



## 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 of the exceptions thrown up by the immigration system and to provide some additional flexibility. In some cases it provides an alternative to a refusal of immigration permission. This notice is merely a clarification of the criteria that are currently used to assess such applications.

All non-EEA nationals need residence permission to remain in the State. Permission to remain will be in the form of an endorsement in your passport confirming the conditions and period of time for which you have permission to remain in the State. Persons granted permission to be in the State by INIS must also register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau.

Stamp 0 is a low level immigration status which 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 a Stamp 0 basis even if they acquire an entitlement to such benefits.

While the entitlements of a non EEA national to State Benefits is a matter for the relevant government department / agency, any accessing of State benefits while present in the State on a Stamp 0 basis will breach the condition of their residence permission that they must be self sufficient and cannot receive State benefits. If a holder of Stamp 0 permission is found to be in breach of any or all of the conditions, the permission may be varied or not renewed.

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

- 1) Elderly dependent relatives (as set out in the [Family Reunification Policy Document](#) )
- 2) Persons of Independent Means
- 3) Visiting academics / Researchers

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

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

For persons of independent means, the financial threshold is generally considered to be a lump sum to purchase a property in the State PLUS an income in excess of €50,000 per person per annum. Each application is dealt with on a case by case basis.



Visiting academics they must be paid from outside the State and here to work for no longer than 12 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.
- I must continuously reside in 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 Domestic Residence & Permission's Division, INIS, 13-14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.

Queries are dealt with by [unit2residencedivision@justice](mailto:unit2residencedivision@justice).

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