

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



FIND OUT ABOUT THE BLENDED VISA OFFICE-REFERRED (BVOR) PROGRAM



<http://www.rstp.ca/en/special-initiatives/blended-vor-program/>



REFUGEES
HAVE NO CHOICE.
YOU DO.

SPONSOR A REFUGEE FAMILY THROUGH THE BVOR PROGRAM
Share the Costs & Save a life!

RSTP BULLETIN

A LOOK BACK: Resettled Refugees in Ontario in the last Year

- Resettled refugee arrivals more than doubled compared to 2015
- Ontario received over 15,000 Syrian refugees
- 85% of Syrian refugees settled in the GTA, Ottawa, Hamilton, Kitchener, London and Windsor

Immigration Category	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Actual)	2017 (Projection)
Refugees admitted as permanent residents	14,962	28,186	20,109
Protected Persons and Dependents	7440	8236	10,125
Resettled Refugees	7522	19,950	9,984
• Government-Assisted Refugees (GARs)	3347	9919	2610
• Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSRs)	3736	7671	6576
• Blended Visa Office Referred Refugees (BVORs)	439	2360	798
Refugee Claimants (temporary residents)	11,095	15,275	18,645

Source: Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

Notes: 2017 projections are based on:

- *Refugees*: IRCC, 2017 Immigration Levels Plan for Canada; IRCC Permanent Resident Landings Data Q4 2016 (for ON % share)
- *Refugee Claimants*: IRCC Refugee Claimant Data (Open Data Portal) – preliminary numbers for January to April 2017

Support that's Available for Privately Sponsored Refugees in Ontario:

Health

- How can I find a family doctor?
- How do I apply for a Health Card (OHIP)?
- What is a food bank?

Employment

- How do I create a Canadian-style résumé in order to find a job?
- How do I get a Social Insurance Number (SIN)?
- Information for Employees About Hours of Work and Overtime Pay
- What is the Canada Child Benefit (CCB)?
- Where can I find general job listing websites?
- Your Rights Under the Employment Standards Act

Education

- How do I Evaluate My Credentials
- The Newcomer's Guide to Elementary School in Ontario
- The Newcomer's Guide to Secondary School in Ontario

Daily Life

- How do I file my tax return?
- How do I get an Ontario driver's licence?
- Will I receive financial assistance from the government when I retire?

Source: settlement.org



Tell the World **YOU** Stand
#WithRefugees

Help a refugee family through the
**Blended Visa Office-Referred
 (BVOR)
 Program!**



Available BVOR Profiles:

BVOR 0494-05-17 & 0495-05-17:

BVOR Syrian Family with recommended destination to Ottawa, Syrian BVOR linked cases. Where one the PA is a 55 year old married man with one child (Family size 3). He has 9 years of formal education and experience making curtains and installing hardwood floors. PA's brother is on x-ref BVOR 0495-05-17 who is a 42 year old married man with two children (Family size 4) . He has 9 years

of formal education and experience making curtains. They all had to flee their home country due to ongoing conflict and insecurity and they all have to be resettled together. They have a cousin in Ottawa, ON would like to resettle near the cousin. They will appreciate the assistance of the sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0543-06-17- Burundian woman at risk

PA is a 23 year old Burundian woman at risk. She has a grade 12 education and experience working in retail. The PA is seeking a better life and would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during her resettlement in Canada. She has a sister in Sudbury, ON and would like to settle near her.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0522-06-17- Single Colombian male

The PA is a 39 year old Colombian male. He has 13 years of education and experience repairing cell phones and as a juice seller. The PA fears persecution due to his beliefs. The PA is seeking a better life and would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during his resettlement in Canada.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0445-05-17- Eritrean Woman and five school aged children

The PA is a 45 year old Sudanese woman of Eritrean nationality. She is accompanied by her five school-aged children. The PA has no formal education and limited work experience. All but the youngest child have some education and are eager to continue on with their studies. The PA and her family cannot return to their country of origin due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on political opinion. The family would benefit from the assistance of a sponsor upon resettlement to Canada.

In addition to these profiles, we still have many other profiles available!

You can use your username and password to login to RSTP BVOR matching database to access these profiles:

cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp

In Canada JAS Profile:

Single Iraqi Woman with Six Children (In-Canada JAS 0552-07-17)

We have an in Canada JAS Case where the PA is a 30-year-old Iraqi woman with 6 children. The PA's eldest child is currently receiving medical attention for physical trauma they had experienced overseas. The PA only speaks Kurmanji, and it has been difficult finding interpreters. The family experienced a great deal of trauma and would benefit from the support of a Sponsor. A sponsor group could provide an increased level of support and education around basic life skills for living in Canada, financial literacy, a chance to practice English on a daily basis, social and emotional support, accompaniment to medical appointments, and opportunities for the children to connect more actively with other families and children.

For more information on the BVOR Program and how you can get involved, please click this link: http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Blended-VOR-FAQ_2017-1-1.pdf or contact our Refugee Resettlement Project Worker at: bvor@rstp.ca

Upcoming RSTP Workshops

Private Refugee Sponsorship - Introduction & Updates

Date: Thursday July 27, 2017

Time: 5:45 pm EDT (light refreshments provided)

Where: Catholic Crosscultural Services, 55 Town Centre Court Suite 401 Toronto, Ontario M1P 4X4

Description: The RSTP will be hosting a free workshop for new and experienced sponsors that will provide an introduction to the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program. Topics covered, will include: Recent changes and updates to the PSR program; Specific requirements for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors; Eligibility and admissibility requirements for refugees being sponsored; the sponsorship process; which forms need to be completed; and, the One Year Window (OYW), why it is important and how it works.

To register, please visit the following link: <https://rstpjuly27.eventbrite.ca>

Private Refugee Sponsorship – Post Arrival

Date: Wednesday July 26, 2017

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm MDT

Where: Calgary Central Library, 5th floor - 616 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary, AB T2G 2M2

Description: This free session provides sponsors with information on how to prepare for & welcoming newcomers, review settlement responsibilities and identify issues and challenges.

Please register by July 24, 2017 via the link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/post-arrival-july-26-2017-tickets-35920434988> or by contacting Anoush Newman (Refugee Sponsorship Training Program) at mnewman@rstp.ca or (403) 515-5858.

Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five or Community Sponsor

Date: Wednesday July 26th, 2017

Time: 6 - 9 pm ADT

Where: Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre, 85 Church Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 3C7

Description: Topics will include what G5s and CSs are, their requirements for sponsoring and the application forms they need to use.

PSR Post-Arrival Settlement and Integration

Date: Saturday July 22, 2017

Time: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm ADT

Where: Saint Ambrose Co-Cathedral Parish Center, Jubilee Room, 65 Green Street, Yarmouth NS (refreshments provided)

Description: New and experienced sponsors are encouraged to attend a free Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP) workshop exploring the following themes of post-arrival settlement and integration matters: Settlement challenges and best practices: Approaches to plan for the successful settlement support of sponsored newcomers, including preparing for the end of sponsorship; Ethical considerations in sponsorship: Understanding the role of sponsors in the sponsorship-newcomer relationship, and how power balances can be minimized; Managing expectations: What expectations do sponsors and newcomers have of each other, and how can expectations be managed to avoid potential conflict, and facilitate successful sponsorship?; and Programs and support available to sponsored newcomers throughout the sponsorship, including Month 13.

Sponsors can register for the workshop by visiting the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/private-refugee-sponsorship-post-arrival-settlement-and-integration-tickets-35917022782>

Private Refugee Sponsorship – Group of 5 & Community Sponsor

Date: Saturday July 22, 2017

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm MDT

Where: Calgary Central Library, 5th floor - 616 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary, AB T2G 2M2

Description: This free workshop is for new sponsorship groups and interested community members who wish to form a Group of Five or submit an application as a Community Sponsor.

Please register by July 20, 2017 via the link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/group-of-5-and-community-sponsor-july-22-2017-tickets-35920375811> or by contacting Anoush Newman (Refugee Sponsorship Training Program) at mnewman@rstp.ca or (403) 515-5858

Refugees Welcome Here

Upcoming RSTP Webinars

Private Sponsorship of Refugees: Supporting Settlement and Integration

Date: Wednesday July 26, 2017

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

This webinar will cover:

- Sponsors' responsibilities
- Connecting with Settlement Services for Newcomers
- Ethical Considerations in Sponsorship
- Managing Expectations
- Preparing for Month 13

To register for this webinar, please visit the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8510346826529453058>

Private Sponsorship of Refugees: Group of Five and Community Sponsor

Date: Monday July 17, 2017

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

This webinar will cover:

- Overview of G5 sponsorship (eligibility criteria and requirements for sponsors)
- Overview of CS sponsorship (eligibility criteria and requirements for sponsors)
- Who can be sponsored?
- Application forms for G5 and CS
Application forms for refugee applicants
- Sponsorship process

To register for this webinar, please visit the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5817494416036234498>



Photo: UNHCR

IOM Update:

The fee resettled refugees pay to IOM for organizing their travel is being increased from **\$180 to \$240** per person. In most cases this is money added on to the travel loan.

For more information see the operational bulletin:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/manuals/bulletins/2017/ob355.asp>

This document has been prepared for Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) by The Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP)

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