

# IMMIGRATION STATUS

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**All non-EEA nationals need permission to remain in the state. You must register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau on arrival in Ireland. Your permission to remain is given in the form of an endorsement on your passport ('GNIB stamp'). It is your responsibility to keep this stamp up to date at all times. Details are available at:**

<http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Stamps> and  
[http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/moving\\_country/moving\\_to\\_ireland/](http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/moving_country/moving_to_ireland/)

On immigration issues MRCI:

- Provides information and assistance at the drop-in centre, over the phone and via email.
- Provides assistance to related to immigration issues.
- Campaigns for the rights of migrants living in Ireland.

## **IMPORTANT TIPS:**

**Register with your local Garda office, or the  
Garda National Immigration Bureau on arrival  
In Ireland!**

**Keep your stamp up to date! If you have a problem,  
approach the GNIB or your local immigration officer.**

## **Information on Common Immigration Issues:**

### **1. ZAMBRANO RULING OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE**

- If you are the parent of a child who is an Irish citizen, you may be eligible to gain Stamp 4 Immigration status based on the Zambrano ruling. All information on this ruling is available at <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/qsearch>

### **2. FAMILY REUNIFICATION**

- Family reunification is not an automatic right in Ireland. For more information on the rights to family reunification and how to apply, please go to the [INIS](#) website.

### **3. DE FACTO RELATIONSHIPS**

- A 'De Facto' relationship is a relationship between two people who are not married but who are together in a genuine and durable relationship. Non-EEA nationals who are in a de facto relationship with an Irish National, EU national or non-EEA national may apply to the Department of Justice and Law Reform for permission to remain in the State based on this relationship. To apply for de facto relationship status visit:  
<http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/WP07000278>

#### **4. EU NATIONALS AND EU TREATY RIGHTS**

- EU Citizens do not need to register their presence in Ireland with the immigration authorities. For information on EU Treaty Rights visit <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/EU%20Treaty%20Rights%20FAQs>

#### **5. ROMANIAN AND BULGARIAN NATIONALS**

- Romanian and Bulgarian nationals have the same right to reside in Ireland as other EU nationals. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012, they are able to fully access the Irish labour market, and do not require employment permits.

#### **6. PROVISIONS FOR FIVE YEAR WORKERS AND REDUNDANCY**

- Since August 2009, all non-EEA persons who have been working with a valid employment permit or a valid working visa/work authorization for 5 years or more consecutively and have been working lawfully during that time will be exempt from the requirement to hold a work permit. There are also provisions for those who have been made redundant. For more information, [please go to INIS](#)

#### **7. LONG TERM RESIDENCY**

- If you have lived and worked in Ireland for a total of 5 years (60 months) on the basis of work permits/ work visa conditions you may apply for long term residency. This is longer term permission to stay in Ireland (5 years). Dependants on Stamp 3 endorsements who have completed 60 months in the State are eligible to apply for a 5-year Stamp 3. This, however, does not exempt them from work permit conditions. For more information on how to apply for long term residency [go to INIS website.](#)

#### **8. CITIZENSHIP**

- Irish citizenship can be acquired through birth in Ireland, through descent, through marriage, and through naturalization.
- If you are a non-Irish national living in Ireland and you have 60 months reckonable residency, you can apply for citizenship through naturalization. There is a €175 fee for application and there is no guarantee that your application will be successful. For assistance on submitting a citizenship application, please contact New Communities Partnership <http://www.newcommunities.ie/>
- For queries on all aspects of citizenship please [contact INIS](#)

#### **9. WITHOUT CONDITION AS TO TIME ENDORSEMENT**

- If you have lived in Ireland for a total of 8 years (96 months) you may apply for the Without Conditions as to Time (WCATT) Stamp 5. This entitles a person to remain in Ireland without any time conditions and the person can engage in employment activities without the need for an employment permit.  
For more information and how to apply, [go to INIS](#)

#### **9. WORKING IN IRELAND**

- Citizens of non-EEA countries need an employment permit to work in Ireland. The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment administers the employment permit and green card schemes. Further information is available in the Employment Permits Section of this website, and at [www.djei.ie](http://www.djei.ie)

## 10. NON-EEA STUDENTS

- Your status as a student depends on the type of course you wish to study, and on the length of your stay. For more information please go to the [Students section of the INIS website](#). As the requirement for non-EEA students in Ireland change often, it is a good idea to look out for changes on [INIS website](#)
- If you are attending a full-time programme of at least one year's duration leading to a qualification recognized by the Minister for Education and Science, you will be granted Stamp 2, and allowed to work while studying. You are allowed to work for up to 20 hours per week during term-time, and up to 40 hours per week during holidays. If you do not qualify for a Stamp 2, you will be granted Stamp 2a and you are not allowed to work at all while in Ireland. For more information contact [Irish Council for International Students](#)

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### ***Important Contacts:***

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#### **Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service**

Department of Justice and Equality  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
13/14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2

#### **General Immigration Division**

##### **De Facto Applications**

3rd Floor  
Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service  
13-14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2

#### **Garda National Immigration Bureau**

Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service  
13-14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2

#### **EU Treaty Rights Section**

Irish Naturalisation & Immigration Service  
13-14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2

#### **Long Term Residency Division**

P.O. Box 12079  
Dublin 1

#### **Without Condition Endorsement Section**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service  
13-14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2

#### **De Facto Applications**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service  
13-14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2

#### **Employment Permits Section**

Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation  
Davitt House  
66a Adelaide Road  
Dublin 2

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