Minister launches new transition scheme for temporary protection beneficiaries

The Minister of State for Migration announced the opening of applications for a new immigration permission for displaced persons from Ukraine.

The current EU Temporary Protection Directive is due to end on 4 March 2028. While it may be extended at the EU level, Ireland is taking proactive measures to provide more certainty to people by introducing the Temporary Protection Transition Scheme. This is part of a series of measures agreed by government earlier in 2026.

The Temporary Protection Transition Scheme provides an alternative residence permission for people who have been displaced by the war. The scheme is open to Ukrainians who meet the relevant criteria and who wish to live and work in Ireland after temporary protection ends. This recognises their valuable contributions to communities across Ireland.

People who are accepted into the Temporary Protection Transition Scheme are granted permission for up to 2 years, renewable for periods of 2 years thereafter. Time on this permission will contribute towards naturalisation (which is not the case under temporary protection).

According to the ministry, the new permission supports work, upskilling and progression to independent living, while providing clarity and certainty for people before the expiration of temporary protection.

People will be eligible to apply for the scheme if they:

- are resident in Ireland as a beneficiary of temporary protection for a minimum of 1 year on or before 30 September 2026;
- are in employment or self-employment for 6 months on or before 30 September 2026, with a minimum annual salary of EUR 29,432; and
- are not living in Ukraine State-supported accommodation, Rapid Build accommodation or hosted accommodation supported by the Accommodation Recognition Payment at the time of application.

People who do not satisfy the eligibility criteria for this new permission will still be entitled to temporary protection status while the Temporary Protection Directive is in effect.

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Source(s)

- Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration | An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt, Gnóthaí Baile agus Imirce (30 September, 2026), [Minister Colm Brophy launches new immigration permission scheme for people with Temporary Protection status], https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-justice-home-affairs-and-migration/press-releases/minister-colm-brophy-launches-new-immigration-permission-scheme-for-people-with-temporary-protection-status/

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