

RSTP Bulletin

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

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Residency requirements have been updated!

To meet the residency requirements of sponsorship, all the members of the sponsoring group must reside in the refugee's expected community of settlement. If a member of the sponsoring group does not live in the community of settlement, then the sponsoring group can appoint representatives.

A **representative** is:

- A Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident who is located within the refugee's community;
- Appointed to represent the sponsor in the community;
- **Not a party to the sponsorship**, and is not liable to fulfill the sponsorship obligations.

The requirements for appointing a representative in the community of settlement vary based on the Sponsorship Category:

For Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs):

- Either the SAH and/or Constituent Group (CG) is located in the community of settlement; **or**
- At least two co-sponsors reside in the community of residence; **or**
- At least two appointed representatives reside in the community of residence.

For a Community Sponsors (CS):

- Either the CS is located in the community of settlement; **or**
- At least two co-sponsors reside in the community of residence; **or**
- At least two appointed representatives reside in the community of residence.

For Groups of Five (G5s):

- All five sponsors must reside in the community of settlement; **or**
- Their appointed representatives (for each group member that does not reside in the community of settlement) reside in the community of settlement.

More information on appointing representatives can be found on the [Procedures Regarding Residency Requirements for Private Sponsorship](#) page of the RSTP website.

reminder

Regarding the 2-year pilot project for sponsoring undeclared family members (Starting September 09, 2019):

- The public policy will allow someone who arrived in Canada as a resettled refugee to submit a family class sponsorship application for a spouse, partner or child that they did not initially declare on the refugee sponsorship application.
⇒ **The undeclared family members will be sponsored under family class and not the OYW.**
- As the undeclared family members will be sponsored under the family class, and as the family members were not declared on the original refugee sponsorship undertaking, sponsors are not responsible for providing financial and/or settlement support to the undeclared family members on arrival.
⇒ **The resettled refugee in Canada will be responsible for their undeclared family members on arrival.**

For more information visit:

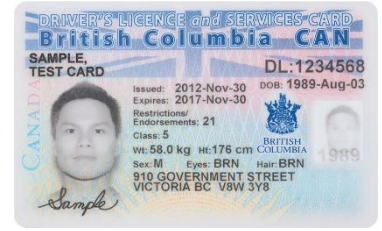
⇒ <https://bit.ly/2WCVuNh>

Further information about how resettled refugees can sponsor undeclared family members through the family class under the pilot project will be released soon.

The main changes

The residency requirements were updated in June 2019 and under the new requirements, representatives appointed in the new community of settlement must submit a copy of an identification document with the [IMM 5956](#) form.

Ideally, the document would include their name and current address (e.g. a copy of a driver's license). If the document does not include the representative's current address, they must also attach a copy of a document with that address (e.g. lease agreement).



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 their 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 ***



Photo: UNHCR

Many JAS refugees are waiting to be sponsored!

Including

JAS REFUGEE PROFILE: 19-0520

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Uganda

COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE: Kenya

FAMILY SIZE: One

Background: This 21-year-old transgender female has 13 years of education, and has worked as a photographer and sales representative. She has experienced many hardships due to her sexual orientation, including being shamed by her family and losing her job.

Support Needed: Upon arrival, the JAS program and a sponsor could help her successfully resettle.

For more information about the above profile, visit the RSTP website's [JAS page](#)

In-Canada JAS refugee profiles

In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 19-0023

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Toronto, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: Two

Background: A 28-year-old Iraqi woman and her 11-year-old sister arrived in January 2018. She is connected to community resources, volunteers, and language classes but requires additional support. She has a family doctor and has received counselling from a mental health counsellor. English classes are a struggle. She is trying to adjust to her new life in Canada while raising her sister by herself. The sister is registered in school.

Support Needed: She would like a sponsor's informal social and emotional support. A sponsoring group could help her learn more about school and employment and practice English. They could help her learn skills such as scheduling appointments; using a computer; managing emails; and getting involved in her community.

