

RSTP Bulletin

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



You Asked

Do newcomers sponsored under the PSR program need to report the financial support provided by their sponsors as “income” on their tax return?

Answer

The financial support provided by sponsors to newcomers sponsored under the PSR program is generally considered to be a “gift” by the CRA; does not need to be reported as “income” on the newcomers tax return; and, is not considered to be taxable income if the money is given voluntarily and is not provided in exchange for any service, property or obligation.

For further information on what is considered to be a “gift” by the CRA, please [click here](#).

For information on free virtual tax clinics that sponsored newcomers can use to assist them with filing their tax return, please [click here](#).

You Asked

Do newcomers sponsored under the BVOR program need to report the financial support provided by the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) and their sponsors as “income” on their tax return?

Answer

The financial support provided by the RAP to newcomers sponsored under the BVOR program is generally considered to be a “gift” by the CRA and is not considered to be taxable income.

However, whilst the financial support from the RAP is not taxable, it must be reported to the CRA by including the [T5007 Statement of Benefits](#) received by the newcomer with their tax return.

The financial support provided by sponsors to newcomers sponsored under the BVOR program is generally considered to be a “gift” by the CRA; does not need to be reported as “income” on the newcomers tax return; and, is not considered to be taxable income if the money is given voluntarily and is not provided in exchange for any service, property or obligation.

For further information on what is considered to be a “gift” by the CRA, please [click here](#).

For information on free virtual tax clinics that sponsored newcomers can use to assist them with filing their tax return, please [click here](#).

You Asked

When a sponsored refugee arrives in Canada, is the 3-day stay at the government-authorized hotel included in the 14-day quarantine period?

Answer

The 3-day stay at the government-authorized hotel is included within the 14-day quarantine period (so the refugees would quarantine for a minimum of 11 days when they arrive at their final destination).

However, if provincial public health guidelines require travellers to quarantine for 14 days when they arrive in the province (as is the case in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick), the refugees will be required to quarantine for 3 days at the government-authorized hotel and for an additional 14 days when they arrive at their final destination (so the total minimum quarantine period will be 17 days).

VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS WITH IRCC

IRCC will be hosting a series of virtual engagement meetings with sponsors across Canada to talk about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sponsors as well as refugees being sponsored.

IRCC would like to better understand the community experience, challenges and successes that sponsors have encountered with regards to sponsoring refugees during the pandemic. IRCC will also be sharing updates, including on how the pandemic has impacted the processing of applications in Canada and at missions overseas.

Kindly note that case specific questions will not be answered during the meetings, but IRCC will be engaging with sponsors and seeking feedback on several issues.

Groups of Five & Community Sponsors

Atlantic Region (NB, NL, PEI and NS)

Date: Monday March 22, 2021
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM ADT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

British Columbia

Date: Wednesday March 24, 2021
Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM PDT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

Ontario

Date: Monday March 29, 2021
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

Central and Western Canada (MB, SK and AB)

Date: Wednesday March 31, 2021
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM MDT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

SAHs, Constituent Groups & Co-Sponsors

Atlantic Region (NB, NL, PEI and NS)

Date: Wednesday April 07, 2021
Time: 2:00PM – 4:00PM ADT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

Ontario

Date: Thursday April 08, 2021
Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM EDT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

Central and Western Canada (MB, SK and AB)

Date: Monday April 12, 2021
Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM MDT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

British Columbia

Date: Wednesday April 14, 2021
Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM PDT
Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://gotowebinar.com)

RSTP WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

For the details of upcoming online workshops and webinars in March 2021, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

