

RSTP Bulletin

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

The Deadline for Filing Tax Returns is Almost Here!

The deadline for filing taxes for most people and making any payments is **April 30, 2022**. However, as the deadline falls on a Saturday, returns will be considered filed on time if the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) receives it on or before May 02, 2022, or if the return is postmarked on or before May 02, 2022.

It is very important for sponsored newcomers to file a tax return by this deadline, even if they have recently arrived in Canada and do not have any income. Filing a tax return will enable the CRA to determine whether the newcomers are eligible for the GST/HST credit, the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) and any other tax rebates from provincial or territorial programs.



You Asked

Do newcomers sponsored under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program need to report the financial support provided by 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](#).

You Asked

Do newcomers sponsored under the Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) program need to report

the financial support provided by IRCC’s Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) and sponsors as “income” on their tax return?

Answer

The financial support provided by IRCC’s 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 a newcomer receives from 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](#).

You Asked

Are there services that can assist sponsored newcomers with filing their tax return?

Answer

Many settlement agencies and community organizations host free tax clinics for newcomers and individuals with low income through the CRA’s Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP). To find a tax clinic, please [click here](#).

UPCOMING RSTP ONLINE TRAINING WEBINARS

Monthly Webinar Series

Fulfilling your Obligations through Assurance

Date: April 26, 2022

Time: 2:00 – 3:00 PM (EDT)

Registration: [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1142804220692040460)

Completing a Successful Sponsorship Year

Date: April 28, 2022

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 PM (EDT)

Registration: Registration (Gotowebinar.com)
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1142804220692040460>

For Constituent Groups and Co-Sponsors of SAHs

Private Sponsorship of Refugees webinar for CG's and Co-Sponsors of SAHs

Date: April 30, 2022

Time: 2:00 PM (EDT)

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

For Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) Only

Proactive Succession Planning

Date: May 10, 2022

Time: 2:00 PM (EDT)

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



Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) Training

Info Session – Becoming a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH)

Webinar participants will receive information on the eligibility requirements and application process to become a SAH, as well as how to be added to the mandatory training course, and will have an opportunity to ask questions.

If your organization intends to apply to become a SAH in 2022, please complete the online [Organization Pre-assessment Form](#) | [Formulaire de pré-évaluation des organisations](#)

Date: May 16, 2022

Time: 11:00 AM (EDT)

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

Open to all

Welcoming Newcomers. They're Here, Now What?

Date: April 26, 2022

Time: 4:30 – 6:30 PM (Atlantic Time)

Registration: [Zoom](#)

Post-Arrival Budget Calculations

Date: April 30, 2022

Time: 12:30 – 2:30 PM (Atlantic Time)

Registration: [Zoom](#)

