



Igu

- a shortcut to education and job opportunities in Denmark

Do you want to work, learn more Danish and get new opportunities in Denmark? Get off to a good start with a 2-year IGU programme.



What is an IGU?

An IGU is introductory basic education and training for integration. It is a special 2-year employment and educational programme for those who wish to acquire new skills in a workplace and improve their Danish while they work.

As an IGU employee, you work in a company. It may be a job you already know from your home country, or an entirely new one. In either case, you will go through education and training to acquire the skills needed in your daily job, both practical work tasks and Danish terminology.

Alongside work, you can attend Danish lessons, making it easier for you to understand your colleagues and your new work tasks. In addition, a colleague at your workplace may receive training to become your language buddy and help you learn Danish at your workplace.

How an IGU works in practice

An IGU takes two years to complete and consists of both work and school.

Over the course of the 2-year programme, you will work in an ordinary company while completing 23 weeks of language training at a school. Your total working time at the workplace and at school will be 33 to 37 hours per week.

You can either find a company yourself or receive assistance from your municipality consultant to become employed in an IGU.

Your IGU employment with the company constitutes an agreement between you and your new workplace, often assisted by your municipality. Your municipality may also help arrange the 23 weeks of education - and you can contact the municipality during the programme if you need any advice or guidance.

While working in the company, you are employed on equal terms with your colleagues. You will also receive a salary while working, and it is at least equivalent to that of an EGU employee or trainee in the sector concerned. When you are at school, your municipality pays your salary. This is called educational allowance.

You, your workplace and often your municipality consultant will plan your 2-year IGU employment together.

What are the benefits of an IGU?

An IGU employment is a good opportunity to get a job while also improving your Danish and receiving training so that you are better able to carry out new tasks.

- Learning new skills helps you carry out more tasks and understand more Danish
- You learn about the Danish labour market and the expectations of an employee
- You gain work experience that counts if you later apply for permanent residence
- You meet new people and build a network
- You come closer to permanent employment or education

“An IGU is a really good way to become integrated into Danish society. It has given me an understanding of the Danish labour market, and it has been a fantastic experience to have Danish colleagues as well as learning about the labour market and the culture. At the same time, the combination of language school and work experience has meant that I have become proficient in Danish, so I now have the opportunity to study and continue my education upon completion of the IGU. I would recommend the IGU to others.”

IGU employee at a school

“I am very happy with my IGU programme. I have made new friends and connections in Denmark, and my workplace has meant a great deal in terms of my language development and my understanding of Danish culture and collaboration. I have also received good help and guidance from my IGU consultant who has been supportive and helpful along the way.”

IGU employee at a care home

Who can take an IGU?

An IGU is for you if you:

- are a refugee, family reunified or displaced from Ukraine
- are 18-49 years old
- have lived in Denmark for up to 20 years
- are ready to both work and learn new things

Where can I find more information?

Watch the IGU video in five different languages

The video explains the rules and conditions of an IGU programme. It is available in Danish, English, Ukrainian, Farsi and Arabic.

Scan the QR code or go to integrationogjob.dk/igu-film



How do I get started?

Do you want to find out if an IGU is the right choice for you?

Would you like help finding a company that is interested in employing you?

Then contact your municipality consultant and schedule a meeting to find the right solution for you.



Styrelsen for International
Rekruttering og Integration

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