

Refugees and Asylum Seekers Resident in the State

What you need to open a bank account

To open a bank account we need you to provide certain documents that prove:

1. Who you are (Proof of Identity) and
2. Where you live (Proof of Address).

At AIB, there are standard documents that we need you to provide if you have them. However, we understand that if you are seeking Asylum or have recently been granted Refugee status, you might not have these documents.

We have listed here the standard documents we need, and the alternatives we will accept if you don't have them:

1. Proof of Identity

Passport or Travel Document

It can be a:

- Passport, or
- UN Travel Document (issued in Ireland).

These documents must be valid and in date.

If you have been granted Refugee status and you do not have a Passport or Travel Document, we will accept the following two documents together:

Irish Residence Permit

- The Irish Residence Permit (IRP)
- This document must be in date.

AND

Letter of Refugee Status

- The original document issued by the Department of Justice and Equality in Ireland.

If you are seeking Asylum and you do not have a Passport or Travel Document, we will accept the following:

Temporary Residence Certificate

- Temporary Residence Certificate (TRC)
- This document must be in date.

AND where the purpose of the account is for receipt of wages you must also provide

Labour Market Access Permission Letter

- Issued by the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration service (INIS).

2. Proof of Address

The bank needs to see any one of the following dated in the last six months:

Letter from a government department	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correspondence from a government department, body, agency or board such as the Department of Justice.
A bill from a utility company	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For example, a bill for a mobile phone, gas, electricity, heating, or waste collection.• It must be in your name only and show your current address.• It cannot be the first bill from the company.• It can be an e-statement or e-bill.
A statement or letter from a regulated financial institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For example, a statement or letter from a bank, insurance company or credit card company.• It must be in your name only and show your current address.• It must show that you have an account with the company. It cannot be a quote or advertisement.• It can be an e-statement.

If you don't have any of the above we will accept:

A letter from an accommodation provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A letter of Introduction from an approved Emergency Reception and Orientation Centre (EROC) accommodation provider, or Direct Provision Centre or• A County Council Accommodation Placement letter.
Labour Market Access Permission Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The bank will accept a Labour Market Access Permission Letter if it is dated in the last six months and shows your current address.

What's next

Please make an appointment by contacting any of our branches or our customer service helpline (0818 303 203), lines are open Monday to Friday 9:00 to 17:00. We'll be happy to answer any questions you may have and find the right kind of account for you.

