RSTP Bulletin

The latest news and updates on Canada's Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Programs

Updates on Travel Resumption to Canada for Sponsored Refugees

IRCC have advised that they are able to resume booking travel to Canada for sponsored refugees located in Indonesia and Malaysia.

150 refugees sponsored under the Government Assisted Refugees (GAR) program and 15 refugees sponsored under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program will arrive from those two countries in early July.

<u>Before</u> travel from <u>**other countries**</u> can resume, IRCC has advised that <u>**all**</u> the following criteria <u>**must**</u> be met for <u>**each**</u> <u>**country**</u>:

- 1. The Canadian Migration Office that is responsible for the host country has resumed regular operations;
- 2. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is able to provide assistance and pre-departure services in the host country;
- 3. The host government can issue documents, such as exit permits, and the refugees can move freely within the host country so they can travel to the airport; and,
- 4. There are flights available from the host country to Canada.

Before booking travel to Canada, IRCC will contact the sponsors and the refugees via email to confirm that:

- The sponsors are able to welcome and support the refugees they have sponsored;
- The sponsors have made suitable arrangements to ensure the refugees are able to comply with the 14-day quarantine (self-isolation) <u>requirements</u> for asymptomatic persons entering Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic; and,
- The refugees are willing to travel to Canada during the pandemic.

Sponsors should wait to be contacted by IRCC, as travel to Canada from other countries will resume at different times throughout the year (once all the four conditions outlined above are met by each host country).

RSTP is working to create resources for sponsors so they can ensure that they have made suitable arrangements to welcome the refugees during the pandemic and comply with the entry requirements.

RSTP's COVID-19 Information and Resource Hub

Find all of the latest information and resources on refugee sponsorship and COVID-19 on the RSTP website <u>here</u>.

Highlights include:

- Information from IRCC on submitting applications, arrivals and how to provide financial and settlement support during the pandemic.
- Links to multi-language resources produced by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and IRCC.
- Information on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) for sponsors.

ICYMI: Presentations from IRCC's 2020 PSR Engagement Meetings

The presentations from IRCC's engagement meetings with the PSR community that took place in February and March 2020 are available below:

- SAHs: <u>English</u> and <u>French</u>
- Groups of Five and Community Sponsors: English and French

The presentations, along with other resources produced by IRCC, are also available on the RSTP website here.



Photo: Zeinatou, a refugee from Mali, making masks in Niamey, Niger.

UPCOMING RSTP ONLINE WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

July 2020 Monthly Webinar Series Starts Next Week

What is the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program and How Does it Work?

Date: Tuesday July 07, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm EDT

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/927205369510903566

<u>Preparing a Settlement Plan: The Financial and Settlement</u> <u>Responsibilities of Sponsors under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees</u> (PSR) <u>Program</u>

Date: Friday July 10, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm EDT

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3396273078893001231

<u>How to Prepare a Successful Application Package under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program</u>

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm EDT

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2697253063976292879

<u>How to Submit a Refugee Sponsorship Application to ROC-O Via Email and Updating Applications After Submission</u>

Date: Thursday, July 16, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm EDT

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2465440828469040399

<u>Preparing for Arrival and Providing Post-Arrival Support: Handling Unrealistic Expectations and Practicing Ethical Consideration</u>

Date: Tuesday July 21, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm EDT

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7391787283556649743

Preparing and Transitioning to Month 13

Date: Tuesday July 28, 2020 **Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm EDT

Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5098608449271709455

Subscribe to RSTP's Email List

Subscribe to the RSTP email list by clicking here to receive the latest updates on how COVID-19 is affecting refugee sponsorship/resettlement to Canada, as well as to get the details of all of our upcoming online trainings, workshops and webinars as soon as they are posted.

Have Questions? Contact Your Nearest RSTP Trainer

RSTP Trainers are available to provide online workshops and webinars, assistance and support to refugee sponsors.

To find your nearest RSTP Trainer, and the contact details of other RSTP staff, please <u>click here</u>.

How to Submit a PSR Application to ROC-O Via Email

If you are submitting a new PSR sponsorship application to ROC-O, you are strongly advised to do so <u>via</u> email.

Please ensure that all new PSR applications are complete, and all the required forms and supporting documents are included with the application package, as currently there are no exemptions from the application requirements for new PSR applications being submitted to ROC-O.

Detailed instructions on how to submit an application to ROC-O via email can be found in the guides for <u>SAHs</u>, <u>Groups of Five</u> and <u>Community Sponsors</u>.

A video explaining how to prepare and submit an refugee sponsorship application to ROC-O via email can be found here.



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