

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE MAY 25, 2022

Uniting for Ukraine



Uniting for Ukraine was launched by the U.S. government to provide a way for displaced Ukrainians to join supporters in the U.S. It is one of several pathways Ukrainians can use to seek entry into the U.S., along with the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), and normal immigrant and non-immigrant visa processing.

Americans Can Sponsor Ukrainians

[Uniting for Ukraine](#) allows eligible displaced Ukrainians to join a supporter (sponsor) in the U.S. for two years. Each supporter must pass security and background vetting and demonstrate sufficient financial resources to “receive, maintain and support” the Ukrainians they commit to sponsor.

Humanitarian Parole Granted on Case-by-Case Basis

Entry into the U.S. for this program is granted as humanitarian parole—a legal mechanism whereby the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) may grant entry to individuals who are otherwise not eligible for admission to the U.S. for a temporary period for urgent humanitarian need. DHS will grant humanitarian parole on a case-by-case basis for a period of up to two years.

A parolee is provided permission to enter and remain in the U.S. for a certain period of time. Parolees are not entitled to obtain lawful permanent residence (a green card) or any other form of immigration status. Some parolees may qualify for a particular form of immigration status, which may include a pathway to lawful permanent residence and eventually U.S. citizenship.

Parolees Can Work in the U.S. and Access Most Refugee Benefits

Ukrainian parolees can apply for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in order to be legally employed in the U.S. They will qualify for ORR (Office of Refugee Resettlement) benefits for 12 months including Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), employment support, and health and mental health support. Additional benefits will be available including SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and FEP (Family Employment program).

Displaced Ukrainians May be Eligible

To be eligible for humanitarian parole under Uniting for Ukraine, applicants must:

- have resided in Ukraine as of February 11, 2022, and be displaced
- have a valid Ukrainian passport, or be included on a parent's passport
- complete vaccinations and other public health requirements
- submit to biometrics collection, biographic screening and security vetting
- have a sponsor in the U.S. whose Form I-134 Affidavit of Support has been approved by USCIS



How to Become a Sponsor

U.S.-based sponsors begin the application process by completing a Form I-134 Affidavit of Support online at uscis.gov/i-134.

Sponsors must:

- be US-based individuals in lawful status, or have parole, deferred action (such as beneficiaries of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), or Deferred Enforced Departure
- pass security and background vetting
- demonstrate sufficient financial resources to “receive, maintain, and support” the Ukrainians they commit to support for two years

An organization may provide financial support for Ukrainian seeking parole, but an individual must sign Form I-134 as the sponsor. Find legal assistance for completing the I-134 on the [Utah Bar's referral service](#).

Once USCIS reviews and approves the sponsor's completed form, Ukrainian beneficiaries will receive an email with instructions to set up an account on [my.USCIS.gov](https://my.uscis.gov) and other next steps. There is no application fee.

Learn more at dhs.gov/ukraine