

The Czech Republic has a complex tool to integrate persons granted international protection



the State Integration Program

The specific target group of several hundreds of persons is provided with assistance in five key areas - housing, employment, education and health care as well as social area.

Today, based on the Resolution of the Government, the general provider of integration services is the Refugee Facilities Administration.

The Program is fulfilled using our own power and capacities as well as a supply model. Our key goal is to provide the services in places where their users are found. The Refugee Facilities Administration set up a network of contact points located in areas with a significant concentration of the target group, including the catchment area, with the social workers who have offices with the infrastructure unit.

The social workers engage in the integration work - consultancy, accompanying, negotiations, information, mediation. They cooperate intensively with the non-profit sector and other community sources and cultivate relations with the institutions. Their attention is paid to case works to draw up an individual integration plan for an authorized person and to work on it in the long term. If they get working at full capacity, a contract to take other steps or the whole cases is concluded with a supplier. The implementation, progress, challenges and, in general, the development of the integration work made by the supplier are supervised. The Integration Asylum Centers are running as a usual background for persons granted international protection. In comparison with the past, when running within the SIP as an accommodation in the first stage of the integration process and providing consultancy, the IACs are now the full-valued contact points. However, the IACs are exclusively intended for persons who are staying there.

There are four IACs available now - in Jaroměř-Josefov, in Ústí nad Labem-Předlice, in Brno-Židenice and in Havířov. The persons granted asylum are staying in the separate housing units, paying a rent and service charges. Staying here, their attention is paid to adapt basically to the life in the Czech Republic, to learn Czech intensively, to search for a permanent housing and to find a job or to gain necessary labor market skills.

Another unit is a network of contracted organizations from public procurements resulting in the framework agreements in all regions of the Czech Republic. There are one to five providers/suppliers in each region ordered by the tendered price.

Three headquarters coordinators of GPIS with allocated responsibilities by regions make the system run successfully and smoothly. They interconnect and coordinate the integration services providing an adequate background and support, solving difficulties, communicating with other headquarters specialist centers, partner organizations and methodological authority which is the Department for Asylum and Migration Policy.

The State Integration Program is based on an individual integration plan. Such a plan is a basic document which the particular person's integration targets and process in the below mentioned key integration areas. It is created during the stay at an IAC or as soon as possible after international protection is granted. Depending on how the integration proceeds, the plan is updated. The direct participation of the authorized person is necessary - the plan guarantees the integration to be a foreigner's personal activity and responsibility.

The integration services are provided for a maximum period of 12 months in the following key integration areas:

Housing - in particular, the RFA is to:

- ensure housing in the form of a lease or underlease contract or a contract for accommodation the case of the accommodation linked to a job for a period of at least 1 year
- pay the input costs, if necessary: the brokerage for an estate agency in the maximum amount of one rental for one month of the rented unit, a lump sum to secure housing, the payment of the first or even the second rental
- furnish basically the flat
- help the authorized person to move to his flat, including to pay the movement costs

Employment - in particular, the RFA helps to:

- submit an application for employment which results in the registration at public employment office
- search for a job using the job vacancy system
- to ensure an upskilling
- to ensure other courses

Education - in particular, the RFA helps to:

- include children into their elemental school within compulsory schooling
- begin with studies at high school or at university
- submit a request for validation of a foreign high-school or university degree (the so-called recognition)
- include children into leisure groups within compulsory schooling
- ensure a specific language course (aimed at finding a job),
- if interested include children within pre-school education

Social area - in particular, the RFA helps to:

- submit a social benefit claim according to the Law No. 117/1995, Coll., on State Social Support, as amended, and during other visits
- submit a social benefit claim according to the Law No. 111/2006, Coll., on emergency benefits, as amended, and during other visits

Health care - in particular, the RFA helps to:

- register in health insurance companies
- register at doctors and during other visits
- purchase and pay special care equipment for people with disabilities

The Interpreter's Services while Negotiating in the Offices and with Other Entities.

Within the SIP, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports organizes free basic Czech language courses of 400 lessons inside or outside the Centers of the RFA. The courses are the group or individual ones of 6 to 12 months concluded with an exam. Then, the certificate of the course completion and of passing the final exam is issued.

The municipalities are particularly involved in housing, employment and the social area, among others by targeted involvement of the foreigners in the activities on the municipality territory.

The active participants in the implementation of the Program are also non-governmental non-profit organizations, such as Integration Consultancy (PPI), Organization for Aid to Refugees (OPU), Association for Integration and Migration (SIMI) and InBáze as well as BfZ – Education academy, etc.

The Ministry of the Interior issued a lot of informational materials to increase awareness, some of which were created along with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the Czech Republic (UNHCR).

* Each person granted international protection is entitled to 400 lessons of free intensive Czech language course ensured by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Organizations involved in the Program



PORADNA PRO INTEGRACI

Poradna pro integraci
www.p-p-i.cz



Sdružení pro integraci a migraci
www.migrace.cz



Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům
www.opu.cz



BFZ vzdělávací akademie o.p.s.
www.bfz.cz



Inbáze
www.inbaze.cz



Diecézní charita Brno
www.dchb.charita.cz



Diecézní charita
www.dchp.cz