In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 19-0335

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Winnipeg, MB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria

FAMILY SIZE: Nine

Background: This 41-year-old Syrian father arrived with his homemaker wife and their seven children. He has six years of education and has worked as a plumber and pipe fitter. He is fluent in Arabic and has attended some English language classes. The family has received settlement support, but require extra support. Six of the couple's children are registered for school; one is fully dependent on his parents.

Medical issues: The family is challenged by the high medical needs of their 4-year-old son. The father has postponed further English lessons as a result and the child's ongoing medical needs have prevented the family from accessing other settlement services and community resources.

Support Needed: A sponsor could help with informal English practice and with managing the child's ongoing medical appointments. They could help the family with their daily challenges; and allow them time to develop their English language skills and to integrate in their local community. They will benefit greatly from the physical, emotional, and social support provided by a sponsor.

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

New RSTP Trainer in Ottawa!



Doryann has a bachelor's degree in Conflict Studies and Human Rights and a University of Ottawa Master's degree in Sociology with an emphasis on migration. She has volunteered with several non-profit organizations such as Amnesty International Canada and the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization. Doryann also has a background in the public service, having worked for Transport Canada, IRCC and the Embassy of Canada in France.

She is fluent in both French and English and is looking to expand her language proficiency levels in Spanish and Russian! As a bilingual RSTP Trainer, Doryann is excited to support and assist Ottawa francophone private sponsors in order to submit successful applications. Doryann can be reached via email at ddupuy@rstp.ca or by phone at 613.725.5671 ext. 321

UPCOMING RSTP WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS



WORKSHOPS

PARRAINAGE PRIVÉ DE RÉFUGIÉS 101

Date : Mercredi 31 juillet 2019

Heure : 17 h 30 – 17 h (HAE)

Lieu : CSC Vanier, 270, avenue Marier, Salle Raymond Delage, 1^{er} étage

Description: Voulez-vous en savoir plus sur le parrainage privé de réfugiés? Avez-vous des questions sur le programme de réunion des familles pour les réfugiés? Réfugié 613 en partenariat avec le Programme de formation sur le parrainage privé des réfugiés, le Programme d'appui au parrainage privé de réfugiés et l'Alliance des Burundais au Canada vous présentent une session d'information **en français** sur le parrainage privé de réfugiés.

Inscription:

<https://parrainageottawa101.eventbrite.ca>

COMMENT PARRAINE-T-ON UN RÉFUGIÉ?

Date: Saturday, August 10, 2019

Time: 10:30 am to 3:00 pm MDT

Where: From the Heart Church Ministries of Edmonton, 11468-112 Avenue, Edmonton AB T5A 5H5

Description: Cette formation présentera un **aperçu du programme de parrainage des réfugiés au Canada suivi d'un atelier sur comment remplir les formulaires de demande de parrainage.**

Les sujets abordés comprennent:

- Qui peut parrainer des réfugiés?
- Qui peut être parrainé?
- Quelles sont les responsabilités des groupes de parrainage?
- Quels formulaires doivent remplir le groupe de parrainage et le réfugié parrainé?
- Qui peut être inclus dans une même demande de parrainage?

Inscription: <https://parrainage-des-refugies-edmonton.eventbrite.ca> ou Dr. René Vincent Tshibula au 780-902-0345 ou Lidia Jarmasz au ljarmasz@rstp.ca ou 1-877-290-1701, poste 2408.

WEBINARS

THE PSR PROGRAM: SUPPORTING SETTLEMENT AND INTEGRATION

Date: Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM PDT

Topics covered:

- Recap of sponsors' settlement and financial responsibilities under the PSR program;
- The importance of connecting newcomers with a settlement agency;
- Managing expectations;
- Power imbalance; and,
- Ethical considerations.

To register please click: [here](#)

THE PSR PROGRAM: PREPARING FOR MONTH 13

Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM PDT

Topics covered:

- When should sponsors start preparing for Month 13;
- What to consider when preparing newcomers for Month 13;
- Services available for sponsored newcomers in Month 13;
- Evaluating the sponsorship; and,
- The post-sponsorship relationship.

To register please click: [here](#)

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/>

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program

