Are you from **Ukraine**?

UNDERSTAND YOUR RIGHTS while in the United States.

Help is available if you need it.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES · USA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

LOOK BENEATH THE SURFACE

UNDERSTAND EXPLOITATION. #ENDTRAFFICKING

SITUATIONS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Many people offering help have good intentions, but some want to take advantage of others during a crisis. If someone offers support, ask questions about what they will provide and if they expect something in return.

Be careful if someone:

- Asks you to work in exchange for their help in completing immigration forms on your or your family's behalf.
- Gives vague or inconsistent information about where you will live or what resources they will provide.
- Offers you money or a job with a high-paying salary that seems too good to be true.
- Tells you to lie about the terms of your agreement or the work you are/will be doing.
- Asks you to give them your passport, identification documents, or cell phone.
- Tries to separate or isolate you from your friends or family.
- Advertises on social media or messaging apps with offers of support.

Nadiya responded to an online posting from Emma who offered financial support in exchange for childcare. When Nadiya arrived in the United States, Emma took her passport. She told Nadiya that she was expected to work every day and could not leave the home without permission.

Are you applying to participate in the **Uniting for Ukraine** process?

Is someone filing a Form I-134, Declaration of Financial Support on your behalf?

Protect yourself by understanding what personal information is needed to complete Form I-134. People applying for the Uniting for Ukraine process must provide their name, date of birth, place of birth, gender, marital status, passport number, income, and dependents. Be cautious if someone tells you they need other information. Review the full I-134 form.

Working in the United States

To work in the United States, you must apply for employment authorization from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) after you arrive. While not required, you may want to consider working with an attorney or resettlement agency to prepare your application and make sure you have accurate information about your rights.

To apply, submit Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization.

Learn more at uscis.gov/ukraine.

Worker Rights

When working in the United States, you have the right to:

- Be paid for all hours worked.
- Be paid on a regular basis (usually every 1–2 weeks).
- Be free from discrimination, sexual harassment and sexual exploitation, abuse, or violence in the workplace.
- Have a healthy and safe workplace.
- Request help from union, immigrant, and labor rights groups.
- Leave any employment situation.

These rights and resources are available regardless of citizenship or immigration status.

To learn more about your rights and how to report if something goes wrong, visit Worker.gov.

CREATE A SAFETY PLAN

Developing a safety plan can help keep you safe during risky and dangerous situations. Consider the following:

- **Keep your passport** and identification documents (ID) in a safe place. Do not give these items to anyone other than recognized authorities, such as police or immigration officers who show identification.
- **Download the** Diia mobile application to have access to your ID, foreign biometric passport, birth certificate, and other important documents.
- **Learn** as much as you can about the city where you will live, how you will get there, and what will happen once you arrive.
- **Talk** to trusted family and friends about your financial supporter or job opportunity, if applicable, and where you will be living.
- **Schedule check-ins** with family and friends, and plan what to do if you miss one. You might also consider a distress signal (an action you can take or a word or phrase you can say or text) to alert them that you need help.
- **Research and connect** with local organizations that can help you meet people in your community and access benefits and services before something goes wrong. Know that resources may vary depending on where you live.
- **Keep your phone** with you, and save important numbers, including numbers for organizations and hotlines that can provide support in an emergency. Share these numbers with family and friends.
- **Include your children** in safety planning so they know who is safe and what to do if there is an emergency and they become separated from you.

Ruslan responded to an online advertisement offering money for housing and food to Ukrainians seeking help in the United States. He received a message from Jon, who told him that he needed immediate help in his fishing business and that he would file a Form I-134, Declaration of Financial Support, for Ruslan if he agreed to work for him until he paid back all his travel and living expenses. When Ruslan arrived in the United States, he received a bill for expenses that was a lot higher than he was told it would be.

GET HELP IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG

It is common for people to take risks or stay in dangerous situations if they don't know what other options exist. Sometimes, people are threatened or hurt if they try to leave. If you or someone you know is threatened or harmed, you have rights, and you can get help!

Ask for help if someone:

- Says you owe them something and requires you to work to pay it off.
- Does not follow the agreed-upon work, housing, or financial arrangements.
- Hurts or threatens to hurt you or your family.
- Threatens to stop financially supporting you or your loved ones if you do not work or meet other demands.
- Threatens to report you to U.S. immigration officials or law enforcement.
- Threatens to not complete immigration paperwork on your behalf if you do not work or follow their demands.
- Forces you to have sex in exchange for something else of value (such as food, housing, or money).
- Forces you to live somewhere unsafe or unsecure.
- Takes your passport, other identification documents, or cell phone.
- Tries to control or monitor your ability to move freely.

