

Participating in society is good for the well-being and health of our residents. By participating, they increase their knowledge of the Dutch language and culture, gain work experience and come into contact with **Dutch people.**

In doing so, they can make an important contribution to the local society and economy and today's tight labour market.

Together with community partners, COA assists residents in participation and integration activities. In several locations, for example, Participation desks were started in cooperation with the Association of Dutch Voluntary Work Organisations and volunteer centres. A variety of activities such as sports and recreation, informal language learning and guidance towards (voluntary) work are offered here. This will allow all residents to participate and give permit holders a flying start when they move to their own home in a municipality.

Participation from day 1

Newcomers to the Netherlands kick-start participating en integrating into Dutch society



How can our residents get involved?



1

2

3

4

Asylum seeker with high chance of getting a residence permit can take **Dutch language lessons.**

Asylum seeker gets **counselling interview** about the possibilities for participation in and around the asylum seekers' centre.

Residents of asylum seekers' centres are included via **Participation desk (Meedoenbalie)** invited to volunteer or participate in other activities.

After a 6-month stay in the Netherlands and receipt of social security number (BSN), asylum seekers may also do **paid work**. Status holder is informed about the **labour market** and guided to work where possible.

Status holder receives **individual counselling** from a case manager to match wishes and ambitions with opportunities.

Status holder starts **Preperation programme for** *civic integration* This consists of individual counselling, Dutch language lessons, lessons on Dutch society, labour market and participation.

The status holder will have an **intake interview** for a promising match with a labour region.

After getting a residence permit

_~~ !!!

> The status holder waits for housing in municipality and already starts with *Preparation programme for civic integration*. Status holder stays in the region of his future place of residence if possible.

Information transfer to municipality via digital client profile and possibly an interview.

Municipality

Status holder moves to his new place of residence.

Status holders continues integration in the municipality.



9