

RSTP Bulletin

September 8, 2017

INQUIRIES

You Asked

How do you find out whether or not the newcomer refugee family meets the IRCC definition of self-sufficiency?

We Answer

In-Canada Processing of Convention Refugees Abroad and Members of the Humanitarian Protected Persons Abroad Classes – Part 3 (IP-3), which is currently being updated by IRCC.

Under section 30.6 (pp.12-13), a refugee is deemed to be financially self-sufficient if their level of income is greater than or equivalent to prevailing social assistance rates in their community of settlement.

If the refugee becomes financially self-sufficient during the 12-month sponsorship period, the sponsoring group is not obligated to provide income support for the rest of the sponsorship period. However, the **sponsoring group must maintain immediate access to adequate funds for the remaining period of the sponsorship in case the refugee ceases to be self-sufficient.**

The definition of self-sufficiency could change, or be expanded upon, in the new IP-3 when it is released.



Photo: UNICEF

Important Note

When you sponsor refugees, you commit to providing settlement and financial support during the first 12 months following their arrival. To ensure that the sponsored refugees have enough financial and in-kind support, sponsors should consider the actual cost of living in the province of settlement. These might be higher than those reflected in the cost table.

Knowing the actual cost will give sponsors a better understanding of the amount needed for a family to become financially self-sufficient.

It is also the sponsors' role to empower refugees and facilitate their integration so they can become self-sufficient as soon as is reasonable. Self-sufficiency here does not mean ceasing to provide settlement, social and emotional support as needed.

IRCC UPDATE

REMINDER

The new age limit of **"under 22"** will come into effect this fall, on **October 24, 2017**, raising it from the current "under 19" requirement.

- The increased age will apply to new applications for all immigration programs under IRCC, including for refugees.
- Children who are 22 years of age or older and who rely on their parents due to a physical or mental health condition will continue to be considered dependant children.

Please note: Any dependant children in applications sent before October 24, 2017 should meet the "under 19" requirement.

New Materials on the RSTP Website

IRCC has updated The Interim Federal Health Program(IFHP) info sheets. They are now available on our website:
English: http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/IFHP-Handout-for-GARs-Info-Sheet-2017_EN.pdf
French: <http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/IFHP-Handout-for-GARs-Info-Sheet-2017-FR.pdf>

Available BVOR & JAS Profiles

BVOR PROFILES

[0620-08-17- Syrian family of 6](#)

This family fled Syria due to the ongoing conflict in that country. They fear for their safety should they return. The family prefers to resettle in Toronto, but has relatives in the Halifax area, or could be resettled near a friend in London (ON). The husband worked in furniture packaging and has a background as a technician in telecommunications.



[0614-08-17 x-referenced with BVOR 0615-08-17 - common-law](#)

The PA is a 19 year old Syrian male accompanied by his common-law partner (x-ref: 0615-08-17). He studied fine art and speaks very good English. The PA has been a victim of gender based violence and is seeking a better life. He would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during his resettlement in Canada.

[0609-08-17](#)

The PA is an Iraqi single and declares no dependants. He has some education, less than the secondary level. He has some experience in retail, particularly as a clothing salesman. He cannot return to Iraq due to fear for his safety stemming from his sexual orientation.

In addition to these BVOR cases, we have five more available cases

If you are interested in these profiles:

→ use your username and password to login in to RSTP matching database:
cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp

IN-CANADA JAS

[0596-08-17 Syrian couple \(Toronto\)](#)

In this In-Canada JAS case, the PA is a 55-year-old Syrian male accompanied by his 55-year-old spouse. They have two sons, one of whom is a former refugee and now a permanent resident settled in Toronto. The PA lives with disabilities caused by improper medical care. He depends on his wife who cares for him and manages the home. She also has medical problems. Both the PA and his spouse are undergoing further medical tests. They have difficulty scheduling their appointments due to the language barrier. The PA's disability and his spouse's commitment to supporting him mean they rarely leave home other than for medical appointments or to buy groceries. This has delayed her ability to learn English and to manage scheduling and other activities (such as banking) on her own. The family would benefit from additional support including financial/non-financial orientation and in-home additional support services (life skills such as how to deal with emergencies in their building, when to call 911, information about banking, how to use public transportation, accessing OHIP/ IFH, and using a computer). As well, they would benefit from knowing where to receive and obtain assistance from other settlement services in their language. Such support will enhance the family's ability to settle in Canada without further difficulties. They would benefit from sponsor support in Toronto.

