



## SETTLEMENT PROTECTION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ANYONE WHO WAS RECOGNISED AS A REFUGEE OR GIVEN HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION FROM AUGUST 2005.

**If you were given five years limited leave as a refugee or with humanitarian protection you must apply to the UK Border Agency for indefinite leave to remain (ILR) before your leave expires.**

### How do I apply for indefinite leave to remain (ILR)?

To apply for indefinite leave to remain (ILR) you must send in your application form in the month before your leave is due to end. For example if it ends on 30 August 2010, your application should reach the UK Border Agency between 30 July and 30 August 2010.

It is important that you apply in time before your leave expires. This will ensure that:

- your case is considered quickly, and
- your leave continues.

You will continue to have full access to benefits and the right to work throughout the period your application is being considered.

The application form can be downloaded from the UK Border Agency website [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/settlement/applicationtypes/completing\\_set\\_protection\\_route/](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/settlement/applicationtypes/completing_set_protection_route/)

To guarantee delivery we recommend that you send your form and documents by registered post.

### What evidence do I need to provide?

The evidence and document(s) required for your application are listed on the form. You may want to keep a copy of your immigration status document for your records.

### Is there a fee for applying for indefinite leave to remain (ILR)?

No - there is no fee to submit an application.

### Where can I get help on my application?

If you need help we recommend you use a solicitor or an advisor regulated by the Office of the Immigration Services.

A list of solicitors and advisors that are regulated by the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner can be found at [www.oisc.gov.uk](http://www.oisc.gov.uk)

Your Local Law Centre or Citizens Advice Bureau may be also able to help you.

### Legal Aid advice in England and Wales

The Community Legal Advice Service UK can advise on how to find a solicitor who gives advice funded by legal aid in England and Wales. They can be contacted on 0845 345 4 345 or [www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk](http://www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk)

### Legal Aid advice in Scotland

The Scottish Legal Aid Board can advise on how to contact a solicitor funded by legal aid in Scotland. They can be contacted on 0131 2267061 or [www.slabb.org.uk](http://www.slabb.org.uk)

### Legal Aid advice in Northern Ireland

The Northern Irish Legal Services Commission can advise on how to contact a solicitor funded by legal aid in Northern Ireland. They can be contacted on 02890 408888 or [www.nilsc.org.uk](http://www.nilsc.org.uk)

### How will you contact me about my application?

You will receive an acknowledgement letter as proof of receipt within seven working days. Once your application has been decided the outcome will be sent via registered post and, if you are successful, your indefinite leave will be confirmed on a new status document. This will need to be kept safe, as it ensures access to services and mainstream benefits.

**SECURING OUR BORDER CONTROLLING MIGRATION**