

RSTP Bulletin

June 1st, 2018

INQUIRIES

You Asked

How do we check that an individual was approved as a refugee by the UNHCR in Turkey?

We Answered

UNHCR Turkey has a website where applicants, using their file number and date of birth, can check the status of their application:

<http://results.unhcr.org.tr/default.aspx>

The individual in Turkey should be able to log into the above website for updates on the status of their refugee claim.



Syrian refugees in Kilis, southern Turkey
© IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation

You Asked

A number of SAHs have asked for clarification on whether the photos for the refugee applicants now need to be taken by a professional photographer to comply with the PR photo specifications (as stated in the new Instruction Guide), or can non-professional photos be used, as was previously communicated to SAHs.

We Answered

IRCC confirmed with ROC-O that the refugee applicant photos need to be taken by a commercial photographer per the instructions provided in the updated IMM 600 guide. This is the standard across the Department.

Photos

Provide one (1) photo of the PA and each of the PA's family members taken in the last six (6) months. The name and date of birth of the person must be printed clearly on each photo. Follow the instructions provided on the [Permanent resident photograph specifications](#)

Photos must be:

- Taken by a commercial photographer.
- 50 mm wide X 70 mm high (2 inches wide x 2- 3/4 inches long) and sized so the height of the face measures between 31 mm (1- 1/4 inches) and 36 mm (1- 7/16 inches) from chin to crown of head (natural top of head).
- Clear, sharp and in focus.
- Taken with a neutral facial expression (**eyes open and clearly visible, mouth closed, no smiling**).
- Taken with uniform lighting and **not show** shadows, glare or flash reflections.
- Taken straight on, with face and shoulders **centered** and squared to the camera (i.e. the photographs must show the full front view of the person's head and shoulders, showing full face centered in the middle of the photograph).
- Taken in front of a plain white background with a clear difference between your face and the background. Photos must reflect/represent natural skin tones.
- Original photos that are **not altered in any way** or taken from an existing photo.

The back of one photo must include:

- the subject's name and date of birth
- the name and complete address of the photography studio
- the date the photograph was taken

The photographer may use a stamp or handwrite this information. Stick-on labels are unacceptable.



Available BVOR Profiles

We have 170 available BVOR Profiles in the RSTP Matching Database

These profiles include:

- Refugees from Bhutan, Syria, Sudan, Eritrea, Iran, Democratic Rep. of Congo, Iraq, Burma (Myanmar), Colombia, Central African Republic, Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia, El Salvador, South Sudan, Democratic Rep. of Congo and Guatemala.
- Low to medium medical/resettlement needs
- LGBTQ
- Survivor of violence and torture
- Woman at risk

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

cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp



Syrian refugee children hold hands and form a ring while playing a game between classes in Adiyaman, which is one of 17 camps in Turkey.

©UNHCR/B. Sokol

Available BVOR Profiles Include

Profile #: 1192-05-18

Country of Origin: Republic Of Congo

Country of Current Residence: Kenya

Family Size: Six

This young family of six Congolese refugees currently resides in Kenya. The father is 33, the mother is 27 and the children are 12, 4, 2, and one year old. The adults can easily communicate in French and have some English language ability. They are Grade 12 graduates. The father has some storekeeping experience. The family has no major settlement/health needs in the community. Fredericton, NB is recommended as their resettlement destination. The family is eager to receive any assistance from sponsors towards their settlement in their new home.

Profile #: 1202-05-18

Additional Information: PA is a Woman at Risk

Country of Origin: Eritrea

Country of Current Residence: Egypt

Family Size: Two

This small family consists of a 42 year old Eritrean woman and her 11 year old child. She has 9 years of formal education has experience as a store owner, cleaner and housekeeper. She has training in emergency injury treatment. The family does not have any resettlement needs. The mother is a survivor of gender-based violence and would benefit from counselling services and the assistance of a sponsor during resettlement.

PROFILE #: 1243-05-18

Additional Information: PA has cousin in Burnaby, BC

Country of Origin: Syria

Country of Current Residence: Jordan

Family Size: Six

The principal applicant in this family is 39 years old, and has four children aged 2 to 13. He has experience working as a steel worker. The family is afraid to return to Syria because they fear for their safety. The family has a cousin in Burnaby and would like to resettle close to him.



PROFILE #: 1209-05-18

Country of Origin: Sudan

Country of Current Residence: Jordan

Family Size: Four

This young Sudanese family currently lives in Amman, Jordan. The principal applicant is 31 years old, his spouse is 21, and they have two children. The father has English language ability and a high school diploma. He has worked as a driver in Jordan. His skills will help this family work and settle in any community in Canada.

PROFILE #: 1225-05-18

Country of Origin: Syria

Country of Current Residence: Lebanon

Family Size: Seven

This family consists of a 42 year old father, his spouse and five children aged 3 to 13. He has managed a supermarket. The family fears for their safety in Syria. The father has a friend in Red Deer, AB and would therefore benefit from settling there.

PROFILE #: 1245-05-18

Country of Origin: Iran

Country of Current Residence: Lebanon

Family Size: Four

The father in this family is 35 years old, his spouse is 29, and they have two children. They are from Iran and currently live in Beirut, Lebanon. The parents are educated and can speak English. The father has had a career as an architect, and the mother wishes to work as a hair stylist. The father has a friend in Edmonton, AB that could assist with settlement.

