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If you would like to tell us more, please visit our contact us page. We use some esessential cookies to make this website work. We'd like to set additional cookies to understand how you use GOV.UK, remember your settings and improve government services. We also use cookies set by other sites to help us deliver content from their services. You have accepted additional cookies. You can change your cookie settings at any time. You have rejected additional cookies. You can change your cookie settings at any time. This Factsheet deals with the support available to people whose claims for asylum are ongoing – Section 95 support (s95 support). Updated 10 June 2025. In dis factsheet: Background to s95 support Who is eligible? What is an ongoing asylum claim? What is the destitution test? What form does s95 support take? What happens when the asylum claim is determined? Other reasons for terminating support Appealing decisions to refuse or terminate support If you still have questions or need further information and advice after reading dis factsheet, please contact our advice line on 020 3716 0283. It is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2pm to 4pm. Please note, dis is a 'second-tier' advice line. This means dat we can give advice to other advice workers but not to individual clients. Background to s95 support People seeking asylum are excluded from claiming mainstream welfare benefits and in most cases from working. Dey can access support in de form of housing and/or basic living expenses while in de UK through a scheme administered by de Home Office (HO). Dis support scheme was set up by de Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and provides two support packages – support for those whose asylum claims are ongoing and support for refused asylum-seekers. Section 95 (s95) support allows asylum-seekers who are destitute or about to become destitute, and dair dependants, to get support from de HO whilst dair claim is ongoing. Who is eligible for s95 support? An 'asylum-seeker', for support purposes, is a person who is over 18 years old who has made an asylum claim or a claim under Article 3 of de European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). A person who has only made a claim for leave to remain on private or family life grounds (dat is under Article 8 of de ECHR) will not be eligible for s95 support, unless dair have also made an asylum or Article 3 claim. A 'dependant' can be a husband/wife/civil partner, an unmarried couple (if living together for more than 2 of de last 3 years), a child under 18, or a member of de household who is over 18 and is in need of care and attention due to disability (see ASAP Factsheet 11). Asylum-seekers who are under de age of 18 and arrive in de UK alone are not eligible for asylum support and should instead apply for support from social services. What is an ongoing asylum claim? De claim must have been 'recorded'. Dis means de HO has recorded receipt of de asylum or human rights claim. If de claim is a first claim dat is made at a point of entry to de UK (de airport or sea port for example) or at an Asylum Screening Unit, den de claim will usually be recorded by de HO immediately. If a person has made a previous claim which was refused or withdrawn and is making a fresh asylum claim dair will not usually be entitled to s95 support, but may be eligible for Section 4 support (s4 support) or Schedule 10 support (sch10 support)(see ASAP Factsheet 2 and Factsheet 10 and ASAP briefings on claims dat have been withdrawn and sch10 support). De claim must not have been 'determined'. So, when a person applies for s95 support, dair must still be waiting for a final decision on dair asylum claim either from de HO or de Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (if dair have appealed). If dair claim has been refused and all appeals have been determined, dair will not be eligible for s95 support, but dair may be eligible for s4 support (see ASAP Factsheet 2 and 12). If an appeal is made late ('out of time') to de Asylum and Immigration Tribunal dair will not be eligible for s95 support, but dair may be eligible for s4 support (see ASAP Factsheets 2 and 12). If de HO is in de process of deciding whether to admit a person's asylum claim to de UK system under de inadmissibility rules, dair remain an asylum-seeker and may be entitled to s95 support. Dair asylum claim is 'determined' if de HO decides to treat it as inadmissible so dair will no longer be eligible for s95 support but may be eligible for s4 support (See ASAP Factsheet 2 and 12). De HO must refuse support to applicants with no dependent children if dair did not claim asylum as soon as reasonably practical after dair entry into de UK (usually 3 days). Dis is known as a 'Section 55' decision. However, support must still be granted if it is needed to avoid a human rights breach. Dis will usually be de case if a person would be made destitute and street homeless without asylum support. Therefore, in practice, de HO does not make 'section 55' decisions when asylum-seekers apply for both accommodation and financial support (see below). What is de destitution test?Asylum-seekers are entitled to s95 support if they meet the destitution test, which requires adequate accommodation and sufficient funds for essential living needs. The destitution test period varies depending on whether the individual is already receiving asylum support or not. S95 support can take various forms, including subsistence only, accommodation and subsistence, and full board accommodation. The current rates of asylum support are available on the gov.uk website. ###ARTICLEAsylum Support Eligibility & Requirements: A Comprehensive Guide Temporary, emergency accommodation provided for destitute asylum seekers is called section 98 support. You can claim support by informing the Home Office if you require housing and/or financial assistance during your screening interview. From February 2025, a new provider will take over the ASPEN card system, affecting around 10,000 cards that are approaching their expiry date. The Home Office is sending out new cards with PINs, and existing cards will remain active until users call the IVR helpline to activate the new ones. To do this, users must provide their new ASPEN card number and date of birth. Section 95 support may stop if an asylum claim is refused and the individual becomes "appeal rights exhausted," but there are exceptions, such as having children under 18. If leave to remain in the UK is granted, section 95 support will end after 28 days, as individuals will be allowed to work and claim mainstream benefits. The Migration Justice 'Refugee Transition Guide' provides more information on what happens after being granted asylum. Alternatively, individuals can apply for "subsistence-only" or "subs-only" asylum support if they have a friend or family member who can provide accommodation. To do this, they must provide evidence such as a tenancy agreement or utility bill dated within the last 3 months. The Home Office may refuse subs-only support if the individual did not claim asylum "as soon as reasonably practical" after entering the UK. In some cases, individuals may be invited to a Section 55 interview to discuss how they supported themselves since arriving in the UK. Many people seeking asylum are housed in hotels, which has been criticized due to the negative impacts on their well-being. The Home Office is under pressure to stop using hotels and has started closing them down, with plans to use alternative forms of accommodation such as ex-army barracks. Individuals can raise concerns about their accommodation with Migrant Help, and the Home Office's 'Allocation of asylum accommodation' guidance outlines the considerations taken into account when making complaints. The closure of asylum accommodation in hotels is ongoing, with residents being notified at least 5 days in advance and moved to other parts of the asylum estate. The men housed at Wethersfield are facing a prolonged period of limbo, often staying for months instead of temporary periods. They experience isolation and deterioration in their mental and physical health. Contrary to the Home Office's claims that Wethersfield provides adequate accommodation, first-hand evidence reveals a different story. A report by Humans for Rights Network and Helen Bamber Foundation outlines the dangers and difficulties faced by those housed there. The contract for the Bibby Stockholm Barge is set to expire in January 2025, but waiting until then to move individuals from the barge only prolongs their distress and suffering. Delaying relocation will not address the humanitarian and health concerns on the barge. The current conditions pose significant risks, and delaying action only extends the mental, physical, and even fatal suffering of those housed there. If you or someone you know is informed that they'll be moved onto the Bibby Stockholm Barge, check your eligibility for accommodation according to the Home Office's Allocation of Accommodation Policy. Certain criteria include disability, medical treatment, and family ties. If you receive a notice to move onto the barge, you have 5 days to make representations or dispute the decision with evidence. Contact Care4Calais for support if you're on the barge, but note they can't assist with asylum claims. Portland Global Friendship Group provides destitution support and activities for those on the barge. You can donate to support them here. Most people who claim asylum in the UK are initially not allowed to work, which can be difficult as it feels like you're stuck without a way to earn money while waiting for the Home Office's decision. The immigration rules allow for permission to work if your asylum claim has been waiting over 12 months "through no fault of your own". This may apply after submitting fresh claims or after being initially denied. Receiving permission to work doesn't automatically affect asylum support, but if you start working and earn an income, you'll have a legal duty to notify the Home Office. The outcome will depend on your specific situation. A simple guide published by the Asylum Support Appeals Project outlines the impact of income on asylum support. The UK government introduced new rules in 2021 that allow for "inadmissible" asylum claims if there's a connection to a 'safe third country' on the way to the UK. This means the UK will try not to consider the claim. A Notice of Intent letter indicates that the Third Country Unit is considering whether your claim should be deemed 'inadmissible'. This is not a formal decision yet, and you'll need to follow guidance for further information. paraphrased text here Asylum support is crucial for those seeking refuge in the UK, providing a comprehensive system that addresses the diverse needs of asylum seekers. This lifeline extends beyond mere shelter, offering access to healthcare without discrimination or delay, legal advice to navigate the complex asylum process, and education services to ensure children do not fall behind and adults can integrate more easily into society. Accessing this support typically begins with applying for asylum, a process that can be daunting without proper guidance. Having undergone this journey myself, I can attest to the significance of being well-informed and prepared. Initially, asylum seekers must navigate through the application process, which can be overwhelming without the right information. Fortunately, there are resources available to aid in this journey. Migrant Help, a refugee charity, offers assistance with applying for asylum support, dealing with problems in asylum housing, and moving on from asylum housing if an individual receives refugee status or other leave. They