

Family Reunion:

Refugees or people granted Humanitarian Protection

The following information will help you gather as much information and evidence as possible before you approach a legal advisor or solicitor to discuss family reunion.

If you have **Refugee Status** or **Humanitarian Protection** and you want a family member to come and live with you in the UK, you will need to be able to provide evidence of the following:

- That you have refugee status. For example your Immigration Status Document.
- That they are related to you and lived in your family before you had to leave. For example a marriage or birth/adoption certificate, wedding or family photographs.
- That you still regularly contact them. For example phone cards, letters, money transfer receipts.

Your family member abroad must also prove to the UK Embassy:

- 1) In the case of a husband/wife/civil partner¹
 - Both they and you are aged 21 or over.
- 2) In the case of a child (including adopted)
 - He or she is under 18 and is not married or living independently.
(If your child is nearly 18, please seek advice immediately – you must apply before their 18th birthday.)
- 3) In the case of other relatives
 - That they are still dependent on you, for example that you send them money, or they are alone or elderly, or they are a close relative, and;
 - That their situation is 'compelling and compassionate'². This means that they suffer hardship and there is nobody else to care for them.

Other important information:

- Any original documents should be translated into English.
- If your family member has a passport or identity document this would be a great help to your application.
- In what circumstances are they living now? Who with? Who supports them?

1 Legal Recognition of a same-sex relationship

2 Note from Home Office Policy Unit to IAT, 29th June 2004

Useful evidence you could gather to satisfy the Rules

Requirement of Rules	Examples of Evidence
Refugee Status or Humanitarian Protection	Your Immigration Status Document Your Travel Document
Relationship/part of family	Your marriage certificate Birth/adoption certificate for a child Your wedding or family photograph
Regular Contact	Phone cards or records Letters Money transfer receipts

Who can help?

Scottish Refugee Council no longer provides a family reunion service. However, your legal representative may be able to help you. If you do not have one or would like to change your representative, we can provide names and addresses of legal representatives.

As noted above, if you wish to explore this, please ensure that you have considered the requirements and necessary evidence that this will involve before you apply.



The Scottish Refugee Council 5 Cadogan Square,
(170 Blythswood Court) Glasgow G2 7PH
Free telephone advice: 0800 085 6087
Email: info@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk
Web: www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk
Registered Charity No: SC008639

