

RSTP Bulletin

April 20th, 2018

Clarification from IRCC on POE Procedures

Are SIN registration and PR Card processing conducted at all Ports of Entry (POE)?

SIN registration is only available at Pearson International Airport, where there is a Service Canada kiosk that allows newcomers to apply. The kiosk is only open Monday to Friday and during certain hours. So, while this service is available to all newcomers at Pearson, refugees won't be able to register here if flights don't arrive during the hours scheduled for this service.

PR cards are processed at all POEs. When the newcomer lands at the airport, a CBSA officer sends the office copy of the Confirmation of PR to IRCC's Case Processing Centre in Sydney, NS for PR card processing. The officer will ask for the newcomer's address information, and CPC-S will mail the card to that address.

★ It's important to note that an address is required in order to register for SIN and to get the PR card mailed to the newcomers



Sawsan and Muaz Ballani, standing in the center, with their sponsors in Toronto, Ontario. (Photo: Damon Winter, for the New York Times)

Are IFHP certificates now issued by all Visa Offices pre-arrival, or only by certain Visa Offices?

Based on clarification provided by IRCC, resettled refugees eligible for IFHP receive the IFHP certificate at the POE. Some may also receive a certificate overseas, but where this is the case, they will still receive another one at the POE, which will be issued by the CBSA officer who landed the newcomers. To reiterate, all resettled refugees eligible for IFHP receive IFHP certificates at the POE (even if they have received one overseas).



The Al Kweyder family was the first Syrian refugee family to arrive in Thunder Bay. They were sponsored by the members of the Right to Refugee group from the Grassroots Church. Their arrival paved the way for many refugee sponsorships in the Thunder Bay area.

Requirements for minors travelling with only one parent, a legal guardian or a de facto guardian

Each case is assessed on a case by case basis. In normal situations, where only one parent is applying with a minor child, they must demonstrate that they have sole custody of the child and are permitted to remove the child from that jurisdiction. However, in exceptional situations, where a person is unable to demonstrate this, they are asked to provide evidence that they have the consent of the other parent for the child to immigrate to Canada; this can be done by submitting form [IMM5406](#).

However, where a parent is unwilling to cooperate, unless they are the agent of persecution, that parent maintains custodial rights until sole custody is granted to the other parent and the child may not be eligible to immigrate to Canada until they reach the age of majority. In very exceptional

circumstances, officers may proceed with a “best interest determination” and may find that it is in the best interests of the child to be permitted to immigrate to Canada. In such cases, applicants should submit a letter indicating why they cannot obtain the consent of the other parent and any evidence to support their declarations.

More information on the procedures for processing applications of separated minors can be found [here](#).

INQUIRIES

You Asked

The PA has submitted a Schedule 2. But, ROC-O is asking the non-accompanying spouse to submit a Schedule 2. What should our group do?

Our Answer

Every family member who is 18 years of age or older, whether accompanying the PA or not, must complete [Schedule A – Background/Declaration \[IMM 5669\]](#) and [Schedule 2: Refugees Outside Canada \[IMM 0008\]](#) forms. This includes the Principal Applicant, spouse (or common law partner) and children who are 18-years of age and older.

It's very important for family members over the age of 18 to complete these forms. In **Schedule 2**, the refugees can provide detailed reasons as to why they left their home country, and why they do not have a durable solution in the country where they are now living. **Schedule A** allows the individual to declare educational background, work history, military history, past addresses and to answer questions related to admissibility.

Where the PA's non-accompanying dependant (who is 18 years +) is detained, missing/whereabouts unknown, or presumed dead and thus unable to submit Schedule A and Schedule 2, the sponsors can attach a cover letter explaining the situation and the reason for the missing forms.

For information on completion of the forms, visit: [IRCC website - PSR Application Guide](#).



Available BVOR Profiles

109 Profiles in the RSTP Matching Database

These profiles include:

- Syrian, Eritrean, Congolese, Ethiopian, Iraqi, Somali, Colombian, Sudanese and Burmese refugees
- Women at risk
- LGBTQ refugees
- The majority of the cases have medium to no medical/resettlement needs

If you are interested, **log in to the RSTP Matching Database** with your username and password:

- cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp



The Kwizera-Mukazine family (sponsored through the BVOR Program) with their sponsors in Stettler, AB. (Photo: MCC Ottawa Office Notebook)

Available BVOR Profiles Include

BVOR PROFILE #: 1053-03-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Edmonton, AB

An Ethiopian family of four with two small children. The PA used to own a shop back home. The PA's second daughter should consult with a physician within four weeks of landing in Canada. The PA and his family cannot return to their home country due to ongoing insecurity and instability. The PA has a friend in Edmonton and would like to be close to him.

VOR PROFILE #: 0944-02-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Friend, Ottawa, ON

The PA Is Eritrean divorced woman with six children. Three of her children are adults who are emotionally and socially dependent on their mother. All children speak some English and attend school. The PA and her family cannot return to their home country as they fear for their safety. They would benefit from the additional support of a sponsor upon resettling to Canada.



BVOR PROFILE #: 0987-03-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Calgary AB

XREF: 1026-03-18

The PA is a 23-year-old Syrian single man. He has some secondary school education. The PA would benefit from counselling services as well as the assistance of a sponsor during his resettlement in Canada.

