

# RSTP Bulletin

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

## Updated RAP Rate sheets now available

New Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) rates are coming into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. We are actively working on updating RSTP's calculator to reflect the new rates and require some more time to test and trouble shoot the tool before it can be published. In the meantime, to assist sponsors in planning for the new year, IRCC's new RAP Rates are now published on the RSTP website [here](#). For the new RAP (PAR) rates in French, please visit our site [here](#).



## You Asked

**What criteria does the visa office consider in determining which sponsorship case file is selected in queue/for review? Is the principle of first-in first-out (FIFO) applied in processing cases?**

### Answer

Yes, the principle of first in, first out is the primary principle for processing in the PSR caseload. In very rare circumstances, where the vulnerability of the client or where there is an emergent protection requirement usually associated with refoulement, usually flagged by UNHCR, IRCC will prioritize those cases. The Minister's office may request to prioritize the resettlement of populations using a public policy. Please note that the UNHCR only flags GAR cases, for PSR cases, the sponsors must attach additional documentation to the application to flag the case.

For more detailed information regarding **Cases for Priority or Special Processing**, please visit the Government of Canada website: [HERE](#)

To understand how "vulnerable" cases may be defined and for examples of some emergent protection needs/requirements, please read our document: [HERE](#)

## You Asked

**Checking one's application status on the government website does not seem to work or have any useful information. Is there a better solution for refugees who are concerned for the delay in their application?**

### Answer

Processing times have been made worse during the pandemic. IRCC are aware that much of the information online regarding processing times is out of date. They (IRCC) are actively working with colleagues in their department to see how they can better reflect those challenges into the stated published processing times.

The online tool provides a general idea of where your application might be at but not where it might be in terms of the refugee processing stage. If you still have not received information about where your application is at **after 6 months**, please contact the IRCC Call Center.

They can and do follow up with missions for updates and they are the most reliable resource available to sponsors at this time. As you can appreciate, the inquiries within all levels of the department are through the roof. At this time, the call center is the best available information that we collectively have access to right now.

**Call the IRCC Call Centre (1-888-242-2100)**, from within Canada only, Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm local time, except for statutory holidays).

**To check the status of your application, visit:**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/check-status.html>

(Please note – some of the information in this week's Questions and Answers were taken directly from the 2021 SAH Conference FAQ session notes with IRCC).

# UPCOMING RSTP ONLINE TRAINING WEBINARS

## Monthly Webinar Series



### Completing a Successful Sponsorship Year

What exactly happens at the end of the sponsorship year? Join this interactive webinar and learn with Aliya's group and Samuel's family as they plan how to work towards Samuel and Estelle's independence and complete the 12 months of sponsorship!

**Date:** Wednesday November 24, 2021

**Time:** 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM MST

**Registration:** [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://www.gotowebinar.com)

### **Sponsors – awaiting the imminent arrival of the person(s) you've sponsored?**

Our RSTP team member, May Amouri, is ready to connect you with a settlement worker in your area. Settlement workers can provide assistance to you and the refugee(s) entering their new community, from employment supports, language assessment and training to assisting in making valuable community connections such as conversation circles and volunteer matching and more.

Contact May Amouri today at: [mamouri@rstp.ca](mailto:mamouri@rstp.ca)

## Workshops for Groups of 5 & Community Sponsors (Virtual)

### Introduction to the Group of 5 Sponsorship – Part 1 (RSTP in partnership with HMC Connections)

**Date:** Monday November 22, 2021

**Time:** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM EST

**Registration:** [Zoom](#)

### Post-Arrival Budget Calculation & Assurance Activities (G5 & CS)

**Date:** Wednesday November 24, 2021

**Time:** 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

**Registration:** [Zoom](#)

### Post-Arrival Matters of Fulfilling Settlement Obligations (G5 & CS)

**Date:** Wednesday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**Time:** 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

**Registration:** [Zoom](#)

### Advanced: Preparing and Submitting a Group of 5 Application – Part 2

**Date:** Tuesday December 7, 2021

**Time:** 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM EST

**Registration:** [Zoom](#)

Please note: this workshop is hosted in partnership with the Halton Multicultural Council (HMC Connections)



Refugee  
Sponsorship  
Training  
Program

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