

Information on *Uniting for Ukraine* program

The Biden administration launched *Uniting for Ukraine* on April 25, 2022. The program allows U.S.-based individuals and organizations to sponsor a Ukrainian individual or family in the United States. For more information and to apply to sponsor a Ukrainian, please see the USCIS site: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/uniting-for-ukraine>. Once approved, Ukrainians through the program will receive humanitarian parole for two years and will be eligible for work authorization in the United States. The *Uniting for Ukraine* program **does not** authorize resettlement benefits or federal public benefits, such as refugee cash assistance or Medicaid. Sponsors are expected to provide support to beneficiaries for the duration of their parole. However, it is possible that Congress will authorize resettlement benefits for Ukrainian parolees, as included in the President's request for an emergency Ukraine supplemental spending bill. We will keep you abreast about any relevant updates.

What are the steps to apply for the *Uniting for Ukraine* program?

1. The supporter or sponsor must fill out a Form I-134, Declaration of Financial Support, through the online USCIS portal. There is no fee for the application. The sponsor must show that they can support the beneficiary for the two-year period.
2. USCIS will check the information and conduct a security screening of the supporter.
3. Once USCIS has made a decision, they will email the supporter and the beneficiary.
4. If the Ukrainian beneficiary is approved, they will receive an email from USCIS to set up an account. The beneficiary will answer biographical questions and attest to their vaccination status.
5. Once this is processed, the beneficiary will be emailed their authorization to travel to the United States.
6. The beneficiary is responsible for setting up their travel, which must be done within 90 days of receiving their authorization to travel.

Who can be a supporter/sponsor?

- U.S. citizens and nationals
- Lawful permanent residents (including lawful temporary residents and conditional permanent residents)
- Nonimmigrants in lawful status
- Asylees
- Refugees
- Parolees
- TPS holders
- Beneficiaries of deferred action (including DACA) or Deferred Enforced Departure.

What are the eligibility requirements for beneficiaries?

Beneficiaries must:

- Have resided in Ukraine immediately prior to the Russian invasion (through February 11, 2022) and had to leave Ukraine as a result of the invasion
- Be a Ukrainian citizen and possess a valid Ukrainian passport (or are a child included on a parent's passport)
 - If not a Ukrainian citizen, be an immediate family member of a Ukrainian citizen beneficiary of Uniting for Ukraine and have a valid passport
- Have a supporter/sponsor who filed a Form I-134 that has been vetted and deemed sufficient by USCIS
- Complete vaccination requirements
- Pass a background check

Note: Children under the age of 18 must be travelling to the United States in the care and custody of their parent or legal guardian under the Uniting for Ukraine program.

