



Fondation vaudoise pour
l'accueil des requérants d'asile
Siège administratif
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TRANSLATION IN ENGLISH

Emergency support for asylum seekers whose application has been refused

Dear Sir / Madam,

As from 1 January 2008, asylum seekers whose application has been refused will no longer have the right to social security benefits but will be able to request emergency support in accordance with article 82 of the Federal Asylum Act. Here are some important explanations about the changes that this will bring.

Procedure for requesting emergency support

To obtain support from the Etablissement Vaudois d'Accueil des Migrants (EVAM) [Vaud Department for the Reception of Immigrants], which will replace Fareas from 1 January 2008, persons whose application has been refused should apply to Service de la Population (SPOP) [Population Services], avenue de Beaulieu 19, Lausanne. SPOP will decide whether to issue a grant of emergency support. This will indicate the accommodation to which the applicant has been assigned.

The document will be valid for a limited period, and will have to be renewed on a regular basis. It will be possible to apply to SPOP for emergency support from 5 November onwards, Mondays to Fridays from 8.00 to 11.30 am and from 1.30 to 4.30 pm.

Without exception, a single person from each family, here referred to as the 'beneficiary', must apply in person for emergency support from SPOP.

Beneficiaries requesting emergency support for the first time will have to be photographed by EVAM at its administrative offices, avenue de Sévelin 40, 1004 Lausanne, following their visit to SPOP.

Regulations for emergency support

Type of refused applicant	Accommodation	Assistance
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Families with minor child / minor childrenVulnerable cases as defined by PMU	Furnished room in a collective emergency support hostel (Lausanne, Bex or Leysin)	Financial assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fr. 9.50 per day / per personHealth insuranceOne-off transport vouchers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Unmarried personsCouples without a minor childFamilies without a minor child	Bed and cupboard at a collective emergency support centre (Lausanne-Vennes, Vevey or la Côte)	Assistance in kind: <ul style="list-style-type: none">3 meals per dayVouchers for articles of hygieneVouchers for clothingOne-off transport vouchers outside Lausanne

Support will only be provided together with accommodation. Beneficiaries who refuse the offer of accommodation will not qualify for other kinds of assistance.



The grant of emergency support must be presented every time the holder enters the emergency support hostel or centre.

No personal furniture may be brought to the hostel. Managers of hostels for families with minor children and vulnerable cases may in certain circumstances authorise hi-fi equipment and television.

Accommodation

The emergency support regulations in principle exclude accommodation in an apartment. A period of transition is however allowed for, during which persons still living in an apartment who wish to request emergency support will be able to obtain the due amount of financial assistance while waiting to be transferred to a hostel or centre. The transfers will take place at the earliest possible opportunity, throughout the year 2008.

Rejected asylum seekers who are living with persons whose status is more favourable (permit N *sub judice*, permits F, B or C or Swiss nationals) will be able to remain with their families, provided that these are directly related to them. They will however have to apply for emergency support in order to receive financial assistance, as well as a contribution to their relative's rent, in accordance with the accommodation regulations presently in force.

So far as possible, in planning the transfers EVAM will take into account any procedures initiated by persons who have presented a request for regularisation of their status in accordance with article 14 of the Federal Asylum Act. EVAM will also endeavour to transfer families with children attending school during the school holidays.

- If you are living in a Fareas apartment and are requesting emergency support, you will be able to stay in the apartment while drawing the emergency financial assistance due to you until the time of your transfer to a collective emergency support centre.
- If you are living in a Fareas apartment or hostel and are not requesting emergency support, an order of eviction will be issued and you will not qualify for emergency financial assistance.
- If you are renting a privately owned apartment, you will have to request emergency support so that EVAM can take responsibility for rent payments up till the end of the month in which your transfer to a collective emergency support centre can be organised. You will be sent a letter one month and a half before the move, so that you will have time to terminate your tenancy agreement and find a new tenant to propose to your landlord as your successor to the tenancy. We would advise you to keep your landlord punctually apprised of your situation, or to authorise Fareas to do this on your behalf by sending a simple written note to this effect.
- If you are renting a privately owned apartment and are not intending to request emergency support, EVAM will not pay the rent and you will be obliged to shoulder your own financial responsibilities.
- Refused asylum seekers who choose to live with persons close to them with whom they are not directly related, and who decline the offer of accommodation under the emergency support scheme, will not have any right to emergency financial assistance.