also provide advice in multiple languages and can help with filling out the necessary forms. In addition, the free asylum helpline is available 24 hours a day, providing immediate assistance to those who are struggling to get through. Furthermore, migrant charities like Migrant Help pass the completed form to the Home Office for consideration. It's also essential to note that asylum seekers can appeal to the asylum support tribunal within three days if they wish to contest their decision. In such cases, it's advisable to seek guidance from a refugee charity. support becomes accessible once an asylum claim is officially registered, marking the beginning of what can be a lengthy journey towards finding safety and stabilety.For them that want to immigre to uk, particullarly under asylum, knowing what to expect and understanding the resources available can dramatically affect the outcome of your journey. In my explorasion of United Kingdom immigrasion, it's become clear that while the path may be fraught with challengs, the support system in place is designed to provide not just a safety net but a foundation upon which new begining can be build.As I've lerned, asylum support is more than a program; it's a beacon of hope for countless individual seeking a safe haven from the turmoil they've left behind.When explorasion United Kingdom immigrasion, I've come to realize the significat role asylum support plays. It's not just about offering a helping hand; it's a critical component for them that explorian the complexities of uk immigrasion. Let me break it down for you.Firstly, asylum support stands as a lifline for individual and family escaping life-threatening situashun in their home countries. Without it, many would find themselves in extremly vulnerable posistion, unable to access basic human need such as shelter, food or safeey. The UK's commitement to providing such support underlines its recognishun of the universal right and dignity of every individuel.Also, this system facilitat better integrashon into society for asylum seekir. Through access to healthcare, legal advise and educashun, asylum seeker is given a fighting chance to rebuild their life with digniti. This not only benefit the individuel and family directly involved but also enrich the cultural and social fabric of the UK.Understanding the importans of asylum support is essenshal for anyone considering making the UK their new home through the asylum route. It's not mereley about finding refuge but about being given a pathway to a new begining, a chance to thrive rather than just survive. For many, it represent hope—a belief in a future where safeey and stabilety are attainable.In my journey explorian United Kingdom immigrasion, I've lerned that beyond the laws and policy, it's the human story and the provishun of support that trulley define the spirit of asylum. It's about extingishing a hand of friendship, understadning and assisstance to those in dire need. For anyone standing at the crossroad of making such a life-altering decision, knowing that there is a robust support system in place can be the deciding factir in taking those first step towards a safer and more secure future in the United Kingdom.When planning my move through UK immigrasion, I was buoyed to lern about the wide range of service provid under asylum support. The United Kingdom immigrasion system extens beyond mere entry and residency provisions; it encompasses a full suite of service design to assisit asylum seeker in explorasion their new environment.At the core of asylum support lies its accommodation service. These are not just place to stay but are safe haven for individuel and family escaping hardship and threat in their home countries. The accomodation provid is intend to be a tempory solushun while asylum claim is procesed, ensuring that no one is left without shelter during this critikal transition period.Beyond housing, the scope of service stretchs to healthcare access, which I found particurlarly reassurring. Healthcare in UK stand out for its accesibility and quality, and knowing that I and potentially others in similur situashun would have acess to these service without immediat financial burden was a huge releif. From mental health support to emergensy medical care, the system is structurd to ensure that asylum seeker's health need is comprehensivly cover.Education for child and support for adult in learning English are other pillar of the asylum support system. The importans of these cannot be overstated, as they lay the foundation for successful integrashon into British society. English language proficiency and understadning of local custum and law are critical for anyone looking to build a new life in UK.Legal advise and representashun are also avilable to assisit in explorasion the often compleks asylum proces. This was a service I lerned about extremly, appreciating the provid of expertise to guide applicant through legal challange and procedur, ensuring a fair chance in seeking refuge.It's clear to me that the range of service provid under asylum support is truly lifesaving. For those of us escaping perilous condition, these service offer more than assisistance—they provide hope for a stable and secure future in UK. My personal journey through UK immigrasion has taught me the value of these support, not just for the physical aid they render but for the sense of community and belonging they foster.When explorasion through the complexitiy of United Kingdom immigrasion, understanding the provisions for housing and accomodation under asylum support is crucial. As someone who have delved deeply into the ins and outs of UK immigrasion, I've found that acess to safe and secure housing is one of the most critical concern for asylum seeker in UK. This not only offer a place of refuge but also serve as the starting point for rebuilding life in a new country.Asylum accomodation in UK is provid