

RSTP Bulletin

The latest news and updates on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program

Inquiries

You Asked

Should the payment for the one-time Start-Up Costs be given to the newcomers in a lump sum payment or can the payment be spread out over the first few months of the sponsorship period?

Answer

Sponsors are recommended to provide the payment for the one-time Start-Up Costs in a lump sum payment and sponsors should provide guidance to the newcomers on the specific amounts that are to be allocated for certain items and provide the newcomers with assistance with purchasing those items when they are required.

For example, if the newcomers arrive in the spring or summer, sponsors would still issue the Winter Clothing Allowance as part of the payment for the one-time Start-Up Costs and inform them of the amount that needs to be set aside for the purchase of winter clothing later on in the sponsorship period and assist them with purchasing winter clothing items when they are required.

REMINDER! Even though the one-time Start-Up Costs is issued in a lump sum payment to the newcomers, the monthly income support should be issued on a monthly basis.

You Asked

Is the Dietary Allowance to be given to each newcomer in the family that requires a special diet as a result of a medical condition?

Answer

The monthly \$75 Dietary Allowance is issued per family if they provide a doctor or nurse's note indicating that one or more of the family members on file have a medical condition that requires a special diet.

If there is more than one member of the family on file that requires a special diet as a result of a medical condition, the family would still receive a Dietary Allowance of \$75 per month (as it is issued per family). For further information on the Dietary Allowance, please [click here](#).

You Asked

Once sponsors get notice of travel can they use the funds held-in trust to purchase start-up items such as mattresses?

Answer

Yes. Any purchases that are made in preparation of the arrival of the refugees can then be used to reduce the payment for the one-time Start-Up Costs using in-kind deductions.

Sponsors are recommended to keep receipts for any items that were purchased in advance of the refugees' arrival as they may be required to submit [copies of these receipts to IRCC to demonstrate what goods or items were provided in-kind by the sponsoring group](#).

You Asked

When are the Maternity Food Allowance, the Maternity Clothing Allowance and the Newborn Allowance to be issued?

Answer

The monthly \$75 Maternity Food Allowance is to be issued upon receipt of a doctor or nurse's note confirming the pregnancy. The monthly Maternity Food Allowance is to be issued from the date of receipt of the medical note until the end of the due date month or until the end of the sponsorship period (whichever comes first).

The one-time \$200 Maternity Clothing Allowance is to be issued upon receipt of a doctor or nurse's note confirming the pregnancy to assist with the purchase of maternity clothing.

The one-time \$750 Newborn Allowance should be issued two months prior to the due date indicated on the medical note.

The Newborn Allowance should also be issued for all pregnancies with due dates up to two months after the sponsorship period ends.

For twins, or multiple births, the Newborn Allowance is to be issued per newborn.

For more information about maternity-related allowances, please [click here](#).

The Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS) Program

Many JAS Refugees are waiting to be sponsored!

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-0023

LOCATION: Toronto, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Iraq

FAMILY SIZE: 2

Two sisters, a 28 year old and an 11 year old, arrived in January 2018. The sisters have been residing together since arrival and the younger sister is under the care of the older sister. The older sister has received counselling from a mental health counsellor and she struggles with English classes due to her education level. The younger sister is currently attending school.

A sponsor would be very helpful with assisting the sisters to settle in Canada and provide social and emotional support, as well as providing the older sister with an opportunity to practice her English and develop skills that will help support them both.

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-0594

LOCATION: Toronto, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Mali

FAMILY SIZE: 7

A family of seven with a father, mother and their five children. Three of the children have intellectual disabilities that require medical support and specialized schooling. The family speaks Tamasheq, a rare dialect that makes it difficult to find interpreters.

A sponsor would help the family improve their life skills and integration in Canada; help them better navigate the Canadian health care system; and, provide transportation or assist with public transportation so the children are able to attend their medical appointments.

IN-CANADA JAS PROFILE #: 19-1097

LOCATION: London, ON

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria

FAMILY SIZE: 1

A single newcomer woman who is a survivor of the war. The newcomer suffered extensive burns when her home burned down in Syria. The newcomer has the lost function of her fingers in one hand and her hearing is impaired in one ear, however, she remains resilient and positive. The newcomer has met with an audiologist since arriving in Canada and will require a hearing aid for her ear. The newcomer does not have any friends or family with her and often feels isolated as a result of her medical conditions.

As such, the emotional and social support of a sponsor would assist the applicant integrate into her new community. Additionally, the applicant is eager to learn English and the informal practice offered by a sponsor would increase her confidence in accessing more services and making new friends. A sponsor would also be able to assist the newcomer with her medical appointments and help her gain the confidence to navigate the Canadian healthcare system.

Refugees sponsored under the **Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)** program have special or enhanced needs that will likely result in a longer or more difficult period of integration in Canada due to:

- **Trauma from violence or torture;**
- **Medical disabilities;**
- **The effects of systemic discrimination; or,**
- **Being a large family unit (such as a single parent with several children).**

Under the JAS program, the government and private sponsors support refugees for up to 24 months, depending on the needs of the resettled refugee. In a few cases, the private sponsor may support refugees for up to 36 months. These refugees receive income support from the Government of Canada. They are matched with a private sponsorship group to help them adjust to life in Canada with settlement help and emotional support.

Some refugees are identified overseas for the JAS program due to their special needs. Others are converted into JAS cases after they arrive in Canada if it becomes clear that they need more support.

*** JAS Refugee Profiles can only be picked up by SAHs and their Constituent Groups (CGs)**



For more information about a particular JAS profile or the JAS Program, please [click here](#)

RSTP WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS!

Upcoming Workshops

Application Forms Clinics for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors

Date: Saturday November 23, 2019 (Sponsor Forms)

Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM MST

Location: Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, 1111-11 Ave SW, Room 315, Calgary, AB, T2R 0G5

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/group-of-five-and-community-sponsorship-form-clinic-tickets-77348839461>

Sponsoring Refugees as a Group of Five or a Community Sponsor

Date: Monday November 25, 2019

Time: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM MST

Location: Catholic Social Services, 8212 118 Ave, Edmonton, AB, T5B 0S3

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/private-sponsorship-of-refugees-groups-of-five-and-community-sponsors-tickets-79384867275?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Upcoming Webinars in French

Qui peut être parrainé en tant que réfugié? Qui peut parrainer des réfugiés?

Date: Lundi 25 novembre 2019

Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE

Inscription:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5010722280400257547>

Les étapes d'une demande de parrainage de réfugiés et les personnes-ressources clés

Date: Mardi 17 décembre 2019

Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE

Inscription:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4181903818313356043>

Pleins feux sur les responsabilités des groupes qui parrainent des réfugiés

Date: Mardi 7 janvier 2020

Time: 13 h à 14 h HNE

Inscription:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4004254625102046987>

SAVE THE DATE!

Workshop for SAHs in London

Date: Monday December 09, 2019

Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm EST

Registration: TBA

Upcoming Webinars with IRCC for SAHs

IRCC's Case Review Process (Part 1)

Date: Monday January 13, 2020

Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm EST

Registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1352876892629043201>

IRCC's Case Review Process (Part 2)

Date: Monday January 20, 2020

Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm EST

Registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/820617607273849089>

Our Monthly Webinar Series for Nov. 2019 is Underway!

In our monthly webinar series, we:

- Explain who can sponsor and who can be sponsored under the PSR program;
- Go through how to complete the application forms; and,
- Share best practices for settlement, how to transition to Month 13 and more!

For more information and to register, please [click here](#). Missed this month's series? The series will be repeated each month until March 2020!



Refugee
Sponsorship
Training
Program



CCS
Catholic Crosscultural Services



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada