

RSTP Bulletin

February 9th, 2018

INQUIRIES

You Asked

How long should sponsors keep their copies of sponsorship and/or refugee applications after the sponsorship year is over. Is there a guideline or best practice?

Our Answer

There is no guidance on how long sponsors should keep copies of the application package (either soft or hard copies).

However, the following factors may influence how long copies are kept:

- 1. When the CRA audits an organization, they can request records for the last 7 years.** Therefore it's important to keep copies of the application package for at least 7 years after the sponsorship period has come to an end, especially if tax receipts were issued.
- 2. If there are non-accompanying family members listed in the application.** Keep a copy of the application package until all non-accompanying family members have arrived in Canada and the one year sponsorship period for them has come to an end.
- 3. If the sponsored newcomer intends on applying for citizenship in Canada.** It may be advisable to keep a copy of the application package until they receive citizenship in order to ensure that the information (dates, names, personal history etc.) is consistent with the refugee sponsorship forms.

You Asked

The PA has a younger brother who has been living with her since fleeing their country of origin. The younger brother is 18-years-old, and they are orphans. Could the younger brother be considered a de facto dependent of the PA, and be included in her application?

Our Answer

The brother can be considered a de facto dependent of the PA, if there is clear evidence that he is dependent on her. The dependency may be emotional, economic or a combination of the two. This means that the PA may need to submit a statement explaining how her brother is financially and/or emotionally dependent on her, and the circumstances that led to this dependency. Include other evidence such as the death certificates of the parents, if available.

For the brother to be sponsored as a de facto dependent, he must be a refugee in his own right. Sponsors need to submit a separate application for the brother as a de facto dependent. This includes an Undertaking/Application to Sponsor, a Settlement Plan and a Sponsor Assessment. They should also attach the younger brother's Generic Application Form for Canada, Schedule A and Schedule 2. When calculating the sponsorship cost, the younger brother should be considered as a family of one/single adult.

For more information, see the [Guide to the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program](#).

celebrate

BLACK
history MONTH

Every Day

RELATED RSTP WEBINAR

Our upcoming webinar on Family Composition will also discuss how to reflect dependent children, adult children and other dependent relatives (such as de-facto dependents) in sponsorship application forms.

When: Thursday, February 15th, 2018

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EST

Register by clicking [here](#) or by following this link:
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6869784223202158083>.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2018 National SAH Conference will be held in Toronto Ontario on June 4th, 5th and 6th.

More details will be provided later on.

Mark your calendar!

Available BVOR Profiles

98 Available BVOR Profiles in the RSTP Matching Database

These profiles include:

- Syrian, Eritrean, Congolese, Ethiopian, Iraqi and Somalian refugees
- Women at risk
- LGBTQ refugees
- More than half of the cases do not have a preferred destination
- The majority of the cases have medium to no medical/resettlement needs

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

cathrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp



A few of the available BVOR cases

BVOR PROFILE #: 0860-01-18

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: No preferred destination.

A young, single Ugandan man without children. He can read and write English. The PA cannot return to his home country for fear of his safety stemming from his sexual orientation. The PA is seeking a better life and would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0794-12-17

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: No preferred destination.

Ethiopian family consisting of a 48-year-old man and his spouse. He speaks English and has been educated in technical/vocational work. He has work experience in sales and driving a taxi. His spouse, with 12 years of education, speaks English and has experience working in sales. They have been persecuted in their home country due to their political opinion and would benefit from the aid of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0829-12-17

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: No preferred destination.

Syrian family of seven. The PA is a 36-year-old married man with five children. He has 12 years of formal education and experience working as a farmer and construction worker. The PA cannot return to his home country as he fears for his safety and persecution based on ongoing ethnic conflicts. The family would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0830-12-17

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Preferred destination: Whitby, ON.

