

RSTP Bulletin

The latest news and updates on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program

Procedures to Add a Dependant after the receipt of the PSR application at ROC-O

New dependants need to be added promptly to ensure that the application is not delayed or refused.

Sponsoring groups can request to add:

- Biological children born after the receipt of the principal applicant's application at ROC-O; or
- Other dependants, where a marriage or adoption took place after the application is received at ROC-O.

Adding a newborn biological child

To add a newborn biological child, no new sponsorship forms are required. An updated Generic Application Form for Canada (IMM 0008) signed by the principal applicant that includes the principal applicant, previously declared and new family members and a copy of the child's birth certificate and/or new family UNHCR document is required to be submitted to IRCC.

The sponsoring groups or the principal applicant can submit the documents to IRCC. If the sponsoring groups are submitting the documents, they will do so to ROC-O (preferably via email). If it's the principal applicant, then he/she will submit the documents to the IRCC office abroad (at the interview or via email). Please note that some migration offices use the IRCC Webform rather than an email. To find out what's the best way to contact a specific migration office visit [Visa offices outside Canada](#).

Option 1:

- The sponsoring group submits required documents to ROC-O (preferably via email); or

Option 2:

- The principal applicant submits the required documents to the IRCC office overseas (at the interview or via email).

→ **No cap space will be required for SAHs** for the addition of biological children born after the application was received at IRCC

Adding a spouse or an adopted child

If the principal applicant married or legally adopted a child after the application was received at ROC-O, they **must submit the following documents (preferably via email) to ROC-O:**

- Request to Add Family Members to a Private Sponsorship Undertaking form ([IMM 5618](#)).

INQUIRIES

You Asked

Can an individual who is a part of a Group of five sponsorship, be part of more than one sponsorship undertaking under the PSR?

Our Answer

Your ability to participate in multiple refugee sponsorships depends on your financial and settlement capacity.

As per the instruction guide those who are part of multiple sponsorship are advised to attach a separate piece of paper, listing all the sponsorship they are part of and provide explanation as to how they will be able to provide settlement support to all the refugees they are sponsoring for the duration of the sponsorship period (up to 12 months or until the resettled refugee (s) become self-sufficient, whichever comes first).

- An updated Generic Application Form for Canada ([IMM 0008](#)) signed by the principal applicant that includes all family members.
- Schedule A – Background/Declaration ([IMM 5669](#)) signed by the new family member if they are 18 years or older.
- A copy of the marriage certificate, birth certificate, adoption certificate and/or a new family UNHCR document (if available).

What happens next?

Once IRCC receives the documents, they will add the new family members to the principal applicant's application and assess whether the sponsorship is still valid.

- If the sponsorship is no longer valid, the sponsorship and the permanent residence applications will be refused.
- If the principal applicant finds a new sponsor, then the sponsor must submit new sponsorship and permanent resident applications to ROC-O.

For more information on adding a dependant, consult IRCC's [Operational instructions and guidelines](#)



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).

Under the JAS program, the government and a private sponsor support refugees for up to 24 months, depending on the need of the resettled refugee. In a few cases, the private sponsor may support refugees for up to 36 months. These refugees get income support from the Government of Canada and are matched with a private sponsorship group to get help in adjusting to life in Canada by giving them settlement help and emotional support.

Some refugees are identified overseas for the JAS program due to special needs. Others are converted into JAS cases after they arrive in Canada if it becomes clear that they need more support.

Many In-Canada JAS Refugee Profiles waiting to be sponsored!



Over 10 million refugees want nothing more than to go home.

1 refugee longing for home is too many.

Including

Refugee PROFILE #: 1377-07-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Toronto, ON

Linked Profile: 1378-07-18

IRCC Local Office: Toronto, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: 1

Family composition: A 26 year old male his wife who is on file JAS 1378-07-18. are taking language classes and are connected with a settlement worker in their family. They require significant support from their caseworker to manage their mail, banking, and scheduling appointments – much of this related to English language limitations. Both

the husband and his wife are illiterate even in their own language.

Special needs: The wife has health issues and receives medical support from their family doctor. The family wants to be able to navigate their lives on their own in Canada, and recognize that English language skills are necessary to do this.

Support needed: The couple would benefit from having a sponsoring group that can support their desire to learn English – speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing.

Refugee PROFILE #: 1406-07-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: London, ON

IRCC Local Office: London, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Eritrea

FAMILY SIZE: 4

Family composition: A 35-year-old single mother, with 3 children between the ages of 9 months and 10 years old. She has work experience as a cook and cleaner. She is illiterate and does not speak English. However, she is taking language classes. She has been connected with a settlement worker in the community to assist her in her day-to-day activities, while integrating into Canadian society.

