

## In This Issue

1. Update on the Habitual Residence Condition & returned Irish emigrants
2. Residency information for family members & partners of Irish citizens
3. Reduced student fees for descendents of Irish citizens

## Contact Us

If you or any of your staff or clients have queries with regard to:

- **Emigration from Ireland**
- **Returning to Ireland**
- **Immigration**

and for full details of the services available including opening hours, outreach locations and publications please feel free to contact us:

**Drop-in:** 1 Cathedral Street, Dublin 1

**Telephone:** + 353 (0)1 873 2844

**Fax:** + 353 (0)1 872 7003

**Email:** migrantproject@crosscare.ie

**Website:** www.migrantproject.ie

**Follow us on Twitter:**

<http://twitter.com/LivinginIreland>

**And see also our new multi-language website:**

[www.livinginireland.ie](http://www.livinginireland.ie)

## 1. Update on the Habitual Residence Condition & returned Irish emigrants

Crosscare Migrant Project provides **information and support** on the issue of habitual residence and returning Irish emigrants. We can also provide **assistance in preparing an application for payment, or an appeal** if an application for payment has been refused on the grounds of habitual residence.

We are currently **looking for case studies and can accept referrals from any part of the country.**

It is our experience that people across the country are being told by Community Welfare Officers and Social Welfare Officers that in order to qualify for a supplementary welfare or social welfare payment, they need to be living in Ireland for the two years prior to application, which is not true.

While this may be *a factor* in determining whether or not someone is habitually resident in Ireland, **all of the circumstances of a person's situation must be looked at** before a decision can be made including:

- 1) The length and continuity of a person's residence in Ireland or other parts of the Common Travel Area
- 2) The length of and reason for any absence from Ireland
- 3) The nature and pattern of a person's employment, if any
- 4) The person's main centre of interest
- 5) A person's future intention to live in the Republic of Ireland as it appears from the evidence

Crosscare Migrant Project recently contributed to an **article in the Irish Times** on this issue, which can be viewed at the following link: <http://url.ie/6yrl>.

The Irish Examiner & Irish Post newspapers, TV3, RTÉ Radio 1 and Today fm have all also picked up on this issue in recent days.

We hope that this media coverage will contribute to an informed debate which may ultimately lead to improving the guidelines for deciding officers in relation to the application of the HRC to returned Irish citizens, and improving the implementation of this policy.

**If you would like more information on the Habitual Residence Condition and how it may affect a returning Irish citizen, or if you are aware of any cases of Irish people refused a payment based on failure to satisfy the HRC, please get in touch with us.**

**Take part in our survey on Returning to Ireland:**  
[www.migrantproject.ie](http://www.migrantproject.ie)

## 2. Residency information for family members & partners of Irish citizens

There is **no automatic entitlement** under Irish law for an Irish citizen to have their non-EEA (European Economic Area) spouse, partner or other family member to join them in Ireland, nor is there any automatic entitlement to residency based on marriage or partnership with an Irish citizen. However, applications for such residency may be granted provided certain conditions are fulfilled.

Crosscare Migrant Project has developed an **information leaflet** which provides information on **residency in Ireland and guidelines for residency applications** for the EEA and non-EEA spouses, partners, fiancé(e)s, children and other dependents of Irish citizens who are living in Ireland or who are coming to live in Ireland.

Some of the **processes outlined in the information leaflet** include:

- Entering Ireland (including applying for a visa if necessary)
- Registering with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB)
- Applying for residency based on your relationship - either to the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) or the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS).

**Click here** or see our website for the full version of the residency information leaflet.

## 3. Reduced student fees for descendents of Irish citizens

This new **Ireland Homecoming Study Programme (IHSP)** is aimed at encouraging the **children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Irish citizens** living outside of the European Union to **return to Ireland for their Higher Education studies**.

The programme offers qualifying students the opportunity to study for a semester, a full year or an entire Undergraduate degree at one of Ireland's Institutes of Technology for a reduced "**Irish Diaspora tuition fee**". Limited places are also available for taught Postgraduate study.

Whereas people living outside of the EU coming to study in Ireland would normally be subject to full Non-EU tuition fees; under this Programme, qualifying students will benefit from a **reduction in tuition fees of up to 40%** depending on the course and Institute of application. For the 2010/2011 intake the IHSP fee level will be €5,950.

For more information including eligibility criteria and how to apply, **click here** or see the IHSP website: <http://irelandhsp.com>.

If you do not wish to receive this e-bulletin, please contact [amytyndall@crosscare.ie](mailto:amytyndall@crosscare.ie)

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