

RSTP Bulletin

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

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

The Updated Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) Rates Are Now in Effect

The updated RAP rates for [Alberta](#), [British Columbia](#) and [Ontario](#) came into effect on November 01, 2019.

In addition to the province-specific updates for Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario, the Transportation Allowance has been updated for all provinces and applies as of November 01, 2019.

As of November 01, 2019, the Transportation Allowance provided to each adult on file, including seniors, must be equivalent to the cost of a monthly public transit pass for adults and seniors in the community of settlement.

If the cost of an adult or senior monthly public transit pass is below \$75 a month in the community of settlement, a minimum Transportation Allowance of \$75 per month must be provided to each adult on file.

In communities where there is no public transit, a flat rate of \$75 is issued to each adult on file.

The updated RAP rate sheets can be found at the following link on our website: <http://www.rstp.ca/en/bvor/rap-resettlement-assistance-program-rates/>

The Minimum Financial Support Calculator Has Been Updated

The [minimum financial support calculator](#) has been updated with the latest RAP rates and incorporates the new rules on transportation allowances.

The minimum financial support calculator can be accessed on the RSTP website at:

- English: <http://www.rstp.ca/calc/?lang=en>
- French: <http://www.rstp.ca/calc/?lang=fr>

Question

Do the updated RAP rates and the new rules regarding the Transportation Allowance apply to refugees that have already arrived and are still within their sponsorship period, or do they only apply to refugees that arrive after November 01, 2019?

Answer

As noted in Q.3 of the [FAQs on Post-Arrival Financial Support for PSRs](#), sponsors must provide financial support in accordance with the prevailing RAP rate in effect at the time of arrival and over the course of the sponsorship period.

Sponsorship Agreement Holders (along with their Constituent Groups and co-sponsors), Groups of Five and Community Sponsors, must use the updated RAP rates and the new rules regarding the Transportation Allowance to provide financial support to refugees that are still within their sponsorship period as of November 01, 2019 and those that arrive after November 01, 2019.

For example, if a refugee was sponsored under the PSR program and arrived in Canada on April 01, 2019, the refugees would receive financial support from that date onwards up until October 31, 2019 using the RAP rates and Transportation Allowance rules that were in effect up until that date.

From November 01, 2019 until March 31, 2020 (the end of the refugee's sponsorship period), they would receive financial support according to the updated RAP rates and the new Transportation Allowance rules that came into effect on November 01, 2019.

Upcoming Workshops for SAHs in Ontario in November 2019

RSTP will be delivering a number of workshops for SAHs in Ontario in November 2019.

For further details, please click on the link for the workshop closest to you: [Kitchener](#); [Toronto](#); [Ottawa](#); [London](#) (TBC). Representatives from IRCC will be in attendance.

Similar workshops in other provinces will be held in early 2020.

The Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS) Program

Many JAS Refugees are waiting to be sponsored!

JAS PROFILE #: 19-0442

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Democratic Rep. of Congo

COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE: Namibia

FAMILY SIZE: 6

A family of four with a 38 year old mother accompanied by her four children. Her husband is currently missing, and is not accompanying at this time. The mother is completely blind, requires daily assistance and may require home care. She is currently raising her children as a single parent. The family can all speak a little English, and can speak French easily. The mother has six years of education, and has some experience selling vegetables.

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-0045

LOCATION: London, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: 4

A family of four with a 36 year old Iraqi mother, her spouse and their two children arrived to Canada in early 2018. Since arriving in Canada, the mother has experienced ongoing challenges which have impacted her settlement and integration in Canada. The mother's past traumatic events have continued to impact her ability to handle daily tasks and her challenges include literacy skills, employment, community mapping and lack of knowledge of Canadian culture.

A sponsor could provide the mother and her family with the time and support she needs to obtain a better understanding of Canadian culture; assist with escorting her to medical appointments; becoming more independent; and, encouraging her to attend English classes. The family could also benefit from the opportunity to improve their English skills outside of a formal classroom setting.

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-0040 (XREF: #19-0041)

LOCATION: Winnipeg, MB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: 1

A 65 year old Iraqi woman arrived in Canada in March 2019 with her adult children. The mother has been residing with her children since arrival and has been connected with community resources, volunteers, and language classes, but requires additional support.

The mother struggles learning the English due to her age and low levels of education. This can hinder her confidence and ability for successful integration. Additional formal or informal English practice will help reduce feelings of isolation and could provide additional help in navigating different resources and activities for seniors and moving her towards healing from the post-traumatic stress she suffers from.

The mother's daughter is in-Canada JAS #19-0041.

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 (CGs)**



For more information about a particular JAS profile or the JAS Program, please [click here](#)

RSTP WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS!

Upcoming Workshops

Application Forms Clinics for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors

Date: Saturday November 16, 2019 (Refugee Forms) and Saturday November 23, 2019 (Sponsor Forms)

Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM MST

Location: Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, 1111-11 Ave SW, Room 315, Calgary, AB, T2R 0G5

Registration: November 16, 2019: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/principle-refugee-forms-for-groups-of-five-and-community-sponsorship-tickets-77338440357>; November 23, 2019: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/group-of-five-and-community-sponsorship-form-clinic-tickets-77348839461>

Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five or a Community Sponsor

Date: Monday November 25, 2019

Time: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM MST

Location: Catholic Social Services, 8212 118 Ave, Edmonton, AB, T5B 0S3

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/private-sponsorship-of-refugees-groups-of-five-and-community-sponsors-tickets-79384867275?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Upcoming Webinars in French

Qui peut être parrainé en tant que réfugié? Qui peut parrainer des réfugiés?

Date: Lundi 25 novembre 2019

Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE

Inscription:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5010722280400257547>

Les étapes d'une demande de parrainage de réfugiés et les personnes-ressources clés

Date: Mardi 17 décembre 2019

Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE

Inscription:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4181903818313356043>

Pleins feux sur les responsabilités des groupes qui parrainent des réfugiés

Date: Mardi 7 janvier 2020

Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE

Inscription:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4004254625102046987>



Upcoming Webinars with IRCC for SAHs

Using the Minimum Financial Support Calculator to Determine Start-Up and Monthly Support

Date: Monday November 18, 2019

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm EST

Registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2119402523444700417>

IRCC's Case Review Process (Part 1)

Date: Monday January 13, 2020

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm EST

Registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1352876892629043201>

IRCC's Case Review Process (Part 2)

Date: Monday January 20, 2020

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm EST

Registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/820617607273849089>

The Monthly Webinar Series for Nov. 2019 Has Started!

In our monthly webinar series, we:

- Explain who can sponsor and who can be sponsored under the PSR program;
- Go through how to complete the application forms; and,
- Share best practices for settlement, how to transition to Month 13 and more!

For more information and to register, please [click here](#). Missed this month's series? The series will be repeated each month until March 2020!

Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



CCS
Catholic Crosscultural Services



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada