1 year to 2 years	1640
2 years to 3 years	864
3 Years +	238



People with Status

- Number of people with status per end of year:

Year	No of People
2024*	5644
2023	6038
2022	4931
2021	1761
2020	1010

*April 2024



People with Status

- Number of Grants issued per year:

Year	Total Grants	Average Per Month
2024*	1278	320
2023	3109	259
2022	3903	325
2021	1670	139
2020	1101	92

People with Status



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- Number of people who progressed out of IPAS by year:

Year	No of Progressions	Average per Month
2024*	1672	418
2023	2002	167
2022	733	61
2021	919	77
2020	1136	95

- The increase in grants in 2022 and the reduction in average progressions meant that the number of people of people with status increased by over 500% in 3 years (2020, 2021 and 2022)
- Figures for 2023 show over 270% increase in progressions in 2023 from 2022.

* April 2024



People with Status

Supports Available

- Applicants who have been granted an international protection status (or a permission to remain) have the same access to housing supports and services as Irish and EEA nationals.
- The tools of Homeless HAP are available to those with status in IPAS accommodation once the LA has assessed them as eligible for such.
- The Department also has a specific team in IPAS who work in collaboration with DePaul Ireland, the Peter McVerry Trust, officials in the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the County and City Management Association to collectively support residents with status, or a permission to remain, to access housing options.
- In addition to assisting with housing applications, both DePaul Ireland and the Peter McVerry Trust support the person's integration into the community as fully as possible. This includes providing information about vocational and training courses, such as suitability, locations and eligibility, CV preparation and aid with medical issues, should they arise.



People with Status

Changes to the System

- In 2023 IPAS removed points/vouchers system for those with status in accommodation that provides this service for groceries after a period of 8 weeks. All those with status are entitled to full Social Welfare payments if not in employment. This policy ensure that all those with status have the skills to live independently and are housing ready.
- IPAS now transfers those longest with status from Accommodation Centres into available Emergency Accommodation so that those in the International Protection process can avail of the services provided in Accommodation Centres.
- A tender for additional supports for those with status was completed in 2023 and this resulted in doubling the number of support workers available to those with status and assist them to progress into the community.



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Thank You