PROFILE #: 1258-05-18

Country of Origin: Syria

Country of Current Residence: Egypt

Family Size: One

This single 38 year old man is a highly educated plastic surgeon and pathologist with good English. He lived in the United States at one point for 10 years. While he would be happy to be resettled anywhere, he would prefer to resettle in Toronto because it is close New York where a friend lives. The PA cannot return to his home country due to his sexual orientation and imputed political opinion.

Available JAS Profiles

JAS cases can only be sponsored by SAHs

There are currently 45 In-Canada JAS cases waiting to be sponsored!

Including

PROFILE #: 1108-04-18

Additional Information: Kitchener, ON

Country of Origin: Burma

Family Size: Four

The widowed mother of this family, the principal applicant, recently arrived in Canada with her three children.

Medical needs: She has a nervous system disorder and requires psychological support/counseling.

This Summer...



Give the gift of life, by sponsoring through the BVOR Program



Support needed: Given the family's experience with violence and grief, the mother would benefit from a sponsor group who can help her access resources and support from others who have raised children in Canada. The children would benefit from recreational activities outside the home.

PROFILE #: 1068-03-18

Additional Information: London

Country of Origin: Iraq

Family Size: Six

This Iraqi family of six consists of a father, mother and four children. An additional two adult children, who are not part of the sponsorship, live with the family. The family left Iraq due to fear of persecution based on their ethnicity.

Medical needs: The family are survivors of violence. The father and one of the adult children have medical conditions. The father needs long term treatment and can't work. The mother is now ill and needs help to care for the daughter with the medical condition.

Support needed: The family needs assistance attending all their medical appointments. The father and mother would benefit from a sponsor group that could help them access resources and support. The children would benefit from recreational activities outside the home. The family's social network needs to be expanded.



For more information on the 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

Walk with Refugees
On Saturday, June 16 2018 to put
refugee voices up front and change the
conversation!!

At the Garrison Grounds, **Halifax, Nova Scotia**
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Atlantic)

We will gather at Garrison Grounds at 2:00 pm at the grassy space between the parking lots. From there we will walk up Sackville Street, around the Public Gardens and down to the Halifax Central Library.

All are welcome!
Bring your family!
Wear **YELLOW**
&

Bring noise makers to show your support!

Celebrate!

A reception will be held at the Halifax Central Library from 3:00-4:00 pm with music and refreshments.

Partners and hosts include:

ISANS, YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs, Refugee Sponsorship Training Program, Immigration Francophone de la Nouvelle-Écosse, Halifax Local Immigration Partnership, Halifax Refugee Clinic and the Canadian Council for Refugees / Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés



Upcoming RSTP Webinar

Communicating with IRCC about your PSR application

Date: Friday June 15, 2018

Time: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm EDT

Description: This webinar will provide information about: Whom to contact at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to provide an update on your Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) application; and Where to get information about your PSR application on the IRCC website.

Registration URL:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6587530794270468610>



RSTP Workshop, Calgary Alberta

Upcoming RSTP Workshops

Workshop with IRCC

For Lawyers, Immigration Consultants and Settlement Workers

Date: Monday, June 4, 2018

Time: 9.30 am – 12.00 pm EDT (Sign-in at 9.15 am)

Where: The Westin Prince Hotel, 900 York Mills Rd, Toronto, ON M3B 3H2

Description: In this workshop, attendees will learn:

- How to complete the new application forms released on May 01, 2018;
- The new requirements for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors that came into effect on May 01, 2018; and
- How IRCC processes PSR applications submitted by Groups of Five and Community Sponsors.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to provide feedback to IRCC on the new forms and requirements. Kindly note that IRCC will not be answering any questions on PSR applications that are currently being processed, or have been refused, by ROC-O or Visa Offices abroad.

Registration URL:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/workshop-with-ircc-for-professionals-on-groups-of-five-community-sponsors-tickets-46072707709>

Workshop with IRCC

How to Prepare and Submit Applications as Group of Five or a Community Sponsor

Date: Monday, June 4, 2018

Time: 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm EDT (Sign in at 5.45 pm)

Where: The Westin Prince Hotel, 900 York Mills Rd, Toronto, ON M3B 3H2

Description: In this workshop, attendees will learn:

- How to complete the new application forms released on May 01, 2018;
- The new requirements for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors that came into effect on May 01, 2018; and,
- How IRCC processes PSR applications submitted by Groups of Five and Community Sponsors.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to provide feedback to IRCC on the new forms and requirements. Kindly note that IRCC will not be answering any questions on PSR applications that are currently being processed, or have been refused, by ROC-O or Visa Offices abroad.

Registration URL:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/workshop-with-ircc-on-group-of-five-community-sponsor-applications-tickets-46073438896>

Recent Changes to the PSR Program and Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five

Date: Friday June 15, 2018

Time: 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Where: Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (EMCN) 11713 - 82 Street NW - 2nd Floor Community Room.

Description: This workshop will cover:

- Recent changes and updates to the PSR Program;
- Specific requirements for refugee sponsorship for Groups 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.

To register and confirm your participation for the June 14th session, please contact me at

mscott@rstp.ca

For more information, please visit: <http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/>