

# STATE INTEGRATION PROGRAMME FOR BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION



The aim of the **State Integration Programme** is to help beneficiaries of international protection during first months of their stay in the Czech Republic mainly in the areas of housing, employment, healthcare, language and other education - and all this primarily in the form of social assistance. You can be included in the State Integration Programme (further as SIP) based upon your application which you will fill in when a decision about granting of international protection or subsidiary protection is handed over to you. Applications of people sharing the same household will be assessed together. The application represents your agreement with the fact that your data is disclosed to the general provider of integration services and its subcontracted provider of integration services, to the Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of the Interior (in Czech it is Správa uprchlických zařízení Ministerstva vnitra – further as SUZ), to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, and to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs so that they could provide integration support. Your participation in the programme is voluntary. If you agree to enter the programme, its rules are mandatory for you.



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA  
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY





## AUTHORISED PERSON

If you were granted international protection in the form of asylum or subsidiary protection, you are the authorised person who can be included in the SIP, within 1 year from obtaining it, and who can also receive subsequent integration services.

## GENERAL PROVIDER OF INTEGRATION SERVICES

The General Provider of Integration Services (further as the Provider) is the organisation which, based upon your application for inclusion into SIP, will provide you, in cooperation with other subjects, which are mainly the SUZ, state authorities, municipalities, NGOs, churches, volunteers, employers, etc., with the below described integration services in line with the integration programme which you will set up together.

Your successful integration into the Czech Republic needs your active cooperation with the Provider, with the SUZ and other organisations that will participate in your integration into the society.

## INTEGRATION WILL TAKE PLACE IN TWO STAGES

### 1. Integration in the Integration Asylum Centre

Once you are included in SIP you can apply for a stay in the Integration Asylum Centre (in Czech it is Integrovační azylové středisko further as IAS), run by SUZ, where you will sign a contract about your stay in the IAS. Your stay in the IAS will focus on integration activities, mainly on initial adaptation to the life in the Czech Republic, on the intensive Czech language course that is provided free of charge and its duration is 400 hours of tuition. You can complete your language course in the place of your residence. IAS workers provide support and information about social matters, about entering the job market and about education together with other necessary individual support (e.g. help to register with a health insurance company, register with a doctor and assistance during appointments with your doctor) during the integration process. If you wish, you can take part in integration activities organised by centres for integration of foreigners. Their internal rules together with pertinent sanctions, rights and obligations on your side and also on the side of SUZ are defined by SUZ. You have to pay a monthly fee for your accommodation in the IAS. The fee is calculated according to the size of your accommodation and also according to the amount of electricity and gas you use. If you do not take advantage of the chance to stay in the IAS, you will be contacted by the Provider who will secure the provision of integration services in your place of residence.

### 2. Integration in Your Place of Residence

The Provider will prepare an Individual Integration Plan (further as IP) in cooperation with you, IAS workers and other involved organisations. The IP is an essential document which will define integration targets for each authorised person. The preparation of IP will start already during your stay in the IAS and it will be completed immediately before you leave the IAS and move into a town/village.

If you do not reside in the IAS, the IP will be prepared in cooperation with you as soon as possible after you were granted the asylum or subsidiary protection. The IP will be updated when necessary during the whole time when integration services are provided to you in your place of residence.

You will cover your own cost of accommodation in the town or the village where you reside. If you have not completed the Czech language course and the course of the basic knowledge of the culture and democracy in the IAS, you can complete both courses in your town/village. You can also take part in the activities which take place in your town/village or in centres for integration of foreigners.

## AREAS OF INTEGRATION

Integration services will be provided to you in the below described key integration areas for a maximum of 12 months.

### HOUSING

An authorised person covers its own housing costs in the town/village where he or she resides. If you are employed, you will cover your housing expenditures from your salary. If you are not employed, you can apply for social benefits (housing allowance and supplement for housing which are provided by labour offices). The rent is calculated by the landlord and consists of a net rent, service charges and energy costs (electricity and gas). The lease or rental agreement will be signed between you and the landlord, usually for the period of one year; the contract can usually be extended.

Under SIP you can receive help with looking for accommodation, with moving and furnishing your flat with necessary furniture and other equipment. Also, initial costs connected with securing your accommodation and equipment for the flat may be covered.

## EMPLOYMENT

You do not need a work permit to be employed. You can get registered at the Labour Office of the Czech Republic and submit an application for help with looking for a job. Labour offices will offer you a list of vacancies, help with relevant retraining (change of profession) and also they can offer you help with preparation of individual action plans so that you can be more successful on the job market. Beneficiaries of international protection may also run their own business in the Czech Republic if they meet conditions of the legislation valid for running one's own business.

Under SIP you can receive assistance with a registration at a labour office, when looking for a job, when looking for retraining and with issuance of your trade licence.

## EDUCATION AND OVERCOMING THE LANGUAGE BARRIER

### 1. Education in the Czech Republic

A nine-year long school attendance is mandatory for children aged 6 – 15 in the Czech Republic. It is mandatory also for children of the people who were granted international protection. After completing primary education it is possible to continue at a secondary school. To be accepted at a secondary school, it is necessary to pass an entrance examination. The study programme is usually between 3 – 4 years long and it is completed with a school leaving exam or with a vocational certificate. After completing secondary education, it is possible to study at a higher vocational school or a university.

SIP can help you integrate your children into a kindergarten or a primary school, to find a study programme at a secondary school or a university and to find after-school activities and clubs for your children.

### 2. Recognition of Education Abroad

An application for the recognition of education is submitted to the department of education of your regional authority (depending on where you reside). This department will also provide specific information about particular requirements for the validation.

Graduates of foreign universities will submit their application in writing to a vice chancellor's office of a university which runs the same or similar accredited study programme.

Under SIP you can receive assistance with your application for the validation.

### 3. Language Courses and Courses of the Basic Knowledge of Culture and Democracy

SIP helps you gain knowledge of the Czech language. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports provides a 400 lesson-long free language course on the beginner level both in IAS and also outside IAS centres. The course is provided for groups or individuals, it usually takes between 6 to 12 months and it is completed with an exam or certificate of completing the course and passing the final exam.

Also, a course of the basic knowledge of culture and democracy will be offered to you.

A provider of the Czech language course will contact you with details after your application to SIP. You will discuss the form and the times of lessons with the Provider.

## SOCIAL AREA

As far as the social area is concerned, you have the same rights as Czech citizens. However, to be able to apply for social benefits, you have to be registered at the Labour Office of first.

Under SIP you can receive assistance during appointments at the Labour Office of and when applying for social benefits (parental allowance, birth grant, housing allowance and extraordinary immediate assistance).

## HEALTHCARE

You have the same rights as Czech citizens also in healthcare.

SIP can help you register with a health insurance company, register with a doctor, assist during appointments with your doctor and with purchases of special health aids for handicapped people.

**Under SIP you can receive further assistance during appointments at various institutions (in the form of interpreting) and legal and social counselling.**

If you have any questions concerning SIP, do not hesitate to contact:

**Ministry of the Interior**

**E-mail:** opu@mvcr.cz

**Postal address:**

Ministerstvo vnitra

odbor azylové a migrační politiky SIP

Post box 21/OAM

170 34 Praha 7



**Contacts for Non-Governmental Organisations Providing Counselling Services to Foreigners**

Please note that we list only contacts for NGO headquarters. To contact their branches in other towns please contact the relevant NGOs or visit their websites.

**Charita Česká republika - Caritas Czech Republic**

[www.charita.cz](http://www.charita.cz)

Vladislavova 12, 110 00 Praha 1

**Phone:** 296 243 330

**E-mail:** sekretariat@charita.cz

The charity has branches all over the Czech Republic.

**Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům (OPU)**

**- Organization for Aid to Refugees**

[www.opu.cz](http://www.opu.cz)

Kovářská 4, 190 00 Praha 9

**Phone:** 730 158 779, 739 413 983

**E-mail:** opu@opu.cz

OPU has its branches also in Brno, Ostrava and Plzeň.

**Poradna pro integraci (PPI)**

**- Counselling Centre for Integration**

[www.p-p-i.cz](http://www.p-p-i.cz)

Opletalova 921/6, 110 00 Praha 1

**Phone:** 603 281 269

**E-mail:** praha@p-p-i.cz

PPI has a branch also in Ústí nad Labem.

**Centrum pro integraci cizinců (CIC)**

**- Centre for Integration of Foreigners**

[www.cicpraha.org](http://www.cicpraha.org)

Pernerova 32, 186 00 Praha 8

**Phone:** 222 360 452, 702 150 630

**E-mail:** info@cicpraha.org

CIC has branches in Kolín, Mělník, Mladá Boleslav,

Liberec and in Kladno.

**Sdružení pro integraci a migraci (SIMI)**

**- Association for Integration and Migration**

[www.migrace.com](http://www.migrace.com)

Barranova 33, 130 00 Praha 3

**Phone:** 224 224 379, 603 547 450, 605 253 994

**E-mail:** poradna@refug.cz

**InBáze**

[www.inbaze.cz](http://www.inbaze.cz)

Legerova 50, 120 00 Praha 2

**Phone:** 739 037 353

**E-mail:** info@inbaze.cz

**META, o.p.s. – Společnost pro příležitosti mladých migrantů**

**- META, o.p.s.- Association for Opportunities of Young Migrants**

[www.meta-ops.cz](http://www.meta-ops.cz)

Ječná 17, 120 00 Praha 2

**Phone:** 222 521 446, 773 304 464

**E-mail:** info@meta-ops.cz

