

RSTP Bulletin

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

Inquiries

You Asked

A family of five is being sponsored. The mother is the PA, she has a son over 30 years old, one daughter under 22 and 2 other daughters above 22. Four applications will be submitted: one for the PA and her daughter under 22, one for the son, and 1 application/daughter above 22. All applications will be linked.

Can the sponsors use the same in-kind donations for all of them? If separate application packages have to be submitted, can the settlement plans for the linked applications be adjusted based on the PA's settlement plan or does everything have to be separate?

Our Answer

All the principal applicants (of the 4 separate linked PSR applications) have to meet the eligibility and admissibility requirements in their own right; need their own refugee status documents when being sponsored by a Group of Five and Community Sponsor; and, are counted as a family size of 1 when it comes to the finances (the mother and the daughter will be counted as 2 for family size).

The sponsoring groups must meet the settlement and financial capacity for each sponsorship. When the sponsoring group provides in-kind support to each applicant, they can make deductions based on the In-kind Deduction table on the [Sponsorship Cost Table](#) for Group of Fives and Community Sponsors and for SAHs based on the [Financial Guideline for SAHs](#). For example, if the shelter was provided fully in kind for the entire family, then the sponsoring group can deduct this amount from all the applications. It is important that each application reflects the financial support and has a clear outline of the group's settlement plan.

Post Arrival Support

Once the family arrives in Canada and if the children who are above the age of majority reside with their mother, some discretion may be applied to shared costs, which may be reduced provided that overall needs of all family members are met in accordance with [RAP guidelines](#).

Certain household items can be reduced in the start-up costs as well as deductions to monthly income support. In the monthly cost, the shelter amount, which is based on need, can be provided



INQUIRY

Please feel free to contact us.

You Asked

What benchmark are children's ages taken into consideration as dependents in a OYW – at the time that the parents fill out the PR application (while still in the country of asylum) or at the time that they fill out the OYW application (while in Canada)?

Our Answer

A “dependent child” under [section R2](#), is a child:

- under 22 years of age and not a spouse or common-law partner;
- 22 years of age or older, have depended substantially on the financial support of the parent since before the age of 22 and be unable to support themselves financially due to a physical or mental condition.

The age of dependent child is locked at the time the PSR application is received at Resettlement Operations Centre in Ottawa (ROC-O). If the dependent child is less than 22 years of age at the time of the application was received at ROC-O, then that child continues to be a dependent child even if they turn 22 years of age or older during the processing of the application, as long as they are still unmarried and not in a common-law relationship when the OYW application is submitted.

fully in-kind if shelter with adequate amount of rooms for the family members is provided without cost. Some allowances cannot be provided in-kind, for more information on these allowances, consult questions four and five on the [FAQs on Post-Arrival Financial Support](#).

If a situation arises, where the adult children want to move and live independently, then it's important for the sponsoring group to have a contingency plan to support the separate households. If the sponsoring group is unable to support two separate households, then the sponsoring should contact IRCC for assistance in these situations.

UPDATED THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT

The updated residency requirements document contains clarification about what might happen if residency requirements are not met.

The updated document can be found here in [ENGLISH](#) and [FRENCH](#).

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 #: 19-0592

URGENCY: Normal

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Uganda

COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE: Kenya

FAMILY SIZE: 1

Background: A 32-year old Ugandan male but identifies as female. . She has completed informal education and has experience as a merchant/trader, and speaks some English. She is unable to return to her country of origin due to fear of persecution based on her gender identity .

Support Needed: Since the applicant does not have any contacts in Canada, she would benefit from help and support to resettle within her community.

JAS REFUGEE PROFILE #: 19-0593**URGENCY:** Normal**PREFERRED DESTINATION:** Toronto, ON**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Uganda**COUNTRY OF CURRENT****RESIDENCE:** Kenya**FAMILY SIZE:** 1

Background: A 26-year old male but identifies as female. She has completed 13 years of education and has experience as a musician and cook, and speaks fluent English. She is unable to return to her country of origin due to fear of persecution based on her gender identity .

Support Needed: As a result of these challenges coupled with the fact that she does not have any contacts in Canada, the applicant would benefit from the extra help and support upon arrival to Canada. The JAS program and a sponsor would be able to provide that extra time and support in order to help her successfully resettle within her community.

**In-Canada JAS refugee profiles****In-Canada JAS REFUGEE PROFILE #: 19-0594****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Toronto, ON**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Mali**FAMILY SIZE:** 7

Background: A 50 year old man, who was accompanied to Canada by his wife (age 34) and their five children. Three of their children have intellectual disabilities that require various medical appointments and specialized schooling. The family speaks Tamasheq, a rare dialect that makes it difficult to find interpreters for.

Support Needed: A sponsor would help the family improve their life skills, and help them better navigate the health care system. Providing transportation, or helping the family to better navigate the public transportation system would ensure the children make it to their medical appointments.

In-Canada JAS REFUGEE PROFILE #: 19-0590**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** London, ON**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Colombia**FAMILY SIZE:** 3

Background: A single mother with two children (8 and 4) who came to Canada in June 2019. She is originally from Colombia but has been a refugee in Ecuador for a while. Upon arrival the following medical condition was identified “chronic condition of epilepsy.”

Support Needed: A sponsor would be able to provide social and emotional support, help her in attending the various appointments be it medical, school related for herself or the kids, occasional shopping support, some mentoring on Life skills, support in the area of managing the life and education of her two kids. A JAS support would be beneficial for the whole family as she would have developed a network of people around her to support in the smooth integration to her settlement experience and the kids would be able to develop confidence needed for their overall growth and wellbeing.

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

UPCOMING RSTP WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS



WORKSHOPS

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.



RSTP Trainers: Doryann Dupuy and Lidia Jarmasz, presenting at the information session on successful sponsorship organized by [@refugee613](http://refugee613)

WEBINARS

THE PSR PROGRAM: WHO CAN SPONSOR AND WHO CAN BE SPONSORED

Date: Wednesday, August 7, 2019

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

Topics covered: who can sponsor; who can be sponsored; refugee status documents and who needs them; and, an overview of sponsors' financial and settlement responsibilities.

To register click [here](#)

THE PSR PROGRAM: HOW TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION PACKAGE

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2019

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

Topics covered: an overview of the application process; recent updates and changes to processing; who can be included on one application package; what supporting documents need to be included; completing the forms for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors; proof of funds requirements; and, completing the refugees' forms.

To register click [here](#)

THE PSR PROGRAM: ADDING DEPENDENTS POST-SUBMISSION AND UPDATING APPLICATIONS

Date: Friday, August 16, 2019

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

Topics covered: the importance of keeping IRCC up-to-date with any changes in circumstances; who to contact and when; and, how to add dependents post-submission.

To register click [here](#)

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

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
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