The PA is a 69-year-old Iraqi married man with eight years of formal education and experience working as a sales representative. He and his spouse cannot return to their home country as they fear persecution based on their religious belief and imputed political opinion. The PA's daughter resides in Whitby, ON, and they should be resettled in the same area. They would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0816-12-17**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Preferred destination: Hamilton/GTA near mother.**

A Somalian family of six including four children. The PA speaks little English, while the spouse and children speak English relatively well. The family would benefit from settling near the PA's mother, who has been resettled in Hamilton, ON. This family cannot return to their home country as they fear for their safety and would appreciate the support of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0781-12-17**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: No preferred destination.**

A Congolese family of seven. The PA is a 46-year-old male with a spouse and five children. He has three years of education, and experience with farming and labour work. His wife has four years of education and experience with farming and labour work. The PA and his family were forced to leave their home country based on violent conflict, and would benefit from the aid of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0776-12-17**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: No preferred destination.**

The PA is a 34-year-old Ethiopian male with a spouse and three children. He requires wheelchair access, but is otherwise fully independent. Neither the PA nor his spouse speak English or French. The family has been persecuted in their home country based on political opinion. They would benefit from the support of a sponsor.

BVOR PROFILE #: 0896-01-18**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Relative in Toronto, ON.**

The PA is a 32-year-old married man with three children. He has nine years of formal education and experience working as a sailor, a blacksmith on a ship and as a welder. The PA has a relative who resides in Toronto, ON and should resettle near there. The PA and his family would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor.

Available JAS Profiles

JAS cases can only be sponsored by SAHs

We have 17 In-Canada JAS cases available to be sponsored!

For more information on JAS profiles or on the 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

Featuring:

In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 0646-09-17**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Toronto, ON**

The PA is a Sudanese male, born and raised in a refugee camp, who became deaf and mute when he was a young child. He came to Canada with his brother, who at the time was his sole provider. They no longer live together and the PA relies on a caseworker to assist him with daily activities.

Language: The PA is illiterate and does not know formal sign language. He currently uses informal sign language. He has been referred to the Canadian Hearing Society and advised to learn American Sign Language. These classes will take four years to complete.

Medical issues: In addition to being deaf and mute, a doctor in the country of asylum recommended the PA be treated by an orthopedic surgeon for a foot deformity.

Support needed:

- Help with finding counselling, psychological and medical support will help the PA become secure, confident, medically fit and better able to take care of his daily needs.
- Help with basic life skills coaching, including how and where to shop, social norms, hygiene, safety at home, time keeping and budgeting will help him integrate successfully into Canadian society.

Upcoming RSTP Workshops & Webinars

Workshops

Alberta

Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five

Date: Wednesday, February 21st, 2018

Time: 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM MDT

Location: Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (EMCN), 11713 - 82 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5B 2V9

This training session is for new sponsorship groups and interested community members who wish to form a Group of Five. No interpretation will be included.

To register: Contact Melissa Scott at msscott@rstp.ca.

Please visit: <http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/> for more information on upcoming trainings, workshops & webinars!

Other Upcoming Events

CCR WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

Inland Protection Working Group meeting

Date: Friday 23 February 2018

Time: 9:30am - 5pm EST

Location: Salvation Army, 160 Jarvis St., Toronto

Overseas Protection & Resettlement Working Group meeting

Date: Saturday 24 February 2018

Time: 9:30am - 4:30pm

Location: Salvation Army, 160 Jarvis St., Toronto

Immigration and Settlement Working Group meeting

Date: Saturday 24 February 2018

Time: 9:30am - 4:30pm

Location: Salvation Army, 160 Jarvis St., Toronto

Webinar Series

RSTP is conducting a series of webinars on the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) rates for each province. The series will provide sponsors with an in-depth look at the RAP rates for each province, and an understanding of why the RAP rates are important for groups sponsoring under the PSR and BVOR programs.

The date, time and registration link for each webinar is found below:

Ontario: February 14, 2018,

Time: 1 PM - 2.30 PM EST

Register by clicking the following link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3163118320311275522>

Nova Scotia: February 15, 2018,

Time: 10 AM - 11.30 AM AST (Registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8046783933031608578>

New Brunswick: February 15, 2018

Time: 1.30 PM - 3.00 PM AST

Register by clicking the following link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6502042663773783298>

Prince Edward Island: February 16, 2018,

Time: 10 AM - 11.30 AM AST

Register by clicking the following link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4626446251090275586>

Newfoundland and Labrador: February 16, 2018, **Time:** 1.30 PM - 3.00 PM AST

Register by clicking the following link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4476033060410539522>

The series of webinars on each province's RAP rates will be continued in the next Bulletin!

Look for information on your province!

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