

GUIDE: Employment and Small Business Supports for our Ukrainian guests

Finding a job or starting a business in Ireland can be a challenge. We've compiled some key resources to help our Ukrainian guests on their journey.

Employment & Job Seeking Resources

- Local Development Network: These companies offer a wide range of integrated services to help people find meaningful work. They provide various programs, including training, guidance services, and tailored supports including Local Employment Service (LES), Tús, Rural Social Scheme, Jobs Clubs, SICAP Pre-Employment Supports, Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Community Employment (CE), Community Service Programme and Back to Work Enterprise.
 - More info: https://ildn.ie/themes/employment-services/
- **BITC EPIC Programme:** This program assists unemployed and job-ready asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants in Ireland. They offer online training, individual support, and business partnerships to help increase chances of finding a job.
 - More info: https://bitc.ie/programmes/jobseekers/epic-programme/
- Intreo: A key employment and training hub providing tailored services for job seekers. Intreo can help with CV writing, job seeking skills, and finding Irish equivalents for professional qualifications.
- Irish Refugee Council Employment Support: For real-time updates and support.
 - Telegram: https://t.me/irc_employment
 - Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/irc.employment.support
- Open Doors Mentorship Programme: Provides mentorship for marginalised groups.
 - More info: https://www.opendoorsinitiative.ie/Open-Doors-Programmes
- Job Search Websites:
 - o www.jobs.ie
 - o www.irishjobs.ie
 - o www.linkedin.com
 - www.glassdoor.com
 - o www.indeed.com
 - www.jobsireland.ie
 - o www.employee.ie
 - www.activelink.ie
 - www.careersportal.ie

- Career Coaches:
 - Angela Cox: angela.coax@yourability.ie | www.yourability.ie
 - The Career Coach: success@thecareer-coach.com | www.thecareer-coach.com

Self-Employment & Business Supports

- Local Enterprise Office: A great resource for those looking to set up a small business.
 - More info: https://www.localenterprise.ie/
- Pathways to Progress / Open Doors: Offers special resources, services, and advice on starting a business in Ireland. They have a guide on setting up your own business available in Ukrainian here

Qualification Recognition

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI): This organization has information (in Ukrainian) about its qualifications recognition service (NARIC).
 - https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/2022-03/naric-guide-ukraine.pdf

A Note on Realistic Expectations

It's important to remember that finding a job or setting up a business takes time and patience, especially in a new country.

For Hosts:

- **Be patient:** The job search process can be long and challenging.
- Recognise skills: Not every professional qualification or skill from Ukraine may have a direct equivalent in Ireland. Be open to guests exploring new career paths or seeking additional training.
- Encourage your guest to be open to new approaches and advice. The job application process and professional norms in Ireland may be different from Ukraine.
- Support, don't pressure: Your primary role as a host is to provide a safe and supportive environment. If you can, offer to help with practical things like CV formatting or job search navigation.
- Celebrate small victories like updating a CV or having a successful interview. The journey is as important as the destination.

Together, we can create a supportive community that empowers our guests. Thank you!

