



ASYLUM SEEKERS : YOUR RIGHTS WHILE YOUR APPLICATION IS ENDING

>> Your right to reside in Belgium

As soon as the Immigration Office considers that Belgium is competent to process your asylum application, you will receive a provisional residence permit (proof of registration - orange card), which is valid for 3 months and can be renewed every 3 months by the municipality up to a maximum of 2 years.

Afterwards, this residence permit will be renewed every month, as long as your asylum application is under review by the Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRA/CGVS).

>> Material assistance

You are entitled to material assistance while your asylum application is under review. This assistance initially covers basic needs: a place to sleep, meals, clothing and access to healthcare.

>> Access to the labour market

You can access the labour market 4 months after the start of the procedure, provided that you have a place of residence and have not received a negative decision from the CGRA/CGVS. You are allowed to work, register as a job seeker with a public employment service and follow vocational training organised by a public entity or other operators such as local employment organisations or professional integration organisations.

You will maintain your access to the labour market until the CGRA/CGVS has informed you of its decision regarding your asylum application:

- If the answer is negative, you will be ordered to leave the territory. If you appeal against the CGRA/CGVS decision, you will maintain your right to work until the Council for Alien Law Litigation has taken a decision in the appeal.
- If you get a positive decision, you are recognised as a refugee or as a beneficiary of subsidiary protection and you will have unlimited access to the labour market.

Note that you will be required to pay a financial contribution if you are still staying in the reception centre. The contribution is calculated via a simulator (progressive and by bracket) and can go up to 75% of your net income, for wage brackets of equal or more than 500 EUR.



>> Coverage in case of illness

You are entitled to medical care. Each residential facility has a doctor and nurse attached. In addition to medical care, you are also entitled to psychological support.

If you have a job, you should register with a mutual insurance company of your choice or with the Caisse auxiliaire d'assurance maladie-invalidité (HZIV / CAAMI). The mutual insurance company performs three functions: it reimburses your healthcare costs, in whole or in part; it pays out benefits in case you are unable to work; and it informs you and responds to any questions you may have about your health.

You can find a list of Belgian mutual insurance companies at:

www.riziv.fgov.be/fr/professionnels/autres/mutualites/Pages/contactez-mutualites.aspx.

>> Your children's right to go to school

Your children also have the right to education during their stay in Belgium.

>> Access to a bank account

As an asylum seeker, you can open a bank account with a bank in Belgium. In principle, you should have access to basic bank services, sometimes for free, sometimes for a limited fee.

- ACV-CSC is at your side. We will defend your rights and assist you in matters related to labour law and social security rights.
- Do you have a question about your residence permit, work permit, getting your degree recognised, housing, training, etc.? ACV-CSC can support you, inform you or refer you to other specialized organisations.
- Do you have a problem with your employer: unpaid salary, incorrect salary bracket, breach of employment contract, etc.? ACV-CSC can help you and negotiate with your employer on your behalf.

>> More information: migrants@acv-csc.be

>> Join ACV-CSC by visiting

www.lacsc.be/affiliation in Wallonia and Brussels

