

How to apply for Section 4 support if you are pregnant



October 2010

English

Section 4 is short-term support provided by the Home Office if your application for asylum has been refused, and your appeals have been unsuccessful. If you are unable to leave the UK immediately and you would otherwise be homeless or without the money to buy food (that is you are destitute), you may be eligible for Section 4 support while you are pregnant.

However, in order to apply for Section 4 support on the basis of your pregnancy, the Home Office requires you to supply the **all** of following documents. When you have gathered the information outlined below come back to our office at Scottish Refugee Council and we will make a Section 4 appointment for you.

Documents you require include:

1. A MATB1 certificate from your doctor (GP) **or** midwife showing that you are at least 32 weeks pregnant. If you have not yet seen a midwife, we can arrange an appointment for you;
2. A written list of all the addresses you have lived at since you arrived in the UK. The list must be in chronological order starting with your most recent address through to the first address you lived in the UK. Include the names of the people you have stayed with and, if possible, letters from them stating when you lived with them and why they cannot support you any longer. This is particularly important for the last year before your application. If you can also provide letters addressed to you at these addresses, it will help your Section 4 application;

3. A written list of all the places you worked in since your arrival in the UK, including payslips and P45 forms, provided when you finished work, if you have them. If you have worked illegally in the UK, it will not negatively impact your Section 4 application as long as you have now stopped working now;
4. Details of any bank accounts you had in the UK, including bank statements for the last six months; **and**
5. If you are still in a relationship with your baby's father, you will need to provide addresses, work details and bank statements from him as well as a written statement explaining why he cannot support you and the baby.

Important: The letters you provide must be in English. However, if the person providing letters for you cannot write in English, we suggest that you bring them to your appointment with us so that we can assist them in writing a letter for you.

The lists of addresses and workplaces mentioned in the letter can be written in your own language if you are not able to write them in English.