



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Director

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Governor's Office for New Americans reiterates U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *Uniting for Ukraine* initiative

LAS VEGAS, NV – The Nevada Governor's Office for New Americans (ONA) reiterates the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's [*Uniting for Ukraine*](#) initiative, a streamlined federal process that welcomes Ukrainians fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine to the United States.

"The Governor's Office for New Americans stands with the people of Ukraine and with all immigrants and refugees around the world fleeing persecution, war, and unlivable conditions in their countries of origin," **said Charina de Asis, Director of Governor's Office for New Americans.** "*Uniting for Ukraine* will allow Nevadans the opportunity to directly provide support to displaced Ukrainians and help strengthen our State's mission of creating a more welcoming state for all."

As of April 25, any U.S.-based individual, including representatives of non-government organizations, can sponsor Ukrainian applicants. Nevadans seeking to sponsor Ukrainian citizens to the United States will be required to declare their financial support and pass security background checks to protect against exploitation and abuse.

The first step in the *Uniting for Ukraine* process is for the U.S. based supporter to file a [Form I-134, Declaration of Financial Support](#), with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The U.S. government will then vet the supporter to ensure they are able to provide full financial support. This includes the ability to receive, maintain, and financially sustain the

individuals whom they commit to support for the duration of their stay in the United States. For further details on how to apply to be a supporter under the *Uniting for Ukraine* initiative, please visit [USCIS's Uniting for Ukraine website](#).

Ukrainian applicants must have been residents in Ukraine as of February 11, 2022, have a supporter in the United States, complete vaccinations and other public health requirements, and pass rigorous biometric and biographic screening and vetting security checks. Ukrainians approved via this process will be authorized to travel to the United States and be considered for parole, on a case-by-case basis, for a period of up to two years. Once paroled through this process, Ukrainians will be eligible for work authorization.

Unlike the recent Afghan Placement and Assistance (APA) program, *Uniting for Ukraine* will be solely administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Neither the State of Nevada nor Nevada's refugee resettlement agencies will be involved in the coordination and execution of this program. Additionally, the State of Nevada will not be updated with the number of Ukrainian parolees that will be arriving in our State.

Alternatively, some Ukrainians fleeing the war will also be eligible to apply under the [Lautenberg Amendment](#), which seeks to facilitate the resettlement of Jews from former Soviet Union countries. For more information on the Lautenberg program's access categories, please visit the following [USCIS website](#).

The Nevada Governor's Office for New Americans (ONA) was created to promote the inclusion and integration of immigrants, refugees, and aspiring Americans into the civic, economic, and cultural life of Nevada. ONA works to bridge the world of state government and the complex changes in immigration policy that affect all Nevadans. By breaking down bureaucratic barriers that often hinder economic self-sufficiency and civic integration, ONA is working to make Nevada an even more welcoming state for all. For more information about ONA visit our website at [ona.nv.gov](#).

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