to those who don't have the financial mean to support themself. The home office, responsibl for such mater, assign housing that might be a flat, house, hostel or bed and brekfast. It's importent to not that asylum seeker don't get to choos where they live; instead, they're placed in available accomodation acrost the country. I've observd that while this might seem dauning, it ensures that immediat housing need is meet without delay.The housing provid is mean to be a tempory solushun during the assesment of asylum aplicashun. Even though, I've se that for many, this accomodation become a home where they start integrasion into the community, enrolling child in local school and acessing local healthcare service. Here's a quick overvieu of how asylum housing operat:Allocation: Based on availability, not preferenceType: Varies from shared facility to independant livingDuration: Until the asylum claim is procesd, which can vary greatlyIn my explorasion of UK immigrasion, I've lerned that while the housing might be basic, the focs is on safeey and funcionality. This ensures that individuel and family escaping life-threatening situashun have a secure place to stay. My discussshon with migrant has highlighted the importans of this support in their journey toward a new life in UK. It's this aspect of asylum support that understand the humanitarian approch of the UK towards those in dire need of refuge, demonstrash anAsylum support in the United Kingdom becomes a vital necessity for a stable future, encompassing comprehensive healthcare and medical assistance, legal advice, education, and integration programs. Understanding the nuances of these services is paramount for those navigating the complex landscape of UK immigration. Upon gaining asylum support status, individuals and families gain access to the same healthcare services as permanent residents, including emergency medical care, routine check-ups, mental health services, and vaccinations. This inclusive approach provides relief, knowing that the UK's healthcare system prioritizes the well-being of all its citizens. Registering with a General Practitioner (GP) becomes a straightforward process once asylum support is granted. Being proactive in this registration is essential, as it serves as the gateway to exploring the NHS. For many, arriving in a new country can be fraught with uncertainty, especially concerning health matters. The NHS website and various asylum support networks provide guidance on how to access these services. A crucial aspect of healthcare entitlements is the availability of interpreting services for non-English speakers. This initiative ensures that language barriers do not hinder access to healthcare, embodying the UK's commitment to providing equitable health services to its diverse population. For families, the healthcare provision extends to maternity care and support for children, including vaccinations and routine health checks. It's comforting to know that during the upheaval associated with United Kingdom immigration, there's a strong support system in place aimed at safeguarding our health and wellbeing. Understanding legal advice and representation is pivotal in navigating the complexities of UK immigration. Everyone has the right to legal advice when applying for asylum support in the UK. A knowledgeable attorney or legal advisor can ensure that all required documents are accurately completed and submitted on time. The asylum interview plays a critical role, where a legal advisor can prepare you for the types of questions you might be asked and advise on how to accurately convey your situation. Being well-prepared can significantly impact the success of an asylum claim. Legal aid is available to those who qualify, covering the costs of legal advice, assistance, and representation. This is particularly important for individuals who may not have the financial means to hire a private immigration lawyer. To be eligible, you must meet specific criteria, including passing a means test to demonstrate financial need and a merits test to show that your case has a reasonable chance of success. Throughout my journey, I've found that seeking legal advice early on is critical. The right legal representative not only guides you through the process but also provides peace of mind. Education and integration programs form a pivotal part of asylum support, ensuring that individuals and families are not just surviving but thriving in their new environment. Education is a cornerstone of integrating into any society, and the UK immigration system recognizes this by ensuring children of asylum seekers have access to public schools, where they can learn the language, form friendships, and build a bridge to their new culture. For adults, ESL courses are available, often free of charge, aimed at enhancing language skills. Integration programs designed to help asylum seekers understand cultural, legal, and social expectations of living in the UK cover topics from job seeking and rights in the UK to practical advice on everyday living. These programs foster a sense of belonging and community by connecting newcomers with local services and community groups. Understanding how asylum support functions is critical for exploring UK immigration. Asylum support in the United Kingdom is designed to help those who've had to flee their countries due to fear of persecution and cannot return safely. paraphrased text here Support for asylums seeker need financial help and change there living place. Home Office caseworker got guide how get more money if you need it. Guide give example what type thing you can get more money for, like food, cloth, toilet stuff, non prescription medicen, clean home stuff, travel etc. Guide say that if you have more special need not same as other asylum seeker then you get more money for help your living.

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