For more information on the BVOR Program and to get information on these JAS profiles, 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

INFORMATION SHARING

We have recently received a number of inquiries from SAHs regarding **the procedure for adding a dependant**, so we would like to share these details:

As a reminder, a new undertaking is no longer required to add a dependant; **the Request to Add Dependants to a Private Sponsorship Undertaking (IMM 5618) form is being used for this purpose.**

To add a dependant to an application, the following forms are to be submitted:

1. Request to Add Dependants to a Private Sponsorship Undertaking (IMM 5618):

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM5618E.pdf>.

2. Revised IMM 6000 Package

- **Generic Application (IMM 0008):**

http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM0008ENU_2D.pdf

- **Schedule A (IMM 5669) and Schedule 2 (IMM 0008 Schedule 2) – if applicable:**

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM0008DEPENU.pdf>

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM5669E.PDF>

3. Revised Settlement Plan (IMM 5440) if you are a new SAH and the SAH's Agreement is less than 2 years old (if applicable)

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM5440E.PDF>

Additional information on adding a dependant

The IMM 5618 is completed by the SAH and if applicable, the CG/Co-Sponsor to take confirm that responsibility will be taken for the new dependant (in addition to the PA and any other dependents already indicated on the application). On this form, the name of the PA will be included at the top of the form under 'Principal Applicant.' Under 'Dependants,' only the name(s) of the new dependant(s) will be added.

The IMM 0008 is "completed by the PA only. Under the DEPENDANT(S) section, the PA must record the information on ALL dependants. This includes the new dependant(s) to be added as well as dependant(s) previously recorded on the original IMM0008. The updated IMM0008 will replace the original form."

The Schedule A (IMM5669) is "to be completed only by the new dependants aged 18 years or older. Minors do not need to complete this form."

The Schedule 2 (IMM 0008 Schedule 2) is "to be completed only by new dependants aged 18 years or older."

If a Co-sponsor or Community Group was involved in the original undertaking, they should also sign the Request to Add Dependants to a Private Sponsorship Undertaking (IMM 5618) together with the SAH.

UPCOMING RSTP WORKSHOPS

Nova Scotia

Supporting Settlement and Integration

Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm ADT

Where: Maggie's Place (upstairs boardroom), 1027 Prince Street, Truro, NS B2N 1H7

Please register by via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/private-refugee-sponsorship-supporting-settlement-and-integration-tickets-36897130310>

Alberta

Private Refugee Sponsorship: Groups of Five & Community Sponsors

Date: Saturday September 16, 2017

Time: 1pm to 4pm

Calgary Central Library Basement - 616 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary, AB T2G 2M2

Please register 2017 via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/private-refugee-sponsorship-training-group-of-5-and-community-sponsors-tickets-37432466515>

UPCOMING RSTP WEBINARS

Private Sponsorship of Refugees: Group of Five and Community Sponsor

Date: Friday September 15, 2017 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

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

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/123514023757717507>

Private Sponsorship of Refugees: Supporting Settlement and Integration

Date: Wednesday September 20, 2017

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

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

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5394253908943823363>

UPCOMING SAH COUNCIL WEBINAR

“Canada’s Refugee Resettlement Program in Historical and Global Context”

Wednesday, **September 13, 2017 at 1:00 PM** Eastern Daylight Savings Time

Thursday, **September 14, 2017 at 8:00 PM** Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

This Webinar will cover the following topics:

- Purpose of resettlement
- Canada's international resettlement responsibilities
- Historical and contemporary perspectives on naming and additionality
- Into the future: Global Compact on Refugees
- Settlement trajectories of resettled refugees
- How Canada’s resettlement programs have evolved

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

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSuTu6859JHo3VplzANypWOqkQaZgvWowoiWa4Ca47-RYPAA/viewform>

Once you register you will be sent links to join both webinars. Please, only join the one you are registered for, as the number of registrants able to participate is limited.

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



Photo: UNHCR

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

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