

# RSTP Bulletin

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

## INQUIRIES

### You Asked

We want to add a newborn child to an application already received at the Visa Office. Please let us know if we have to email ROC-O to inform or wait for the Visa Office to inform ROC-O.

### Our Answer

All new dependants should 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, a 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 the best way to contact a specific migration office visit [Visa Offices outside Canada](#).

→ **No cap space will be counted toward a SAH's annual allocation** for adding a newborn biological child after the application is received by IRCC

#### Adding a spouse or an adopted child

If the principal applicant marries or legally adopts a child after the application is received by ROC-O, they **must submit the following documents to ROC-O (preferably via email):**

- Request to Add Family Members to a Private Sponsorship Undertaking Form ([IMM 5618](#)).
- An updated Generic Application Form for Canada ([IMM 0008](#)), signed by the principal applicant and 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).

\* Schedule 2 and photo is not required.

→ **Cap space will be counted toward a SAH's annual allocation** when adding a spouse and/or their children after the application is received at IRCC

### IRCC UPDATE

The program delivery instructions on the OYW provision for government-assisted (GAR) and privately sponsored refugees (PSR) have been updated.

- [Procedure: One-year window of opportunity provision – Government-assisted and privately sponsored refugees](#)

# Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)

Refugees sponsored under the **Joint Assistance Sponsorship (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;**
- **The effects of systemic discrimination; or,**
- **Being a large family unit (such as a single parent with several children).**

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

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

**JAS refugee profiles can only be picked up by SAHs and their Constituent Groups.**



## Many In-Canada JAS Refugees are waiting to be sponsored!

### Including

**In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 19-0040**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Winnipeg, MB**  
**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq**  
**FAMILY SIZE: One**

**Family Composition:** A single mother and her adult child, arrived in Canada in March 2018.

**Background:** The mother has been living with her daughter since arrival. She is connected to community resources, volunteers, and language classes. She has a family doctor and a mental health counsellor.

**Special needs:** She has mobility issues and is not qualified for handicap transportation. She requires additional support to get around her community.

**Support needed:** Formal or informal English practice would help reduce feelings of isolation; could help her access resources and activities for seniors; and help her move towards resilience and healing from post-traumatic stress. Social and emotional support from a sponsor, including help to develop a network with other seniors, would help her develop a sense of belonging to a community.

\* Her daughter is included in the linked file: **JAS 19-0041.**



**TOGETHER**

*we can make a difference*



**In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 1914-12-18**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Calgary, AB  
**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Iraq  
**FAMILY SIZE:** Four

**Background:** This Iraqi family of four, with two children, arrived in December 2017 along with the father's sister, brother, sister-in-law and her children.

**Special needs:** The father has a hearing and speech impairment and relies heavily on his wife for childcare, housekeeping, and communication with the wider world. The mother is also the sole caregiver for her sister who requires a wheelchair due to scoliosis. The mother has her own health issues, with partial paralysis in one leg. The family is connected to community resources and volunteers. They require additional support to become independent and reduce their feelings of loneliness and isolation. A lack of formal education is also making it more difficult for the mother and father to learn English and navigate formal systems in Canada. The mother can shop for groceries and attend medical appointments without assistance but spends most of her time at home caring for her family.

**Support needed:** A sponsor could help the mother access community resources to help her deal with the challenges of raising a family in an unfamiliar environment.

**In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 19-0023**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Toronto, ON  
**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Iraq  
**FAMILY SIZE:** Two

**Background:** An older sister came to Canada in January 2018 with her 11-year-old sister. They live together. They have been connected with community resources, volunteers, and language classes but require additional support. She has a family doctor, and has received mental health counselling. English classes are a struggle due to her education level. She is trying to adjust to her new life in Canada while raising her young sister by herself in a new context. Her sister continues her education in school.

**Support needed:** A sponsor could help her develop life skills, learn how to get involved in her local community, and learn more about Canada and its education and employment systems. She would like social and informal emotional support from a sponsor. She would benefit from additional English practice and skills such as scheduling appointments, learning how to use a computer/manage emails.

**In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 19-0028**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Kitchener, ON  
**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Burundi  
**FAMILY SIZE:** Seven

**Background:** This family was urgently resettled in early 2018 due to on-going insecurity in their country of origin as well as their country of refuge. They have faced significant discrimination due to the medical condition of their oldest son. The family has received settlement support, including financial orientation and life skills training, as well as language instruction, but they are struggling due to their lack of previous formal education.

**Support needed:** A sponsor could provide social support and help them navigate the medical and community support systems. The mother and her spouse need help to build confidence and become empowered and self-sufficient as they learn to support their family in a new environment.

For more information about the JAS Program or JAS Refugee Profiles, visit the RSTP website [JAS page](#)

# Upcoming RSTP Workshops & Webinars

## Workshops

### Overview of Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR)

**Date:** Wednesday, February 6, 2019

**Time:** 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm EST

**Location:** Catholic Crosscultural Services  
Mississauga, 3660 Hurontario Street, 7th floor,  
Mississauga, ON L5B 3C4.

**Description:** This monthly RSTP information session provides an overview of Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) in Canada. In this session, the following topics would be covered:

- Who can be sponsored to come to Canada;
- Who can sponsor? ;
- The PSR process;
- PSR obligations and rights of sponsored refugees; and
- Q & A.

Please note that individual cases will not be discussed during the session but you are most welcome to connect to have your application discussed in a one-on-one session afterwards.

**For registration:** Please click [here](#) or contact: Inas Hamid (RSTP Ontario Trainer) at 905.273.4140 ext. 6239 or email: [ihamid@rstp.ca](mailto:ihamid@rstp.ca).

## Webinars

### Refugee sponsorship, cultural sensitivity and communication – communicating across cultures

**Date:** Saturday, January 19, 2019

**Time:** 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST

**For registration:** please click [here](#)

### Preserving and improving the mental health of refugees, their sponsors and supporters

**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm EST

**For registration:** Please click [here](#)

### The PSR Program: supporting settlement and integration

**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019

**Time:** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM AST

**For registration:** please click [here](#)

### When helping hurts – reviewing vicarious trauma, its causes, its impact and what we can do for those we help and ourselves

**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm EST

**For registration:** Please click [here](#)

### The PSR Program: Preparing for month 13

**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019

**Time:** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM AST

**For registration:** Please click [here](#)

Registration Is Now Open!  
**ENROLL NOW!**

Registration for RSTP's Winter 2019 E-training session [The Introduction to Private Refugee Sponsorship](#) (IET 101), is open now! It begins January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

If you are interested in taking this course, please email [etraining@rstp.ca](mailto:etraining@rstp.ca).

For more information, please visit:

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



Refugee  
Sponsorship  
Training  
Program



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada