



1. What is the Reception of applicants for International Protection?

Reception is a social support that you benefit from as an asylum seeker and until the final decision on your application, if necessary, that is, if you find yourself in a situation of economic hardship.

In this sense, an assessment will be carried out on your financial situation and if it is proven that you have sufficient resources, you may be required to make a full or partial contribution to cover the expenses arising from the material conditions of reception and health care.

Rights and duties arise from this acceptance.

2. Which national entity is responsible for Reception?

AIMA is the national entity responsible for analyzing your asylum application and ensuring material reception conditions, if necessary.

AIMA Reception is carried out in partnership with a network of Reception Entities, spread throughout the national mainland, which guarantee the material conditions of reception, with supervision by AIMA. These Reception Entities are civil society organizations (NGOs and social solidarity institutions), municipalities and others.

3. What does Reception consist of?

Depending on your financial situation, that is, if you find yourself in financial need and until you receive a final decision on your asylum application, AIMA will provide you with social support, granting you support for:

- **Accommodation**
- **Food**
- **Health Care**

AIMA ensures that all care will be provided ensuring that your basic needs are met and in conditions of human dignity.



In this sense, AIMA will ask you several questions to better understand your situation.

When granting accommodation, appropriate measures will be taken to maintain family unity as far as possible.

This accommodation may be in a reception center, collective accommodation and/or a shared room.

4. Where in Portugal will I be housed?

You can be integrated in any region of mainland Portugal.

Where you will be housed depends on several circumstances that will be assessed by AIMA.

Once the Host Entity and the location where you will be welcomed have been determined, AIMA will inform you about who this entity is, its location and the conditions you will benefit from.

5. As an AIMA host beneficiary, what are my Rights and Duties?

Regardless of where you will be accommodated, you will be entitled to:

- Feeling safe. No one, including the accommodation staff, can threaten, insult or harm you.
- Staying with your husband, wife, children or siblings under 18 or an adult who requires daily care;
- Requesting International Protection, with your request being registered.

My obligations/duties as a beneficiary of reception conditions are:

- Stay in Portugal and do not travel to another European Union country, without AIMA's authorization;
- Do not leave the accommodation without notifying AIMA;
- Cooperate with all Portuguese authorities;
- Respect the rules of the accommodation where you are placed (respect the Internal Regulations of Accommodation);



- Respect other residents, accommodation staff and other applicants;
- Respect Portuguese laws;
- Inform the Portuguese authorities about your financial capacity;
- Inform AIMA of your contact details (email and mobile phone number) and any changes you make to them.

6. Will I be entitled to health care?

You will have the right to access the National Health Service, to treatments that are considered urgent and essential.

In this sense, the health authorities may ask you to undergo medical examinations in order to certify your health status, your needs and to screen for any type of pathology, namely infectious diseases.

This access to the National Health Service allows you to be seen by a doctor or nurse.

You will be entitled to receive specialized medical care:

- If you are not feeling well, are injured or hurt, need any type of medication and/or have a chronic illness;
- If you are pregnant;
- If you have young children in need of treatment;
- If you suffer from any disability;
- If you have anxiety problems, can't sleep or have negative thoughts;
- Feeling unwell as a result of the violence or torture to which you have been subjected;
- Feeling insecure, threatened or afraid of someone in particular or if someone forces you to do something you don't want to do;
- You feel insecure as a result of your faith, the person you like, the way you dress or your behavior;
- If you are under 18 years old and arrived in Portugal without being accompanied by someone from your family.

You must trust the doctor or nurse who sees you. All information provided during a medical consultation will be confidential.

7. Do my children have the right to education?

All minors under 18 must access the National Education System.

Parents are obliged to enroll their minor children in school.

8. Can I work while I am an applicant for international protection?

Asylum seekers have access to the labour market.

When starting a work activity and, therefore, ending the situation of economic hardship, the application of housing and food support ceases.

Applicants for international protection have access to employment and vocational training programs and measures.

The right to work only allows you to work in Portugal. If you travel to another European Union country, this right to work granted by Portugal is not applicable in another country.

9. How long until my AIMA placement is decided?

Once you have applied for international protection, AIMA has 30 days to analyze the admissibility of your application (this period is called the admissibility period). If your application is considered inadmissible, you may appeal it within 8 working days after being notified of the negative decision given by AIMA.

You can contact, free of charge, the Portuguese Council for Refugees for legal support for this appeal and the Social Security Institute for legal support.

Once the admissibility period has passed, that is, once the decision on the admissibility of your asylum application has been made, you will no longer be under the responsibility of AIMA and will no longer benefit from the material reception conditions provided by AIMA.

If you continue to need to benefit from material reception conditions, the responsible entities are the Social Security Institute or Santa Casa da Misericórdia.



10. Will I be the holder of any AIMA document attesting to my status as an applicant for international protection?

Yes. You will receive a document issued by AIMA that certifies your status as an applicant for international protection.

This document is not a document that allows you to travel.

This document is personal and non-transferable and must always be in your possession.

This is the document that will identify you to the Portuguese authorities.

If there is any change to your personal data, namely your residential address and contact details, you are obliged to inform AIMA-National Refugee Reception Center.

11. Can I benefit from other reception conditions in another European Union country?

Reception conditions are similar in all European Union countries, so you should take the following rules into account when applying for asylum and if you travel to another European Union country:

1. Your asylum application is made in the first country of entry into the territory of the European Union;
2. Only one European Union State is responsible for examining your asylum application. Therefore, Portugal will take all necessary steps to determine whether Portugal is the State responsible for your application.

You must remain in Portugal and not travel to another European Union country without authorization from AIMA.

If you leave Portugal, your departure will have negative consequences for your asylum application, which may be closed and reception conditions will no longer be guaranteed.

What happens to me if I travel to another European Union country:

- ✓ Your asylum application may be suspended.
- ✓ You will lose your rights as an asylum seeker.
- ✓ You can be sent back to Portugal.