Financial assistance

The beneficiaries of families with a minor child or minor children, and vulnerable cases as defined by PMU, as well as persons still living in an apartment and requesting emergency support, will be obliged to visit the administrative offices of EVAM (avenue de Sévelin 40, 1004 Lausanne) after

their visit to SPOP in order to obtain the financial assistance due to them in cash. EVAM's offices are open Mondays to Fridays from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon and from 2.00 to 4.00 pm.

Refused asylum seekers will not have to fill in their Commande d'Assistance Financière (CAF) [Request for Financial Assistance] in December, seeing that in January they will no longer have a right to regular support as asylum seekers. The last CAF form will therefore be made out in November, for financial assistance in December.

Bank accounts

The bank accounts set up by Fareas for the payment of financial support will be closed on 31 January 2008. Persons in receipt of emergency support will be able to recover any balance they have with EVAM (avenue de Sévelin 40, 1004 Lausanne) between 15 February and 31 March 2008, provided they have no outstanding debts.

Medical care and health insurance

Centres de Soins Infirmiers (CSIs) [Health Care Centres] will be available at certain times at the emergency support centres and hostels.

Any person in receipt of emergency support can also of course visit the A&E department of a public hospital in case of emergency.

From 1 January 2008, families with a minor child or children and vulnerable cases will keep their right to health insurance financed by EVAM. Persons without a minor child who will still be living in an apartment will keep their right to health insurance until their transfer into a collective emergency support centre. In those cases the system of delegation vouchers and access to the Farmed network will remain in place. Persons insured under this scheme who live more than 30 minutes' distance from a CSI may continue to consult a primary care physician.

Persons who are insured under a private health insurance scheme will have to submit an insurance certificate and the associated invoices to EVAM's central offices.

The Policlinique Médicale Universitaire (PMU) [University Medical Polyclinic], rue du Bugnon 44, Lausanne, is the only authority entitled to identify vulnerable cases and inform EVAM of their status accordingly.

Transport vouchers

Transport vouchers will be issued to certain types of person in certain specific situations:

- **Visiting SPOP and EVAM to request emergency support:** the beneficiary of the family (with the exception of persons accommodated at the Lausanne-Vennes emergency support centre) will be entitled to obtain a transport voucher from EVAM for the return journey to their hostel and for their next visit to SPOP and EVAM.
- **Transport for medical reasons:** the emergency support centres and hostels will provide taxi vouchers in cases of medical emergency for all persons in receipt of emergency support. Families with a minor child or minor children and vulnerable cases can obtain transport vouchers from their CSI for travelling to medical appointments.

Social support

Social workers will be available at the emergency support centres and hostels to advise persons in receipt of emergency support and help them find their way, as well as regulating issues to do with their children's schooling. Persons who are still living in an apartment at the start of 2008 will be able to contact the social workers at EVAM's branch offices.

Repatriation assistance

Persons wishing for information about projects for repatriation assistance, with a view to preparing for their return to their country of origin, can apply at any time to the service offices of Conseils en Vue du Retour (CVR) [Repatriation Advisory Services], avenue de Beaulieu 25, Lausanne, tel. 021 316 97 63. The originally envisaged deadline of 31 October 2007 for repatriation assistance has been done away with.

We would like to thank you for your taking note of the information here conveyed. We are available to you for any more detailed information that you may require, and remain,

Yours faithfully,



Pierre Imhof
Directeur



Cécile Ehrensperger
Responsable du projet aide d'urgence

Enclosed :

- Contacts of Solidarity Churches Migration (Point d'appui)