Special needs: The mother and children have a family doctor, and receive regular medical support and follow ups. As the principal applicant is still suffering from previous trauma as a survivor of violence, she would benefit from on-going emotional support, to help build self-esteem and confidence.

Support needed: A sponsoring group can support this family in their desire to learn English, which includes speaking, reading, writing and sign language for the principal applicant. This family has no relatives or friends in Canada and would benefit from receiving support to integrate into Canadian life. Any additional counselling and psychological support will assist the family in becoming secure, confident, medically fit and positively responsive to all daily needs.

Refugee PROFILE #: 1311-06-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Calgary, AB

In-Canada JAS 1310-06-18 (Uncle)

In-Canada JAS 1312-06-18 (Sister)

IRCC Local Office: Calgary, AB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: 1

Family composition: A 28 year old single Iraqi woman with experience in farming and housekeeping. She arrived in Canada with her sister and uncle. She is living with her sister.

Special needs: The principal applicant has difficulty managing her appointments given she is also taking full time language classes. She is facing emotional stress because of her concern for family back in Iraq, and the impact of mental health issues resulting from past trauma. Also, she requires further life skills and support while she transitions to life in Canada.

Support needed: With the support of a sponsor group financially and in her settlement, her stress would be greatly relieved, thereby allowing her to focus on her language learning and on her ability to manage her life independently. Furthermore, they would benefit from having social support beyond regular work hours. She will benefit physically, emotionally, and socially to be surrounded by trusted people to help her with her settlement in Calgary.

Refugee PROFILE #: 1002-03-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Winnipeg, MB

IRCC Local Office: Winnipeg, MB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria

FAMILY SIZE: 4

Family composition: Husband, wife and 2 children arrived in Canada last year. Parents are illiterate in English and French. However, they had informal education.

Special needs: The family has a lot of medical appointments and are having difficulty adjusting to life in Canada while balancing these appointments. It is believed that due to the unique and exceptional nature of the experiences that the family has had in the past, they will require a wide range of support.

Support needed: The family requires a wide range of support including, education, medical, psychological, financial and above all, life skills coaching which will undoubtedly enhance the family's ability to settle in Canada without added difficulties.

Refugee PROFILE #: 1483-08-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Winnipeg, MB

IRCC Local Office: Winnipeg, MB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: 5

Family composition: A 39 year old Iraqi man who is a survivor of Daesh. He has no formal education and lives with his five young children ages six to 14 years old. He does not know the whereabouts of the rest of his family, his wife and two children.

Special needs: The principal applicant faces barriers in entering the workforce due to his lack of formal education and language skills. As a victim of violence and trauma, he has been referred to local organizations to receive counselling and family support in Winnipeg.

Support needed: The principal applicant would benefit from receiving assistance in participating in the Canadian society. Also, requires assistance and time in taking care of his young children and extended financial assistance. A sponsor could help him to overcome challenges such as transportation, medical appointments, communication, cultural adaptation, and help him understand how to search for work so that he can work towards independence.

For more information on these JAS Refugee Profiles and to learn about the JAS program, contact our Refugee Resettlement Project Worker at paznavehzadeh@rstp.ca or visit: <http://www.rstp.ca/en/special-initiatives/joint-assistance-sponsorships/>

Upcoming RSTP Workshops & Webinars

Workshops

Sponsorship Undertaking and Settlement Plan Training

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM MDT

Where: Catholic Social Services (CSS) - Meeting Room 228, 8212-118 Ave, Edmonton, AB T5B 0S3

Description: This RSTP information session on the new (May 2018) Sponsorship Undertaking and Settlement Plan for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors will focus on the requirements for the settlement plan and the budget.

Attendees would learn about:

- How to develop the settlement plan;
- How to calculate costs and determine a budget; and
- New elements of the settlement plan

Please register by clicking:

<https://sept25settlement.eventbrite.com> or contact: Melissa Scott, RSTP Northern Alberta at Tel: 780-391-3228 or Email: msscott@rstp.ca.

Webinars

The PSR Program: Supporting Settlement and Integration

Date: Monday, September 24, 2018

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PDT

Description: This webinar will cover:

- 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.

Please register by clicking:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1121005274357699329>

The PSR Program: Preparing for Month 13

Date: Friday, September 28, 2018

Time: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM PDT

Description: This webinar will cover:

- When should sponsors start preparing for Month 13;
- What to consider when preparing newcomers for Month 13;
- Services available for sponsored newcomers in Month 13;
- Evaluating the sponsorship; and
- The post-sponsorship relationship.

Please register by clicking:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2045828693735919361>



The Lifeline Syria Fund was launched on Thursday September 20, 2018, which will help sponsor 100 Syrian refugees through Canada's BVOR program by the end of 2018! (Photo taken at the launch)



For more information, please visit:

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