Xref: The PA is a 59-year-old married man. He has six years of formal education and works in manufacturing/labouring. His spouse has a diploma/certificate and has experience working as a machine operator for the pharmaceutical & toiletry industry. The PA currently has some sort of paralysis on his right side therefore the support of a sponsor would greatly assist this couple during their resettlement. The PA and his family cannot return to their home country due to ongoing insecurity and instability.

BVOR PROFILE #: 1044-03-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: None

This is a Syrian family of four with 2 children. The PA and her spouse have experience working in a store. They have some education and no medical needs. This family cannot return to their home country as they fear for their safety. The PA would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during their resettlement in Canada.

VOR PROFILE #: 0924-02-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: None

Eritrean Divorced woman with three children. The PA is a woman at risk, as she is a survivor of gender based violence. The PA and her family cannot return to their home country as they fear for their safety. She would benefit from the additional support of a sponsor upon arrival to Canada.



Available VOR Profiles

25 VOR Profiles in the RSTP Matching Database

These profiles include:

- Applicants from Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestinian Authority, and Syria.
- Recommended destination: Toronto, North York, Oshawa, Mississauga and Pickering.
- Country of current residence: Iran, Pakistan, Ukraine, Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia
- For a few profiles: The PA speaks English well.
- Seven of the cases are travel ready. Please note that cases not travel ready may be pending all assessments or may be pending only one or two. ROCO will continue to monitor the cases and will provide updates regularly with any that become travel ready during the posting period

Available JAS Profiles

JAS cases can only be sponsored by SAHs

We have **41 In-Canada JAS cases** available to be sponsored!

Including

PROFILE #: 1108-04-18

Location: Kitchener, ON

Family composition: Burmese family of four. The principal applicant is a widow who recently arrived in Canada with her three children.

Support needed: The principal applicant has a nervous system disorder and requires psychological support/counseling. She is a single parent raising her children on her own, in a new country. Given their experience with violence and grief, the principal applicant can benefit from a sponsor group who can provide her access to resources and support from others who have raised children in Canada, while this can also help connect the children to recreational activities outside the home and expand the family's social network.



RSTP training session in London, Ontario

PROFILE #: 0969-02-18

Location: Calgary, AB

Family composition: The principal applicant is an elderly Syrian Yazidi male who arrived in Calgary in 2017.

Language: He has experienced difficulties since arriving in Canada, and has struggled due to limited education and speaks no English. He is currently attending part time English classes.

Support: The principal applicant is very dependent on his counselor and the Enhanced Life Skill Worker for attending his ongoing medical appointments, conducting grocery shopping etc. His counselor has attempted to encourage him to complete daily tasks on his own, and connect him with people from his community, but due to lack of confidence it has made him feel uncomfortable. As a result, he feels very lonely and isolated.

For more information on JAS, VOR or BVOR program, contact our Refugee Resettlement Project Worker at bvor@rstp.ca or click on:

http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Blended-VOR-FAQ_2017-1-1.pdf

Interested in Refugee Rights?
Join advocates from all over the world at the
Canadian Council for Refugees



International
Refugee
Rights
Conference

7-9 June 2018, Toronto Canada

[Click for More Information](#)

Upcoming RSTP Workshops

Alberta

There are **three upcoming training** sessions in Edmonton, Alberta

Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five

Description

This workshop will explore the topics of:

- Recent changes and updates to the PSR Program;
- Specific requirements for refugee sponsorship through a Group of Five;
- Eligibility and admissibility requirements for refugees being sponsored;
- The sponsorship process;
- How to identify an acceptable proof of refugee status; and
- Which forms need to be completed to sponsor as a Group of Five.

Please find further information on these Group of Five training sessions below:

1. **Thursday, April 26th - 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM** - Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (EMCN) - 11713 - 82 Street NW

Register by clicking the following link:
<https://rstp-april26.eventbrite.com>.

2. **Thursday, May 10th - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM** - Edmonton Immigrant Services Association (EISA) - #201, 10720 - 113 St NW

To register for this session, please contact EISA staff members Alem or Bouchra by phone at 780-392-2932.

3. **Thursday, May 17th - 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM** - Catholic Social Services (CSS) - 8212 - 118 Ave NW

To register for this session, please contact Tolonbek, a CSS staff member, by phone at 780-391-3326 or by email at tolonbek.karpekov@cssalberta.ca.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/>

Nova Scotia

RSTP is hosting **two Public Talks** in Nova Scotia with featured speaker **Jean-Nicolas Beuze**, the UNHCR representative in Canada

Public Talk at the Halifax Central Library

Date: April 23, 2018

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: Halifax Central Library (Paul O'Regan Hall) 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, NS B3J 1E9

Register by clicking the following link

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/welcome-the-stranger-canada-and-the-global-refugee-crisis-tickets-44984598144> or by emailing RSTP Atlantic Trainer Laura Hambleton at lhambleton@rstp.ca.

Public Talk at the Wu Conference Centre

Date: April 25, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Wu Conference Centre (UNB), 6 Duffie Drive, Kent Auditorium, Fredericton, NB

Register by clicking the following link

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/welcome-the-stranger-canada-and-the-global-refugee-crisis-tickets-45078095798> or email: lhambleton@rstp.ca.



RSTP Training session in Calgary, Alberta