

Stamp 0

This notice is intended to clarify the issue of Stamp 0 residence permission in Ireland. It is not a change of policy or an introduction of any new permission. When Stamp 0 residence permission was originally implemented, it was intended to cater for some exceptions to the immigration categories and to provide some additional flexibility. In some cases it provides an alternative to a refusal of immigration permission. This notice is a clarification of the criteria that is currently used to assess such applications.

All non-EEA nationals require residence permission to remain in the State. Permission to remain will be in the form of a passport endorsement outlining the conditions and period of time for which permission to remain in the State has been granted. Persons granted permission to be in the State by INIS are required to register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau.

Stamp 0 is a low level immigration status which is not intended to be reckonable for Long Term Residence or Citizenship. It covers persons who have been approved by INIS for a limited and specific stay in Ireland and who, as an inherent condition of their residence permission, are required to be self-sufficient; i.e. they are not permitted to avail of State benefits while resident here on Stamp 0 basis.

If State benefits are accessed while present in the State on a Stamp 0 basis, this will be in breach of the self-sufficient condition of their residence permission. If a holder of Stamp 0 permission is found to be in breach of any or all of the conditions, the permission may be revoked and/or not renewed.

Stamp 0 may be granted to persons who can demonstrate sufficient funds to ensure they will not become a burden on the State.

There are three types of persons who may be granted Stamp 0:

1. **Elderly dependent relatives**

For elderly dependent relatives, the financial criteria required to allow a person to sponsor an elderly dependent relative are set out in Chapter 18 of the [Family Reunification Policy Document](#)).

2. **Persons of Independent Means**

For persons of independent means, the financial threshold is generally considered to be €50,000 per person per annum, plus the person must have access to a lump sum of money to cover any unforeseen major expenses. This should be equivalent to, for example, the price of a dwelling in the State. Financial documentation should be presented in tabular form and converted into Euros, clearly showing all income and expenditure on a monthly basis. This must be certified by an Irish accountancy firm who have the expert knowledge to interpret the format of the overseas banking / accountancy documentation. Each application is dealt with on a case by case basis.

3. **Visiting academics**

Visiting academics must be paid from outside the State and are here to work for less than nine months

Terms and Conditions of Stamp 0 Permission

Applicants are required to sign an undertaking that they will abide by the restrictions imposed by the permission. Holders of Stamp 0 (who are not permitted to work) may volunteer in the State but it is not intended that a person given permission on Stamp 0 basis would take up any employment either paid or unpaid in relation to their professional qualifications.

The terms of the declaration are as follows:

- I am not permitted to work in the State.
- I am not permitted to establish or operate a business in the State.
- I am not permitted to engage in a profession in the State.
- The person or organisation sponsoring my presence in the State is responsible for providing me with accommodation and my general up-keep.

Or

- I am a person of self-sufficient/independent means.
- I am not permitted to have a family member join me on the basis that I am resident in the State.
- I am not permitted to receive any State benefits, nor is my sponsor in the State permitted to apply for any State benefits on my behalf.
- I have private medical insurance to cover the duration of my stay and it covers me for medical treatment and hospital accommodation in this State.
- I must abide by the laws of the State.

Persons on Stamp 0 are required to have fully comprehensive medical insurance to cover fully private care in any hospital and are required to maintain this insurance for the duration of their permission. If they allow this private medical cover to lapse, their permission may not be renewed.

There is no family reunification with Stamp 0. Each individual must apply in their own right

Contact Details

Applications are dealt with by Unit 2 Residence Division, INIS, 13-14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.

Queries are dealt with by unit2residencedivision@justice.ie