

**Q&A on legislative changes affecting subsidized accommodation for the use of humanitarian staff and volunteers - 4 July 2024**  
**Hungary Protection Working Group and Inclusion Working Group**

#	Question	Answer
1.	I heard that accommodation rules will change after August 20. What is happening?	<p>The Government <a href="#">amended</a> the system for subsidizing accommodation for refugees from Ukraine. <b>As of 21 August 2024</b>, only persons <b>“coming from and having residence in a war-affected area [of Ukraine] at the time of entry”</b> will be eligible for subsidized accommodation.</p> <p><b>TP holders and Ukrainian – Hungarian dual nationals who do not qualify for subsidized accommodation under the new rules are not provided with alternative accommodation.</b> They have the option to seek some support for their accommodation costs through employment or may be eligible for subsistence allowance.</p> <p>In addition, private accommodation providers (for example hotels) are no longer able to receive support from the Government for providing accommodation for refugees from Ukraine. This option has been limited to the <b>Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta (Malta)</b>. This means that depending on the funding structure of your shelter, it may alter its operations or close by 20 August.</p> <p>Please contact your shelter manager and inquire how these changes will affect you personally.</p>
2.	I am not coming from a war-affected territory but I need the accommodation support. What can I do?	<p>You can apply for an exemption with the county or metropolitan defence committee if you believe that you are in need of continued support due to your special individual circumstances (such as medical needs, being over 65 years old, etc).</p> <p><b>The deadline for this is 10 July 2024!</b></p> <p>We share here a sample application <a href="#">form</a> (HUN) and translation (UKR), which, according to our information, is regularized by the defence committees. While it has a Ukrainian translation, <b>please note that it is the Hungarian version that shall be sent to the defence committee.</b></p> <p>In case you need assistance with submitting this request, we recommend seeking help from your shelter operator.</p>
3.	What does “war affected territory” mean?	<p>The term is defined in the legislation as <b>“administrative units of Ukraine directly affected by military operations.”</b></p> <p>The list of these areas is prepared by the Government Commissioner, and to be sent monthly to the local defence committees. They are also published on the Government’s website.</p> <p>Currently, the list of “war affected areas” contains the following 13 oblasts: Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv (and the city of Kyiv), Mykolaiv, Odessa, Sumi, Kharkiv, Kherson, Chernihiv, Luhansk, Zhitomir, Autonomous Republic of Crimea (and the city of Sevastopol).</p>

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		<p>The not war-affected oblasts are: Poltava, Cherkasy, Kirovohrad, Vinnytsia, Rivne, Volyn, Lviv, Khmel, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia.</p> <p><b>Caution!</b> It is important to verify this information with your local defence committee or online on the <a href="#">Government website</a> as the list may change.</p> <p>When applying for subsidized accommodation, refugees will need to <b>demonstrate that</b>, at the time of entering Hungary, they had residence in a war-affected area in Ukraine. According to our information, the assessment will be made by the Government Office located at Nyugati railway station (1062, Budapest, Teréz körút 55.), based on <b>Ukrainian ID cards or proof of residence registrations obtained from government databases (GYIJÁ/CNAP)</b>.</p>
4.	What are the eligibility criteria for subsidized accommodation as of 21 August?	<p>Eligibility for subsidized accommodation can be grouped into 3 categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New arrivals</li> <li>- TP applicants</li> <li>- TP holders and Ukrainian – Hungarian dual nationals.</li> </ul>
5.	What are newly arrived refugees eligible for and what are the conditions after August 20?	<p>Upon entry into Hungary, Ukrainian nationals (including dual nationals), as well as refugees and stateless persons previously recognized in Ukraine and fleeing Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022 are entitled to subsidized accommodation for a <b>maximum period of one month</b>, provided that, at the time of entry, <b>they are coming from and have residence in a war-affected territory</b>.</p> <p>Subsidies on this basis can only be claimed once, refugees cannot receive continued support by exiting and re-entering Hungary once the one-month period is over.</p>
6.	What are TP applicants eligible for after August 20?	<p>The application for TP needs to be made within one month after entering Hungary to receive support. Persons who are coming from and having residence in a war-affected area at the time of entry are entitled to subsidized accommodation for the duration of the procedure.</p>

