

From asylum status holder to Drechtsteden resident permit holder!



Want to know more about civic integration in the Drechtsteden region?
Then check out our website with all the information:



or watch the video about civic integration as an asylum status holder:



Extension or exemption

Unable to complete your civic integration on time? Or do you need more time due to problems with your health or other issues? Then you can apply through DUO for an extension or exemption. DUO will then decide on your application. More information can be found on the website:



and



Naturalisation

Naturalising means becoming a Dutch citizen. The IND website explains when you can become a Dutch citizen. It also lists what documents you need. You apply for naturalisation through your municipality.



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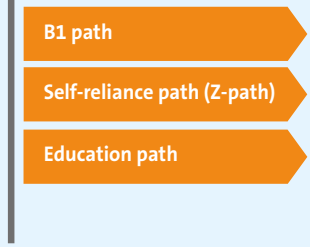
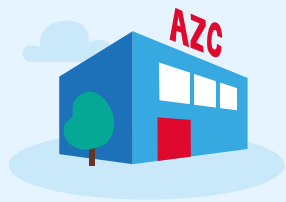
Het inburgeringstraject wordt mede mogelijk gemaakt door:



Sociale Dienst
Drechtsteden

This is
how it
works!

Samen werken
aan zelfstandigheid



I have a residence permit and am staying at an AZC (asylum seeker reception centre) while waiting for housing.

1

You are notified that housing is available for you in the Drechtsteden.

2

Administration day: this is the day you and your integration consultant arrange all the basic things for your move.

3

Financial support: the SDD pays your fixed expenses.

4

Social support counselling service helps me with practical matters.

5

You start with the broad intake.

6

You will have a meeting about your learning pathway and receive your personal Civic Integration and Participation Plan.

7

You start your learning pathway.

8

You will have a meeting about your financial matters.

9

You follow the Labour Market and Participation Module and the Participation Declaration pathway.

10

You take exams.

11

You have passed your exams or completed 800 hours of language classes and 800 hours of participation.

12

Congratulations! You have finished your civic integration.

It can take a while before you get housing. While you wait, you can start the Preparation for Civic Integration programme at COA (Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers). This helps prepare you for the compulsory civic integration at the municipality. Ask your COA case manager for more information or visit



Welcome to the Drechtsteden region! You will soon be living in Alblasserdam, Dordrecht, Hardinxveld-Giessendam, Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht, Papendrecht, Sliedrecht or Zwijndrecht. Drehtsteden Social Services (SDD) works on your civic integration in these municipalities. Here is some important information about your civic integration in the Drehtsteden.

A home has been found for you! You will be invited to view the property. You will be offered housing only once and must accept this offer. Want to move later? Then you will have to find a new home yourself.

On administration day, you:

- view your home and sign the lease;
- register with the municipality;
- apply for rent and healthcare allowance;
- apply for health insurance;
- take out a contract for gas, water and electricity;
- apply for special assistance for your initial rent and furnishing expenses;
- apply for welfare benefits, if you do not yet earn (enough) money.
- On administration day, you will get help from the social support counselling service provided by VluchtelingenWerk (Alblasserdam, Dordrecht, Hardinxveld-Giessendam, Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht, Papendrecht or Zwijndrecht) or Het Bonkelaarshuis (Sliedrecht).

You will move into your home within 2 weeks of administration day.

If you receive benefits from the SDD, they will pay your fixed expenses for the first six months. These include: gas/water/electricity, health insurance and rent. Any remaining funds will be deposited in your bank account. This money is for your living expenses.

The social support counselling service will tell you more about financial support during the administration day.

The social support worker from VluchtelingenWerk or Het Bonkelaarshuis will help you with any questions you may have about your new life in the Drehtsteden. The goal is for you to be able to look after yourself as soon as possible.

This intake lasts 10 weeks. Your integration consultant will get to know you better during this time.

- You will meet with your integration consultant and someone from social support counselling. This meeting helps determine your strengths, how well you can speak Dutch, and your schooling, study and work experience.
- You will be invited to the welcome programme, where you will learn about:
 - Civic integration
 - Housing
 - Social services
 - Parenting and education

As part of the welcome programme, you will take the learning aptitude test. The test results will help you and your integration consultant choose the best learning pathway for you. You can practise the test at



- You conclude the broad intake with a meeting and your personal Civic Integration and Participation Plan (PIP). The PIP tells you what you need to do for your civic integration. This depends on your learning pathway (see step 7).
- Your civic integration period starts once you have received your PIP. From that moment, you have 3 years to complete the integration programme. You will receive a letter from DUO (the Executive Education Agency) that states when your civic integration starts and by what date you must complete it.
- After the meeting, your integration consultant will register you with the language school. The language school will invite you for an intake. After the intake, the language school will contact you about when the lessons begin and your class schedule.

There are 3 different learning pathways:

- B1 path**
- In the B1 path, you will take your exams at B1 level. The exams include: Reading B1 level, Listening B1 level, Speaking B1 level, Writing B1 level and Knowledge of Dutch Society
 - Unable to pass your exams at B1 level? Discuss this with your integration consultant. Together, you will determine if you can take one or more exams at A2 level. This is possible only if you have completed 600 hours of language classes.
- Self-reliance path (Z-path)**
- With the Z-path, you must complete 800 hours of language classes and 800 hours of participation. You do not need to take exams. At the end of the Z-path, you will have a final meeting with your integration consultant.
- Education path**
- Are you under 30 and do you want to pursue further education (MBO, HBO or WO) in the Netherlands after the civic integration? Then follow the education path. The exams include: Reading B1 or B2 level, Listening B1 or B2 level, Speaking B1 or B2 level, Writing B1 or B2 level, Knowledge of Dutch Society, exams for basic subjects and customised subject exams.

Your integration consultant will guide you during your civic integration. He or she is your regular contact person. You will have several appointments with your integration consultant throughout the year to discuss how your civic integration is going.

Social support counselling services will help you with your financial matters during the first six months (see step 3). After this period, you will review your progress together. Can you take care of your own banking? The financial support will then stop. From then on, you will pay all your fixed expenses yourself and receive your benefits directly into your bank account.

- If you are on the B1 or the Z-path, the Labour Market and Participation Module (MAP) and the Participation Declaration pathway (PVT) are mandatory. The MAP consists of:
- Workshops about the Dutch labour market
 - 40 hours of work experience
 - A final meeting with your integration consultant.
- The Participation Declaration pathway (PVT) consists of:
- A few workshops and a field trip during your civic integration programme.
 - Signing the participation declaration. The declaration states that you are aware of and respect the most important Dutch values.

To pass the B1 or Education path, you need to take exams. You take these exams through DUO. Each exam can be taken twice, free of charge. You can register for the exams in Mijn Inburgering/My Integration. Your language school and integration consultant will help you with this.

If you are on the Z-path and want to take the A2-level exams, you will need permission from your integration consultant. The arrangements regarding A2 exams are in your PIP.

If you have passed the civic integration exams, you will receive a diploma. On the Z-path? Then you do not have to take exams, but must have completed 800 hours of language classes and 800 hours of participation. You will receive a certificate after completing the Z-path.

You will have a final meeting with your integration consultant to finish your learning pathway and civic integration.

You are integrated and participating in Dutch society.