

Where do I send information and where should I go for information?

Information on contacting and obtaining information from various branches of CIC was shared during the last national SAH conference, however given the number of recent inquiries on where to get case status updates and other information, we would like to call your attention to the following information taken from the updated [Guide to Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program](#).

To check current estimated processing times: [refer to processing times for PSR applications](#)

To check on your application status: [use E-CAS](#)

To obtain case status updates on files:

- In Canada – [email the Centralized Processing Office – Winnipeg](#)
- Outside Canada – [contact the visa office responsible for your country](#) (only after estimated processing times have passed)

Sponsorship withdrawals and One-Year Window requests: [Email the Centralized Processing Office – Winnipeg](#)

To provide updated applicant contact information or case information or to add a dependant to an application: [Contact the visa office responsible for your country](#)

For matters on Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH) sponsorship agreements, annual reports and allocations, or to provide updated SAH contact information: [contact the CIC National Headquarters](#)

For information on visa office-referred and Joint Assistance Sponsorship matches:

- General information or to indicate interest in a refugee profile, [contact the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program](#)
- For additional information on a particular profile, [email the Matching Centre](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

WORKSHOPS

Refugee Sponsorship Forms Clinic

Date: Saturday, February 7th

Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Catholic Crosscultural Services: 55 Town Centre Court, Suite 401, Scarborough, ON

Go to this [link](#) to learn more about the event. Please pre-register by contacting Sara at sshahsiah@rstp.ca by February 3rd.

Group of Five Forms & the IMM6000

When: Thursday, February 19th

Time: 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Where: Afghan Women's Organization
Please pre-register by contacting Sara at sshahsiah@rstp.ca by February 16th.

Feel free to bring completed forms with you for review. To request a Forms Clinic in your area, contact us.

WEBINARS

An Overview of the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program

Date: Thursday, February 12th

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:30PM (EST)

This webinar is intended to provide information about the PSR program, including the current state of the program, refugee eligibility criteria, and sponsoring group criteria.

To register, click [here](#).

Other Upcoming Events

CCR Working Group Meetings

Date: February 27 - 28th

Where: Salvation Army Harbour Light Ministries, 160 Jarvis St., Toronto

For more information, go to [here](#)

Available JAS cases

JAS 091

The PA is a 35 year old male accompanied by his 25 year old wife. Both PA and spouse are Iraqi nationals of Arab ethnicity with no children. The applicant attended school for nine years and his spouse attended for six. The couple left Iraq after being repeatedly harassed over their religious beliefs and imputed political opinion. Additionally, due to their respective disabilities - the PA has a malformed leg and his spouse is legally blind - the couple was unable to support themselves in Iraq and were unable to be supported by members of their family. The PA and his spouse are unable to settle locally as they are not legally allowed to work. The Applicant fears that he and his wife would be persecuted should they be forced to return to Iraq.

In-Canada JAS 160

The PA is a Burundian refugee of Hutu descent. She is a single female head of household with seven children. She has witnessed the deaths of her parents and all of her siblings. She has been displaced and had to move several times in order to find safety. She is a victim of sexual gender based violence and a survivor of violence and torture. She has been living in a refugee camp in Tanzania since 1996. She cannot return to Burundi as she believes the people who killed her parents and siblings will target her family. The PA is severely traumatized and under a lot of stress trying to provide for her family by herself. The PA would benefit from the assistance of a sponsor during her resettlement process in Canada.

Destination: Vancouver, BC

If you have any questions or interested in any of the above profiles, please contact the Matching Centre: Matching-Centre@cic.gc.ca



INQUIRIES & RESPONSES

YOU ASKED... We are sponsoring an Afghani family that lives in Iran. They have been waiting 7 years for an interview. Recently, they were notified by the Canadian visa office in Ankara, that they would be interviewed in Ankara. The family went to the Turkish embassy in Tehran to get a travel visa, but were told that Afghans are not eligible for this visa. Our group has emailed the Ankara visa office and CPO-W and informed them about the situation, but we have not yet heard back from the visa office. What we should do next? Can the family be interviewed by video? Do you have any suggestions? The family is very anxious and does not want to miss this opportunity.

OUR RESPONSE...

We received the following response from CIC NHQ:

"Letters are sent to applicants when it is time for an interview regardless of where they are. The letter does not ask them to travel if they are not able to and is only meant to ascertain their availability. It takes care however, to specifically advise against travel especially if they are unable to or if it would jeopardize their safety or status. If the applicant is unable to attend they should simply state so and provide the reason. The mission will note that and act accordingly (most cases have simply remained stagnant while awaiting a change in conditions)."

YOU ASKED... How long does it take to process a One-Year Window Application? What has to be completed within the one year?

OUR RESPONSE... There are no known processing times for One-Year Window (OYW) applications. Please note that the application to sponsor under OYW must not only be submitted to CPO-W within the year, but **the IMM0008 forms (to be filled out by the following family members) that CIC will request the applicant to provide must also be sent to and received by the visa office within the one year.** These forms must arrive at the visa office within one year of the refugee applicant arriving in Canada. Although the processing time for OYW applications is unknown, it is important to note that the visa office will only determine whether the people coming through OYW are family members and whether they are admissible. Refugee eligibility is not assessed, so this may save some time.