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7.	What are TP holders eligible for after August 20?	<p>TP holders are entitled to subsidized accommodation until the last day of the month following their recognition, provided they applied within one month of entering Hungary. They should also be coming from, and had residence in, a war-affected area in Ukraine at the time of entry.</p> <p>In case TP holders or dual nationals fall into any of the below vulnerability categories they are entitled to subsidized accommodation <b>as long as their former residence in Ukraine is located in a war-affected area:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Children under 18 One guardian / parent of a child (under 18), if in the same household as the child</li> <li>– Pregnant women</li> <li>– Persons over 65</li> <li>– Persons with disability, and their caregiver</li> </ul> <p>TP holders and Ukrainian – Hungarian dual nationals who are not eligible for subsidized accommodation (or choose not to avail themselves of it) are entitled to accommodation support only through employment.</p> <p><b>Note that the option to be accommodated at a government reception facility (previously in Vamosszabadi) in case of ineligibility will not be available after August 20.</b></p>
8.	I am a dual national (Ukrainian – Hungarian), am I eligible for subsidized accommodation?	<p>Dual nationals are entitled to subsidized accommodation on the same footing as TP holders. However, <b>the requirement for residence in a war-affected territory can significantly affect dual nationals</b>, given that many dual nationals come from Transcarpathia, which is currently not added to the list of war-affected territories.</p> <p><b>The option to be provided with alternative accommodation (previously by the Malta organization) in case of ineligibility for subsidized accommodation, is no longer made available by the legislation.</b></p>
9.	Which service providers can provide accommodation after August 20?	<p>From August 21, the Government will conclude contracts for accommodating refugees from Ukraine <b>only with the Malta organization (Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta), as the new rules explicitly specify the organisation as the only possibility.</b></p> <p>As more information becomes available, we will update our messages so please continue to contact UNHCR or check our help-page. We also recommend seeking advice from your shelter manager.</p>
10.	My TP status has been withdrawn, and I re-apply. Am I eligible for subsidized accommodation?	<p>The accommodation for those who reapply after their previous TP status was withdrawn is not subsidized.</p> <p><b>This is also the case for those, who fall into one of the vulnerability categories</b> (above 65, children under 18, and one of his or her guardians, pregnant women, persons with disability and their caregiver).</p>

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		<p>However, the old rules apply until August 20, meaning that these vulnerable people will still receive subsidized accommodation during their re-application procedure before this deadline.</p> <p>Those who reapply for TP after their previous application was rejected with a non-appealable decision are not eligible for subsidized accommodation during the procedure.</p>
11.	I am not eligible for subsidized accommodation under the new rules. Will I still get some sort of material assistance?	<p>Yes, you still can get material assistance under certain conditions. These are the</p> <p>a) regular subsistence allowance and  b) the support for employment-related accommodation.</p> <p>Please seek further information about the employment-related accommodation-support from your employer, who can request this type of support for you at the local government offices.</p>
12.	What are the conditions for the regular subsistence allowance?	<p>TP holders and Ukrainian – Hungarian dual nationals meeting certain conditions (not employed or receiving pension) can access limited financial assistance in the form of the so called “regular subsistence allowance” (approx. 22 800 HUF per adult/per month, and 13 700 HUF per child/per month).</p> <p>The amount is paid on a monthly basis.</p> <p>If the refugee is over 6 years of age, he or she is required to appear before the local government office. If the TP holder is over the age of 6 but under 18 his or her legal representative may attend in place of him / her.</p> <p>To receive the allowance, TP holders are required to register as job seekers with the Government Office and <b>after 45 days, they must accept the job offered</b>. This requirement does not apply to children, or to students, or to TP holders caring for a child under 3 years of age.</p>
13.	What are the conditions of the support for employment-related accommodation?	<p>Refugees in employment can receive subsidised accommodation through their employer (introduced in July 2023). In this case, <b>the accommodation is arranged by the employer</b> through a contract with an accommodation provider, and the employer can request that a certain amount of the contractual fee be reimbursed retroactively.</p> <p><b>The employment must take place in Hungary and must be for at least 20 hours per week.</b> In this case, the accommodation will be arranged by the employer. This will not include free-of-charge meals, and the conditions of being accommodated may vary.</p> <p>Please note that this support is also available to Hungarian nationals (including Hungarian-Ukrainian dual nationals) who entered Hungary on or after 24 February 2022 and have permanent residence in Ukraine under the same conditions.</p>