If you are in trouble or are being exploited, report it immediately.
U.S. immigration officials should not take any immigration action against you for reporting an exploitive, abusive, or other negative situation that you have experienced after arriving in the United States. If you have concerns, contact one of the hotlines on the next page.

If you are in immediate danger, call the police by dialing 911.

Hotlines

There are hotlines in the United States that connect people with resources and services to get help and stay safe. Contact one of the hotlines below that you think is most relevant to your situation.

Free | Always Open | Confidential | Interpreters Available

Human Trafficking

If you or someone you know is forced, tricked, or pressured into working or having sex in exchange for sponsorship or something else of value (food, shelter, money), help is available. This hotline can help with safety planning, urgent needs, and connecting you to services in the community like case management, medical services, and separation from unsafe people. The hotline also accepts anonymous reports of human trafficking.

National Human Trafficking Hotline

call: 1-888-373-7888 | TTY: 711

text: 233733 (BEFREE)

chat: humantraffickinghotline.org/chat

Suicide and Mental Health Crisis › **Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**

call: 988

chat: 988lifeline.org/chat

Sexual Assault › **National Sexual Assault Hotline**

call: 1-800-656-4673

chat: hotline.rainn.org/online

Domestic Violence › **National Domestic Violence Hotline**

call: 1-800-799-7233

text: "START" to 88788

Outside the United States? Help is still available.
Learn more about the Be Safe campaign.

If you experience a crime while in the United States, you have rights, such as:

» The right to protection from intimidation and harassment.

» The right to restitution from the offender and to apply for crime victim compensation.

» The right to be treated with fairness, dignity, sensitivity, and respect.

For information on other rights, visit Victim Law and the National Crime Victim Law Institute.

UNITING FOR UKRAINE: FINANCIAL SUPPORTER AND BENEFICIARY RELATIONSHIP

Financial Supporters:

- Are required to provide financial resources or support to pay for necessary expenses for the duration of your parole.
- Are encouraged, but not required, to:
  - » Meet you at the airport and drive you to the place you will be staying.
  - » Make sure that you have safe and appropriate housing and initial necessities.
  - » Help you complete paperwork for employment authorization, a Social Security card, and other services you may be eligible for.
  - » Make sure your health care and medical needs are met.
  - » Assist you with accessing education, learning English, securing employment, and enrolling children in school.

Beneficiaries from Ukraine:

- Do not repay financial supporters with labor, money, sex, or anything else of value.
- Are not required to maintain relationships with financial supporters or tell them where they will live in the United States.
- Are free to leave the supporter's residence or provided accommodation at any time.

Ivan's financial supporter, Micah, paid for his travel to the United States and has been paying for other living expenses since he arrived. He also helped Ivan get a job at a local supermarket. When Ivan received his first paycheck, Micah told him that he needed to give him all the money he earns to pay him back for helping him. Micah threatened to report Ivan to immigration if he does not do what he asked.

BENEFITS AND SERVICES

If you were granted parole through Uniting for Ukraine, you may be eligible to receive benefits and services. These include access to some or all of the following:

Money

Cash assistance to help meet basic needs such as food, shelter, and transportation

Employment

Job training and preparation; assistance with job search, placement, and retention; English language training; childcare; transportation; translation and interpreter services; and case management

Food Assistance

Help paying for groceries

Health Insurance and Medical Services

Health coverage, screenings, vaccinations, diagnosis, treatment, and preventative care

Specialized Programs

Programs such as technical assistance for small business start-ups, financial savings, youth mentoring, or other targeted support programs

To apply, contact your state government benefits office or the closest resettlement agency in your state.

Learn More About Available Resources

Kateryna met David on social media. He told her that he and his wife had a guest house she could live in while she waited for her employment authorization. When she arrived, David brought her to an apartment and told her that she had to have sex with him and other men he brings to the apartment. He threatens to hurt her if she refuses.

People who experience human trafficking may also be eligible for other immigration options—Continued Presence, T visas, and U visas. Download the Immigration Options for Victims of Human Trafficking factsheet to learn more.