

RSTP Bulletin

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

Inquiries

You Asked

When will travel resume from X country?

Answer

IRCC's ability to book travel for refugees sponsored to Canada under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR), the Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR), the Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS) and the Government Assisted Refugee (GAR) programs is still limited.

IRCC is currently only able to arrange travel for sponsored refugees who are [exempt from the travel restrictions](#) (i.e. those whose applications have [been approved and are in possession of a permanent resident visa that was issued on or before March 18, 2020](#)).

The situation in most countries of asylum is unpredictable and is constantly evolving. However, IRCC is continuously monitoring the unique conditions in each country and will resume travel from a particular country when the following four criteria are met:

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

Once the above four conditions have been met, sponsors will be contacted by the Resettlement Operations Centre – Ottawa (ROC-O) via email to confirm that:

- They are able to welcome and support the refugees they have sponsored;
- They have made suitable arrangements to ensure the refugees are able to comply with [entry requirements](#) for persons arriving in 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 will resume at different times throughout the year.

Further information about the travel resumption process, the restrictions and the entry requirements can be found [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

You Asked

Should we submit our refugee sponsorship application to ROC-O via mail or email?

Answer

SAHs, Groups of Five and Community Sponsors are strongly encouraged to submit any new PSR applications to ROC-O [via email](#).

ROC-O currently has limited capacity to process mailed applications and applications submitted via email will be processed quicker compared to those submitted via mail.

To avoid duplication, applications already submitted by mail **should not** be resubmitted by email.

To view a recorded webinar that covers how to submit an application via email in detail, and provides an example of how to structure an application for email submission, please click [here](#).

Meet Gabrielle Jacobs, the RSTP Trainer for Ottawa, Eastern and Northern Ontario!

Gabrielle Jacobs recently joined RSTP as the Trainer for Ottawa, Eastern and Northern Ontario.

Gabrielle recently completed her master's in social work with a focus on community and international development at McGill University. Gabrielle has work and research experience in international and Canadian refugee and asylum issues, housing rights, crisis intervention and trauma.

Originally from Quebec City, Gabrielle is perfectly bilingual and looks forward to working with SAHs, along with their Constituent Groups and co-sponsors, Groups of Five and Community Sponsors based in Ottawa, Eastern and Northern Ontario.

Gabrielle is based at [Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization \(OCISO\)](#) and can be contacted via phone at 343.887.9875 ext. 2417 or 1.877.290.1701 ext. 2417 and via email at [gjacob@rstp.ca](mailto:gjacobs@rstp.ca).



UPCOMING RSTP ONLINE WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canadian Council for Refugees Virtual Meeting for Groups of Five

The **Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR)** is organizing a virtual meeting on **Wednesday October 07, 2020** for those involved in or interested in Group of Five sponsorship.

The meeting is being hosted by the CCR in collaboration with RSTP.

If you are involved in a Group of Five or a Community Sponsor as a potential sponsor or a current/past sponsor, or are someone who supports sponsors and are concerned about the gaps and challenges that Groups of Five and Community Sponsors face in Canada, please register for the meeting using the following link:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJclcequqDMqH9WOOGxXIZ3wx_f7q7hnt-Bs

The meeting is scheduled for 1 hour and will start at:

- 7:00 pm Eastern time
- 8:00 pm Atlantic time
- 6:00 pm Central time
- 5:00 pm Mountain time
- 4:00 PM Pacific time

La rencontre sera bilingue (anglais /français).

Inscrivez-vous ici:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJclcequqDMqH9WOOGxXIZ3wx_f7q7hnt-Bs

September 2020 Monthly Webinars

Preparing and Transitioning to Month 13

Date: Tuesday September 29, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM EDT

Registration: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7917972867966696974>

Upcoming Webinars in French

Le dossier de demande de parrainage

Date: Mardi 29 septembre 2020

Heure: 19 h – 21 h (Heure de l'Est)

Inscription:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMsc-yrrDMiHdW5NvHmKTW4Yguuyr-F>

Online Workshop for CGs and Co-Sponsors of SAHs

Date: Saturday September 26, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 EDT

Registration:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpfuCyvjovHdOHnuprHl9fDjAY49QIMJ2E>

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 [click here](#).

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.



Refugee
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Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

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