

RSTP Bulletin

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

The One Year Window of Opportunity Provision

The One Year Window of Opportunity Provision (OYW) assists with family reunification for sponsored refugees.

Anyone that meets the definition of a “family” used by the Canadian immigration system can be sponsored on the same application as the Principal Applicant (PA). When preparing an application package, sponsors and the PA must indicate on the [Sponsorship Undertaking](#) and the [Generic Application Form for Canada](#) whether the PA’s family members are accompanying or non-accompanying.

For more information on the definition of a family used by the Canadian immigration system and the difference between accompanying and non-accompanying family members, please [click here](#).

Any family members of the PA that are listed as non-accompanying on the application forms will be processed under the OYW once the PA and their accompanying family members have arrived in Canada.

The PA has one year after their date of arrival in Canada to submit the OYW application.

IMPORTANT: Only family members of the PA that meet the definition of a “family” used by the Canadian immigration system and were declared before the PA’s departure for Canada are eligible to be sponsored under the OYW.

Any family members that meet the definition of a “family” that were declared by the PA on arrival in Canada are not eligible to be sponsored under the OYW, but may be eligible to be sponsored under the pilot program for undeclared family members. For more information about the pilot program for undeclared family members, please [click here](#).

Question

Are sponsors responsible for providing financial and settlement support to refugees arriving under the OYW?

Answer

Yes! As noted in the Obligations, Consents and Declaration section of the [Sponsorship Undertaking](#), sponsors have an obligation to provide financial and settlement support to the

PA and all of the PA’s accompanying and non-accompanying family members (including children born after the application is submitted to IRCC), even though they may not all arrive in Canada at the same time.

For information on what financial support is required for family members arriving under the OYW, please refer to Q.12 of the [FAQs on Post-Arrival Financial Support for PSRs](#).

Question

What forms and supporting documents need to be submitted for OYW applications?

Answer

The family member being sponsored under the OYW is considered to be the PA for the purposes of the OYW application.

The OYW application package consists of the following forms:

- [Request for Processing Family Members under the One-Year Window of Opportunity Provisions \[IMM 5571\]](#) (Completed by the PA in Canada);
- [Generic Application Form for Canada \[IMM 0008\]](#) (Completed by the PA being sponsored under the OYW);
- [Schedule A – Background Declaration \[IMM 5669\]](#) (Completed by the PA being sponsored under the OYW and any family member 18 years old and over that is also being sponsored under the OYW); and,
- [Additional Family Information \[IMM 5406\]](#) (Completed by the PA being sponsored under the OYW and any family member 18 years old and over that is also being sponsored under the OYW).

Please [click here](#) for further information on what supporting documents need to be submitted with the OYW application.

If the PA in Canada is applying under the OYW to bring their spouse/common-law partner and children, the spouse/common-law partner is designated as the PA on the OYW application.

If the PA in Canada is applying under the OYW to bring two or more children without their spouse/common-law partner, each child is considered a PA for the OYW application and each child needs their own Generic Application Form for Canada [IMM 0008]; Schedule A – Background Declaration [IMM 5669]; and, Additional Family Information [IMM 5406].

The Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS) Program

Many JAS Refugees are waiting to be sponsored!

JAS PROFILE #: 19-1137 (Linked with 7 Other JAS Cases)
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Mali
COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE: Niger
FAMILY SIZE: 5

A family of five with a 47 year old mother accompanied by her four children. The family fled to Niger as a result of the conflict in Mali. Other family members have also been referred to Canada (See JAS Profile #19-1138; 19-1139; 19-1140; 19-1141; 19-1142; 19-1143; and, 19-1144) and they wish to all be resettled in the same community.

This large family does not have any contacts in Canada and will require extra help and support on arrival. The family would benefit being matched with a sponsor who has the time to provide additional support to help the family settle successfully in Canada.

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-0070
LOCATION: Calgary
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq
FAMILY SIZE: 3

A 37 year old Iraqi mother and her two children arrived in early 2019 accompanied by her brother and his family.

Due to her traumatic background, and because she is a single parent in a new and unfamiliar environment, the mother struggles with raising her children. The mother is highly dependent on her brother for emotional support as he is the only male in the household. The mother also worries for the well-being of family members they were forced to leave behind in Iraq.

A sponsor could provide the family with the assistance they need to reduce their feelings of isolation and loneliness. The sponsor could assist the mother in accessing resources in the community which will increase her overall independence and confidence.

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-0180 (Linked with JAS profile #19-0181)
LOCATION: Richmond Hill, ON
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq
FAMILY SIZE: 2

A 27 year old Iraqi couple arrived in Canada with other family members in early 2018.

The wife has mental health issues that she is receiving treatment for, but these issues have resulted in the couple not being able to connect with their community and engage in community activities. The couple feel very lonely in their new environment and while they have both been attending language classes, the wife is concerned that she will not be able to do so for a certain period of time as she is pregnant.

The couple have said they “value the importance of having a Canadian circle of friends” that would walk them through “services and fun activities” and being connected with a sponsoring group would greatly assist the couple with their integration in Canada.

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, WEBINARS & ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Workshop for SAHs in London, ON

Date: Monday December 09, 2019
Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM EST
Location: London Public Library - Central Branch, the Lawson Room, 251 Dundas St, London, ON, N6A 6H9
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/london-workshop-for-sahs-tickets-83711590621>

Don't Miss this Webinar on the BVOR Program!

Date: Tuesday December 17, 2019
Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST
Registration:
<https://register.gotoweinar.com/register/6180996278134914051>

Upcoming Workshops

An Overview of the PSR Program

Date: Saturday December 7, 2019
Time: 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM EST
Location: Central Library – Kitchener Public Library, Meeting Room E 85, 85 Queen St N, Kitchener, ON, N2H 2H1
Registration: Email the Kitchener Waterloo Multicultural Centre at hadembes@kwmc-on.com

Settlement Workshop for BVOR Sponsors

Date: Monday December 9, 2019
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM AST
Location: ISANS, Classroom #10, 6960 Mumford Road, Suite 2120, Halifax, NS, B3L 4P1
Registration: Email Evelyn Jones (RSTP Trainer) at ejones@rstp.ca

Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five or a Community Sponsor

Date: Tuesday December 17, 2019
Time: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM MST
Location: Catholic Social Services, 8212 118 Ave, Edmonton, AB, T5B 0S3
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/private-mentorship-of-refugees-groups-of-five-and-community-sponsors-tickets-83911105375>

An Introduction to Group of Five Sponsorship

Date: Thursday December 19, 2019
Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM EST
Location: OCISO, 945 Wellington St. W., 1st Floor – Community Room, Ottawa, ON, K1Y 2X5
Registration: <https://introgroupoffive.eventbrite.ca>

RSTP NOW HAS A TRAINER IN NEW BRUNSWICK!

Simon Chinamula is the RSTP Trainer for New Brunswick. Simon is based at the [Multicultural Association of Fredericton](http://www.mcaofredericton.ca) and can be contacted via email at schinamula@rstp.ca

Upcoming Webinars in French

Date: Mardi 17 décembre 2019
Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE
Inscription:
<https://attendeegotoweinar.com/register/4181903818313356043>

Plains feux sur les responsabilités des groupes qui parrainent des réfugiés

Date: Mardi 7 janvier 2020
Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE
Inscription:
<https://attendeegotoweinar.com/register/4004254625102046987>

Upcoming Webinars with IRCC for SAHs

IRCC's Case Review Process (Part 1)

Date: Monday January 13, 2020
Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm EST
Registration:
<https://register.gotoweinar.com/register/1352876892629043201>

IRCC's Case Review Process (Part 2)

Date: Monday January 20, 2020
Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm EST
Registration:
<https://register.gotoweinar.com/register/820617607273849089>



Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



CCS
Catholic Crosscultural Services



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada