

# When you receive a positive decision on your asylum claim

After you receive a positive decision on your asylum claim we know you will probably have lots of things to think about. These might include your plans to study, to work or to travel to see people you care about. **After you have received your decision, you only have a short time before your asylum support ends so it is important to focus on these three things first.**

## 1. Proof of status and identification - your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP)

- Once you have a positive decision, the Home Office should send you, or your solicitor, a BRP card. It might come by email or post. You should get it at least 7 days before you have to leave your accommodation.
- The BRP is your new identification document (ID) and it is very important. You will need it to get a job or to claim benefits, and to rent somewhere to live.
- If you do not receive a BRP card and your support is ending in 7 days or less, please urgently contact Migrant Help on 0808 8010 503 or [positivemoveon@migranthelpuk.org](mailto:positivemoveon@migranthelpuk.org).

## 2. Your money

- Once you have a positive decision, you are allowed to work and earn money.
- If you can't work or can't find a job quickly, you should apply for welfare benefits (usually Universal Credit). You can apply online, or in person at your local Job Centre Plus.
- Do this straight away as it can take some time before you receive your payments.
- If you don't have a BRP, you can use your Asylum Grant letter and ARC card to apply for welfare benefits.
- You will also need to open a Bank Account.

## 3. Your housing

- Once you have a positive decision, you can start to look for and move into your own accommodation.
- You can ask your local Council (where you are living when you get your decision) to help you. If you are generally healthy and if you do not have children living with you, you will not be seen as a priority and they will be unlikely to offer you any accommodation. There is a severe shortage of social housing and council accommodation for everyone at the moment.

### Housing ABC

**A** First – **accept** that the first place you find might only be short term. It might be small, shared or temporary accommodation and not in the area where you want to live.

**B** Next – once you have some income and/or a job, you can look for a **better** place to rent that is closer to what you want, but still affordable. Things like English classes and employment support will help you do this.

**C** Later – work towards a **comfortable** home that you would like to live in for the longer term.

