

# The Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) Program

The BVOR Program is designed to resettle refugees identified by the *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees* (UNHCR) and submitted to Canadian visa offices abroad. It is called a “blended” program because it is a cost-sharing arrangement. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) provides up to six months of income support through the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP), while private sponsors provide another six months of financial support, start-up costs and up to one year of social and emotional support.

Refugees identified for the BVOR program have been assessed and have met Canadian government resettlement criteria. They are travel-ready, and just need to be matched with sponsors.

## What are the sponsor’s settlement responsibilities?

- Reception at the airport
- Arrange for housing and other basic necessities
- Help find health care providers
- Enroll the newcomers in school
- Connect the newcomers with language classes, job training services, etc
- Provide emotional and moral support

## Sponsorship process

- Contact the BVOR Worker at RSTP if you’re interested in sponsoring a refugee under the BVOR program.
- We offer an orientation on the BVOR program and how you can participate and select profiles.
- Once your group decides on a case, you will receive the refugees' personal information to help you prepare and complete the sponsorship applications. Submit them to the Resettlement Operation Centre in Ottawa (ROC-O) at IRCC.
- When the sponsorship is approved by ROC-O, the sponsoring group will receive detailed information about the refugees’ departure and arrival dates.
- RSTP supports you throughout the sponsorship process.

**Share the costs and save a life!**



## Who can sponsor through the BVOR program?

To sponsor refugees under this program, you must be a:

- Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) or Constituent Group (a group that can sponsor refugees under a SAH agreement)
- Group of Five
- Community Sponsor

## What are the benefits?

- By sponsoring a BVOR refugee, **you help the Canadian government resettle** more refugees in need.
- These refugees have been assessed and meet the Canadian government’s resettlement criteria, making them **travel ready**. There is also **less paperwork** for you.
- BVOR refugees have **faster processing times**. They will arrive one to four months after sponsorship applications are approved.
- Sponsoring BVOR families **costs less**. Refugees receive **six months** of financial support from **the Government of Canada**. Sponsors cover just 6 months plus start-up costs.

<b>R</b> efugee <b>S</b> ponsorship <b>T</b> raining <b>P</b> rogram	<b>For more information, please contact:</b>
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