

RSTP Bulletin

August 10, 2018

Clarifications on Post-Arrival Requirements for Secondary Migration

In situations where refugees move after arrival in Canada (secondary migration), the sponsors are expected to try to meet the residency requirements.

In most cases, this involves appointing representatives using the [IMM 5956](#) form. The sponsors should work as quickly as possible to resolve these situations. It is in the newcomers' best interests to ensure that they have adequate support. When possible, alternate sponsorship arrangements should be made as per the guidance on residency requirements found at the following link:

<http://www.rstp.ca/en/refugee-sponsorship/latest-policy-program-update/procedures-regarding-residency-requirements-for-private-sponsorship/>

The sponsors are responsible for contacting IRCC as soon as they become aware of the sponsored refugees re-destining post-arrival. The sponsors can contact IRCC through the PSR case review email IRCC.PSRCaseReview-RevuedecasPSR.IRCC@cic.gc.ca.

It is in the best interests of the sponsors to resolve these situations as they are liable for all support until IRCC deems otherwise. If the sponsors are unable to find alternate sponsorship arrangements, they can explain in detail the steps they took meet these requirements. If the PSR Case Review Team is satisfied that a reasonable effort was made, this will be taken into consideration and likely not result in a finding of sponsorship breakdown.



In Toronto, Mouhamad al-Hajj and his family, refugees from Syria, have resettled with the help of a group of sponsors. (Photo: Nicole Tung)

INQUIRIES

You Asked

What happens if a sponsoring group is not willing to add a spouse or a common law partner to an existing application being processed by IRCC?

Our Answer

Inland Processing IP-3 Part 3: Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program (pp.55-56) states:

"If the sponsoring group is not able to demonstrate its willingness or ability to provide support to the additional family member, the principal refugee's application will likely be refused overseas, so as not to split up the family."

IP-3 further states that if the file is still being processed in Canada, then they will inform the sponsor and the Visa Office that "...there is no viable sponsorship in place." The Visa Office will then "...send the applicant a procedural fairness letter indicating that the applicant has 90 days to secure another sponsorship, or the case will be refused under paragraph R139(1)(f)..."

Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)

Refugees sponsored under the JAS program have special or enhanced needs that will likely result in a longer or more difficult period of integration in Canada due to:

- Trauma from violence or torture;
- Medical disabilities;
- Effects of systemic discrimination; or,
- Large family units (such as a single parent with several children).

There are 60 In-Canada JAS Refugee Profiles waiting to be sponsored!
Including

REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1483-08-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Winnipeg, MB

IRCC Local Office: Winnipeg

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: Five

Family composition: The father is a 39 year old Iraqi man who is a survivor of Daesh. He has no formal education and lives with his five young children aged six to 14. He does not know the whereabouts of his wife and two other children.

Medical needs: A survivor of violence and trauma, the father has counselling and family support in Winnipeg.

Support needed: A sponsor would help the father overcome challenges related to transportation, medical appointments, communication, cultural adaptation and how to search for work.

REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1452-08-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: London, ON

Linked Applications: In-Canada JAS 1450-08-18, In-Canada JAS 1451-08-18, In-Canada JAS 1453-08-18, In-Canada JAS 1454-08-18, and In-Canada JAS 1455-08-18

IRCC Local Office: London, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: One

Family composition: This Iraqi woman came to Canada with her oldest brother, her sister-in-law and four siblings.

Medical and other needs: She suffers from trauma as a survivor of Daesh. Appropriate referrals for her and other family members have been made. The woman's oldest brother and his wife are caring for her and her siblings. This new guardianship situation has proved difficult for the whole family.

Support needed: The woman and her family would benefit from continuous support to help to recover from emotional and psychological trauma, to overcome the language barrier and to achieve smooth integration into life in Canada. They are looking forward to attending English classes so they can be more independent and self-confident in their daily tasks.



The Ahmed family at the home of Jim and Peggy Karas, left, who were joined by other sponsors. (Photo: Damon Winter)

REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1431-07-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Currently living Winnipeg, MB

Linked Application: 1430-07-18

IRCC Local Office: Winnipeg, MB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: Two

Family composition: This Iraqi woman at risk is a 21 year old single mother to a four year old son who recently arrived in Winnipeg. She has also been caring for her four siblings since arriving here.

Special needs: She is a survivor of Daesh and is considered a woman at risk. She has minimal education and continues to experience language barriers.

Support needed: Given their experience with violence and trauma, a sponsor would help provide the family with access to resources and support. In addition, expanding the family's social network would lead to an improved and more successful integration during their settlement in Canada.



Muaz Ballani, center, with two of his sponsors, David Dennis and David Dennis Jr., said, "If we hadn't come here, we would have died." (Photo: Damon Winter)

REFUGEE PROFILE #: 1440-07-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Toronto, ON

Linked Cases: 1439-07-18, 1441-07-18, 1442-07-18, 1443-07-18

IRCC Local Office: IRCC Toronto

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: One

Family situation: This 19 year old single male recently arrived in Canada with his family members.

Medical needs: He is a survivor of violence and torture by Daesh, and suffers psychological trauma. He would benefit from counselling, and has indicated an interest in talking to someone.

Support needed: Social and informal emotional support would be valuable. This includes supporting him in addressing a variety of resettlement barriers, practicing English and managing daily life activities, such as commuting around the city and learning how to use a computer.

For more information on these JAS Refugee Profiles contact our Refugee Resettlement Project Worker at paznavehzadeh@rstp.ca

To learn more about the JAS Program visit: <http://www.rstp.ca/en/special-initiatives/joint-assistance-sponsorships/>



New Fund Covers Costs of sponsoring up to 1,000 refugees identified by the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)!

The University of Ottawa Refugee Hub and the Shapiro Foundation, together with Jewish Family Services Ottawa, have announced the creation of a new fund to facilitate the sponsorship of up to 1,000 refugees identified by the UNHCR.

For a limited time, qualifying Canadian groups will have the cost of sponsoring a refugee through the Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR) program fully covered by the fund. Funding for both start-up costs and settlement costs associated with BVOR sponsorship will be available to groups that submit applications to the fund before September 17, 2018, or until the fund is exhausted prior to the deadline. Refugees sponsored with the support of this fund will arrive in Canada before December 31, 2018.

If you would like to sponsor a BVOR case before September 17, 2018, please contact: bvorfund@refugeehub.ca.

Individuals interested in supporting the mobilization of BVOR sponsors in 2018 are able to donate at: <https://refugeehub.ca/donate/>.

Upcoming RSTP Webinars

The PSR Program: Adding Dependents Post-Submission and Updating Applications

Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EDT

Topics covered:

- The importance of keeping IRCC up-to-date with any changes in circumstances;
- Who to contact and when; and,
- How to add dependents post-submission.

Register by clicking:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5249809974278382081>

The PSR Program: Supporting Settlement and Integration

Date: Tuesday, August 21, 2018

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM MDT

Topics covered:

- Recap of sponsors' settlement and financial responsibilities under the PSR program;
- The importance of connecting newcomers with a settlement agency;
- Managing expectations;
- Power imbalance; and,
- Ethical considerations.

Register by clicking:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6237605723114220545>

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

save the date!

An introduction to the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program (PSRP) for the Francophone community in Ottawa!

Start Date: Thursday, August 16, 2018

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Where: YMCA - YWCA, 240 Rue Catherine, Room 207, Ottawa, Ontario.

To register: E-mail info@refugie613.ca or call Refugee 613 at 613-725-5071 ext. 640

Partners: Refugee613 and Refugee Sponsorship Support Program (RSSP)



Information Session facilitated by RSTP Trainer, Gelila Hailu, in Winnipeg, Manitoba



Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



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and Citizenship Canada

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et Citoyenneté Canada