

RSTP Bulletin

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



Online Calculator is Live!

The Minimum Financial Support or RAP Calculator is now available online. Click [HERE](#) to use it.

You Asked

I've been asked about the money for adult-aged children living with the family being deposited into separate bank accounts. If the sponsors and family (including the adult-aged children) discuss and agree that it is more appropriate from their perspective for all the family support money to be in one account, would that be acceptable from IRCC's perspective?

Our Answer

This will be acceptable as long as the **total amount meets the required RAP rates** and the **adult child has access** to the money.

Although not covered in the [Private Sponsorship of Refugees \(PSR\) Program FAQs Post-arrival Financial Support for PSRs](#), sponsoring groups who choose to provide the monthly financial support for the entire family unit by transferring money into one bank account should make sure that the adult dependent is able to access the money in that account. You may want to ask:

- Does the adult dependent have access to this bank account (whether it is a joint account, or the adult dependent has access to the card);
- Is the adult dependent able to cash out, without depending on his/her parent to authorize that money for him/her (making sure that adult dependent has the autonomy to budget and manage their funds in line with their monthly expenses);
- Are the parents or guardians aware of the breakdown of financial support for the family, including the amount allocated to the adult dependent and that it should be used for the expenses of that child;
- Partway through the sponsorship period if any of the adults determine that this arrangement is no longer working for them, the sponsors would need to re-evaluate their approach.

The sponsoring group may also want to review their financial commitments on a monthly basis to correspond with any changes to the family's situation that may affect financial support entitlements and keep records of the cheques, e-transfers, or other traceable payment methods that they have used to provide the financial support.

You Asked

We have received an application for a single 24-year-old woman who is applying with a dependant 16-year-old brother. The CG has prepared just one **Undertaking**, and on the **Generic form** under 'Relationship to PA' has clicked on "Brother or sister". Is this the correct way to submit this application?

Our Answer

In the case of a 16 year old who is dependent on his 24 year old sister, **TWO completely separate applications** are required. The 16 year old would be the **"de facto dependent"** of his 24 year old sister. In this case, it's important to know the following:

- 1) This requires two completely separate application packages. And, **every single form must be completed separately**. Each person is a Principal Applicant of their own application, as they do not meet IRCC's definition of a "family".
- 2) **These applications could be linked (Undertaking, Section E)**.
- 3) It is very important to provide as much evidence as possible to prove the **emotional and/or financial dependency** of the 16-year-old child on his 24 year old sister. Explaining this in a cover letter and providing any supporting documents can assist.
- 4) Since these are two entirely separate applications, **each PA has to meet the eligibility and admissibility requirements** in their own right. If both of them are accepted, they will be resettled together.
- 5) Please note that the 16 year old and the 24 year old will be each be considered to be a **family size of one** for the purpose of calculating the financial requirements and sponsorship space allocations. For more info, click [here](#).

Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)

Many JAS refugees waiting to be sponsored!

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**

school-related and medical appointments; and, help them navigate and complete day-to-day errands. A sponsor could also assist the children with their homework; provide occasional babysitting in order for the parents to engage in language and skill development programs; and, help the family navigate their settlement process and achieve financial independence.



Including

JAS PROFILE #: 19-0898

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria

COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE: Lebanon

FAMILY SIZE: 4

Background: Family of four from Syria comprised of the father, his spouse and their two children. The father is 46 and has 21 years of formal education, holds a Master's Degree in Biochemistry, speaks English and has worked as a pharmacist. The spouse has six years of education and has worked as a makeup artist. The family cannot return to their country of origin due to fear of persecution based on imputed political opinion. They have no contacts in Canada and may benefit from the support of a sponsor in their community of settlement.

Special needs: Their youngest son suffers from a medical condition which requires intensive medical treatment and special care.

Support needed: A sponsor could: help with socio-psychological and emotional support; help them attend various

JAS PROFILE #: 19-0948

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Syria
COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE: Lebanon
FAMILY SIZE: 13

Background: This 62-year-old father is accompanied by his wife and 11 children. Both parents have limited education, but have experience as farmers. The eldest children currently work to help support the family, and therefore don't go to school.

Special needs: Due to the large size of this family and taking into account the father and the mother's limited education, the family would benefit from additional support. As well, the father has an adult daughter who requires total care.

Support needed: As the dependent daughter relies on a wheelchair for mobility, the sponsor could help with finding needed accommodations. A sponsor could encourage the eldest children to resume their education rather than seeking immediate employment. The family should be resettled in or around Toronto, ON, where they have a contact.



In-Canada JAS refugees

In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 19-0590
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: London, ON
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Colombia
FAMILY SIZE: 3

Background: This single mother with two children (8 and 4) is originally from Colombia, but had been a refugee in Ecuador.

Special needs: The mother has a chronic epilepsy condition. While she can easily integrate into Canadian society, she requires help with her children and extra support for her medical condition.

Support needed: A sponsor could provide: social and emotional support; help in attending medical and school appointments; occasional shopping support; some life skills mentoring; and, support managing the activities and education of the children. A sponsor could also: help her practice English; learn the skills to manage her family independently; provide a network to help with her integration; and, help the children develop confidence.

For more information about the JAS Refugee Profile or the JAS Program, visit the RSTP website's [JAS page](#)

UPCOMING RSTP WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS



Workshops

Submitting a Group of Five Sponsorship: What Does It Take?

This workshop covers all the steps in preparing a Group of Five Sponsorship: finding the correct forms; filling them out properly; and including appropriate information.

Date: Monday, September 30, 2019

Time: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM CST

Where: St. Thomas Wesley United Church, 808 – 20th Street West, Saskatoon, SK S7M 0Y3 (White Doors)

For registration, please contact: Helen Smith-McIntyre (RSTP Trainer) at Tel: 306-343-8303 or Email: hsmithmcintyre@rstp.ca.

Private Refugee Sponsorship and Family Reunification

The topics to be covered include: Who can be sponsored; the sponsorship process; financial responsibilities; and, settlement responsibilities.

Date: Thursday, October 3, 2019

Time: 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM ADT

Where: Association for New Canadians, 75 Tiffany Court (Lower part of building), St. John's NL

For registration, please contact Kate Simms (Association for New Canadians) at ksimms@ancnl.ca.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/>



Webinars

Webinar with IRCC on Financial Responsibilities for Groups of Five and Community Sponsors

This webinar will review sponsors' financial responsibilities; examine the relationship between the Sponsorship Cost Table/In-Kind Deduction Table and the RAP Rates; provide an overview of the RAP Rates and a demonstration on how to use them to calculate the minimum level of financial support required on arrival; and, an in-depth look at the FAQs on Post-Arrival Financial Support.

Date: Monday, September 30, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Registration Link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5839987142677872396>

The PSR Program: Preparing for Month 13

Topics covered: when should sponsors start preparing for Month 13; what to consider when preparing newcomers for Month 13; services available for sponsored newcomers in Month 13; evaluating the sponsorship; and, the post-sponsorship relationship. Registration

Date: Monday, September 30, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Registration Link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5839987142677872396>



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada