

# BULLETIN

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

## FAQ

### IS A REFUGEE EXEMPT FROM PROVIDING BIOMETRICS IF THEY WERE UNDER 14 WHEN THEIR FAMILY'S REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION WAS SUBMITTED (EVEN IF THEY'RE OVER 14 BY THE TIME THE FAMILY IS CALLED FOR BIOMETRICS)?

Refugees between the ages of 14 – 79 that are being sponsored for resettlement to Canada must provide their biometrics. This includes biographic data, such as their name, date of birth and other personal details, 10 fingerprints and a digital photograph.

Biometrics will be collected during the application process and may be collected at Visa Application Centres (VACs) and, in limited situations, IRCC Visa Offices. For refugees that are being sponsored for resettlement to Canada, they will typically be collected at the interview.

For biometrics purposes, the age of the applicant is based on the date the application is received by IRCC. If a refugee is 13 years old when the application is submitted to the Resettlement Operations Centre – Ottawa (ROC-O), they will not be required to provide biometrics. However, if the refugee is 14 years old when the application is received by ROC-O, they will be required to provide biometrics.

For more information on biometrics, please [click here](#).

### OCASI PRESENTS: ENHANCING REFUGEE SUPPORT THROUGH TRAUMA-INFORMED TRAINING

The **Trauma and Violence Informed Approach (TVIA)** self-directed training course is designed for settlement workers and social service providers. This online course offers a comprehensive understanding of fundamental principles, basic concepts, and evidence-based strategies to serve individuals who have experienced trauma and violence effectively.

Key Objectives:

- Define trauma, violence, and violence-informed approaches (TVIA).
- Recognize signs and symptoms of trauma while working with immigrant and refugee communities.
- Apply TVIA principles to practical situations.
- Analyze the effects of vicarious trauma and develop self-care strategies.

Participants, including settlement workers and service providers engaged in the immigrant and refugee-serving sector in Ontario, will:

- Dedicate approximately 2-4 hours per week for learning.
- Engage in discussions on SettleNet.org, a new national online community for the settlement sector.
- Complete assignments within specified timeframes.




Upon successful completion, participants will receive a certification of completion from OCASI. Registration deadline is **September 13, 2023**. This course offers a valuable opportunity to enhance skills and knowledge in trauma-informed approaches, benefitting professionals and their communities.

[INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE? CLICK HERE](#)

### ENSURING SMOOTH TRANSITION FOR YOUR SPONSORED NEWCOMERS

As you reflect on your sponsorship journey, have you ensured that the newcomers you support are seamlessly transitioning into Canadian life by Month 13? Did you successfully meet your sponsorship goals? Celebrated accomplishments and even areas that could have been improved?

**Private Refugee Sponsor Network of Ontario** invites sponsors to attend a training session aimed at equipping you with the tools to perform a comprehensive needs assessment for your sponsored newcomers. It features our very own **Michelle Ndizeye**, RSTP Trainer from Ottawa, who will guide you through ensuring you've covered all the crucial aspects contributing to newcomers' success.

 Sat Sep 23, 2023  
 10 AM – 12 PM  
 via Online

Session Highlights:

- Gain insights into compelling needs assessment techniques
- Ensure all essential aspects are addressed for newcomers' success
- Engage in 30-minute breakout sessions for valuable information-sharing with fellow sponsors

[TO REGISTER FOR THE WORKSHOP SEND AN EMAIL TO INFO@REFUGEESSPONSORNET.CA](#)

## UPCOMING RSTP WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

### MASTERING GROUP OF FIVE APPLICATION FORMS: ALL ABOUT PREPARING APPLICATION FORMS

Join us for an illuminating webinar where you'll learn the ins and outs of submitting a successful application. Delve into preparing a Group of Five application, focusing on the essential forms and documents for sponsors and sponsored refugees.

 What You'll Learn:

- Step-by-step breakdown of the application process
- Required forms and documentation for sponsors
- Essential paperwork for sponsored refugees

Date: September 7th, 2023  
 Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM MDT  
 Virtually: via GoToWebinar

[REGISTER HERE](#)



### SEPTEMBER MONTHLY WEBINARS

**12th** BEFORE YOU APPLY TO SPONSOR

**14th** PREPARING A SETTLEMENT PLAN

**19th** PREPARING A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

**21st** PREPARING FOR ARRIVAL AND ORIENTATION

**26th** FULFILLING YOUR OBLIGATIONS THROUGH ASSURANCE

**28th** COMPLETING A SUCCESSFUL SPONSORSHIP YEAR

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS](#)