

# Waiting times for those who have applied for protection (asylum)

**Many applicants have been waiting a long time for an answer to their applications for protection. We know that waiting is difficult.**

## **We are currently processing the following cases**

In the period up to summer 2026, we will be processing applications submitted in:

- 2023
- January-June 2024

We will not be able to process all these cases before the summer. As a general rule, we process the oldest applications first.

## **How does UDI process your case?**

### **Certain cases are processed faster**

There are many people applying for protection from many different countries. UDI cannot manage to process all these applications right away. Applications from certain groups of applicants must be processed more quickly. This includes:

- applications processed in accordance with the Dublin Regulation, which in most cases means that the applicant must travel to a different European country to have their applications processed.
- applicants who, in UDI's estimation, clearly do not need protection, such as those who come from a safe country where they can travel back right away.
- applications from families with children, and applications from children who arrived without parents or caregivers. These cases generally have to be processed faster.

If you are not part of any of these groups, it may take a long time for you to be interviewed, and your application processed. This does not mean that anything is wrong with your case or that we have forgotten you.

## **While staying at the National arrival centre**

Everyone applying for protection in Norway must first register an application at the National arrival centre. You will only be here a short time because there must be space for newcomers.

Most applicants will need to move to an ordinary reception centre and wait for their interview and an answer to their applications there.

Applicants cannot choose or influence whether they will be interviewed at the National arrival centre. It depends on how many people have applied for protection at the same time.

## **When living at an ordinary reception centre**

If UDI did not interview you before you moved into an ordinary reception centre, it might be a long time before you are interviewed and receive an answer to your application for protection.

It makes no difference for your waiting time where in Norway your reception centre is.

## **If you live in private accommodations**

If you live in private accommodations, such as with family or friends, your waiting time will be the same as for those living in an ordinary reception centre. It is very [important that you provide us with your address, email address and telephone number](#) so that UDI can contact you for your interview and with the answer regarding your application.

## **What does UDI do with your case while you are waiting?**

When you apply for protection, we place your application in a queue until one of our case officers has time to process your case. This means that your case is not assigned to a case officer at UDI until you are called in for your interview. No cases are forgotten.

## **Why does it take a long time before being interviewed?**

UDI allocates a lot of time for asylum interviews, usually an entire day. Each case requires a lot of planning. This is why it takes time to interview everyone who comes to Norway.

## **How long does it take to receive an answer after the interview?**

In most cases, UDI can give you an answer rather soon after your interview. Sometimes, however, we need more time. We might need to look more closely at the information you provided in your case, or we might need to know more about the situation in your home country before we can process your case. In such cases, it can take longer to receive an answer after an interview, but everyone will receive an answer.

## **Is there anything you can do to make your case go faster?**

[If you have any identity documents that you have not given to the police, you need to hand them in as soon as possible.](#)

- If you have original identity documents, you are to hand them in to your local police district.
- If you have copies and photos, you are to send them to UDI.

It is important that UDI has all the documents for your case before your interview. This can help you to avoid your case taking longer than necessary.

## What information can UDI give you about waiting times?

Many people contact UDI to ask about the waiting time for their cases. We are not able to provide any information about waiting times over the phone other than what is published on [udi.no](https://udi.no).

If we need more information from you to process your case, we will contact you.

## Can your case be moved to the front of the queue?

Most people who apply for protection want their cases to be processed quickly. There must be something very special about your circumstances for your application to be moved to the front of the queue.

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## Information updates

Last updated: April 2026

This information will be updated on 1 July 2026 or before if substantial changes occur.

