

Attention: The Flemish government has established that the civic integration programme is mandatory for you.

Would you like to read this letter in another language? Surf to <http://documenten.mijninburgering.be>.

Date [XXX]

Place [XXX]

Your national registration number [XXX]

Invitation: mandatory civic integration programme

Dear [XXX],

You have recently moved to Flanders, or you have recently been granted a residence permit. Welcome!

We want you to feel at home here. That is why we would like to invite you to the civic integration programme. This programme will help you to quickly find your way around in Flanders.

The civic integration programme is mandatory for you.

What should you do?

Make an appointment with [XXX]. Please call [XXX].

Your appointment must take place before [XXX].

The address is: [XXX]

A staff member will determine with you which programme suits you and whether you are eligible for exemptions.

You are not coming to the appointment, or you are not participating in the civic integration programme? You may be penalised.

Do you want to join the civic integration programme at a different location? On [XXX] you will find all addresses.

What is the civic integration programme?

The civic integration programme covers many different topics, including:

- where to learn Dutch.
- how to find a (new) job or start your own business.
- how to have your diploma recognised in Belgium.
- where to find training or education.
- where to find a school for your children.
- what you can do in your spare time.
- how to find a good home.
- who you can ask for help if you or a family member becomes ill.

And you will learn much more. You can also ask your own questions.

What will you be doing during the civic integration programme?

- 1** A programme counsellor will make agreements with you about where and when you will attend the civic integration programme. You will receive guidance on your short- and long-term planning.
- 2** What do you need to know and do to understand this country and give yourself and your family as many opportunities as possible? You will find out in the social orientation classes, in your own language or in a language you speak well.
- 3** Maybe you already speak some Dutch, maybe not? You will be learning basic level Dutch. Do you want to learn or practice more Dutch? We will provide information on Dutch language courses or on opportunities to practice your Dutch.
- 4** You do not have a job yet? We will refer you to the VDAB (Flemish Agency for job placement and professional training). The VDAB will guide you in your search for work. A job provides you with an income and an extra opportunity to learn and practice Dutch.
- 5** You will attend a participation programme. It will allow you to get better acquainted with your municipality and to practice Dutch outside of the classroom. Together, we will look for activities, volunteer work or internships for you.

What are the advantages of the civic integration programme?

- The civic integration programme helps create opportunities for you and your family. You will learn how to find your way around in our society.
- You will meet new people.
- If you do not have a computer or laptop, you can use a tablet for the digital social orientation course.
- If you successfully complete the civic integration programme, you will receive a civic integration certificate. This certificate may help you acquire the Belgian nationality.

How much does the civic integration programme cost?

1	Programme counselling	Free of charge
2	Social orientation course	€ 180 (including 1 test)
3	Dutch language course	€ 180 (including 1 test)
4	Pathway to employment	Free of charge
5	Participation programme	Free of charge

Have you failed the test, and are you taking the test again? You will have to pay for the test again.

In some cases, people may be exempted from payment. During the initial appointment you will receive information about payment and possible exemptions.

Do you do want more information?

More information can be found on the website <http://www.inburgering.be>.

See you soon,

Kind regards,

[XXX]