Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees in Michigan

(Updated as of 6/7/2022)

Who are Ukrainians with humanitarian parole?

They are certain Ukrainian individuals, or non-Ukrainian individuals who last habitually resided in Ukraine, who have been or will be granted humanitarian parole by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in response to Russia’s war on Ukraine. Ukrainian humanitarian parolees paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022, and September 30, 2023, are eligible to apply for mainstream benefits, resettlement assistance, and other benefits available to refugees (with the exception of the initial resettlement program customarily referred to as Department of State’s Reception and Placement program), until the end of their parole term. These individuals’ spouses or unmarried children under the age of 21 who are paroled into the U.S after September 30, 2023 are also eligible to apply for these benefits.

Are you a Ukrainian individual, or non-Ukrainian individual who last habitually resided in Ukraine, who has been granted humanitarian parole on/after February 24, 2022?

You may be eligible for federal benefits based on your receipt of humanitarian parole, including cash assistance (Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)), health insurance through Medicaid or Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA), and food assistance through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as long as you meet all other eligibility criteria. In addition to federal benefits, you may also be eligible for employment preparation, job placement, English language training, and other services offered through the Office of Global Michigan.

When should I apply for federal benefits including ORR benefits and services?

Your benefits and services may be available for a limited time. Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)-funded cash and medical assistance are limited to a maximum of 12 months from your date of eligibility (May 21, 2022, or the date you received humanitarian parole, whichever is later). Most ORR employment services, and other services aimed at economic self-sufficiency, will be available to you until the end of your parole term or until five years from your date of humanitarian parole, whichever is sooner.

Where do I apply for public benefits including ORR benefits and services?

Public benefits can be applied for at the local Michigan Department of Health and Human Services office or online at MI Bridges. Additional support services may be available, please contact LEO-RefugeeServices@michigan.gov for more information for the service providers in your region.
Am I eligible for a Refugee Health Exam?

If you meet the eligibility requirements above, we highly recommend you get a refugee health exam within 90 days of arrival to the U.S. at a refugee health clinic. This is a comprehensive medical exam that is covered by Medicaid or RMA. The medical providers are trained in refugee health and can refer you to additional specialists, if needed.

If you want to be connected to health services in your area, please contact LEO-RefugeeServices@michigan.gov.

Where can I get my required TB test?

Ukrainians who arrive in the U.S. through the Uniting for Ukraine program are required to get an IGRA (Interferon-Gamma Release Assay) TB (tuberculosis) blood test within 14 days of arrival in the U.S. TB screening is one part of the refugee health exam offered at refugee health clinics. You can also call your local health department to get more information about an IGRA blood test.

Where do I apply for a Social Security Number?

To apply for a social security number, review the requirements here or visit the local Social Security Administration office. You can find your local Social Security office here.

Where can I get assistance finding employment?

The Office of Global Michigan and your local Michigan Works Agency will have programs available to connect you to training programs, English as a Second or Other Language programs, resume building, and more. Follow the link to connect with the agencies in your area or contact LEO-RefugeeServices@michigan.gov for a direct referral. Note that eligibility for some workforce programs may require you to first have your federal government issued employment authorization ("EAD Card"). You will also need a valid EAD card in order to be able to work in the United States.

As information changes or is updated this document will be refreshed and resharred. Please also continue to monitor the Office of Global Michigan website.