



ORAT

Office for Refugees
Archdiocese of Toronto

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your interest in the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program.

The Archdiocese of Toronto's Office for Refugees (ORAT) is aware and deeply concerned about the situation of refugees around the world. We understand that you wish to obtain help to sponsor a family member, or wish to be resettled to Canada yourself. We know the situation is not easy, and our hope is that the information provided in this email will guide you through the resettlement process, and provide you with other options that you may wish to explore.

ORAT is a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH). We work with Cosponsors and Constituent Groups (CG) throughout the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto to resettle refugees to Canada. A cosponsor can be either a friend or a relative who is willing and able to secure the full financial liability needed to assist a refugee during their first year of arrival to Canada. Cosponsors also commit to welcoming and journeying with the refugee, assisting them with their integration to Canada.

For Refugees in Need of Sponsorship: It is the refugee's responsibility to contact and/or find a cosponsor that is willing to help with their resettlement. If a cosponsor lives outside of the Archdiocese of Toronto (roughly the Greater Toronto Area), we suggest that the refugee, along with the cosponsor, look up a SAH in their respective community. A list of SAHs is available by clicking on the following link: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/sponsor/list-sponsors.asp>.

For Cosponsors: Cosponsors, who wish to sponsor a family member that is in need of refugee resettlement, are encouraged to visit our website at www.orat.ca to find out if we are accepting applications. Submission of a case requires available spots, which are provided to each SAH annually by the Ministry of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The number of spots indicates the number of refugees that a SAH can submit sponsorship applications for in any given year. Each year, ORAT runs a program for members of the General Public who wish to sponsor a family member. We schedule an online registration for this program in the back half of each year. Program details are announced on our website in advance of the registration. Given the high demand for refugee sponsorship, we conduct a random draw of registered cases. Those fortunate enough to be selected are invited to attend the Introduction to Resettlement information session. Attendance at the session marks the first step for those who wish to sponsor a refugee through ORAT.

Other Important Notes: Please note that our office assists with the sponsorship of refugees from a variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds. A refugee does not have to be Roman Catholic or a Christian to be resettled through ORAT.

The cost of sponsorship is determined by IRCC. The forecasted financial liability varies by family size and assumes a two-year processing time. Since we are not provided with any forward visibility to the cost of sponsorship, we have applied a 5% compounded annual increase to the current cost of sponsorship. The figures are presented in the table below:

| Family Size | Estimated Sponsorship Cost Assumes a 3 Year Average Processing Time Between Submission and Arrival | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | \$ 18,900 | Dependent Adults: Based on an Average Processing Time of 3 years, and using Immigration Canada's ("IRCC") definition, all unmarried children age 15 to 21 will be considered as dependent adults. For the purposes of IRCC forms, dependent adults are considered as part of the family unit, and are to be included in the one set of forms for the family. However, IRCC treats dependent adults differently from a financial perspective, requiring additional monies to be provided for every dependent adult in the family. For example: The finances required for a family of 4 (father, mother, one child age 12, and one child age 18) are to be calculated as a family of 3 + 1 (\$29,900+\$18,900=\$48,800) and not as a family of 4 (\$32,500). Please take this into consideration when calculating the total cost of sponsorship. |
| 2 | \$ 27,900 | |
| 3 | \$ 29,900 | |
| 4 | \$ 32,500 | |
| 5 | \$ 35,000 | |
| 6 | \$ 36,800 | |
| 7 of more, for each additional member add | \$1,500 | |
| | | Seniors: When sponsoring a senior(s) (age 62 or older) you will be asked to deposit additional funds, in accordance with RAP policy. Note: If, at or prior to the time of arrival, financial liabilities (RAP Rates) are higher than the estimated figures presented herein, cosponsors will be required to deposit additional funds with the Archdiocese of Toronto. |

Additional Funds Required for Seniors

| Single Senior <i>(Without Dependents)</i> | Single Senior <i>(With Dependents)</i> | Couple (1 Senior) <i>(With or Without Dependents)</i> | Couple (2 Seniors) <i>(With or Without Dependents)</i> |
|--|--|---|--|
| \$ 5,800 | \$ 8,100 | \$ 8,300 | \$ 13,200 |
| The funds required to sponsor a senior or seniors is to be added to the sponsorship cost for the corresponding family size outlined in the Sponsorship Cost Table. | | | |

The full liability is to be deposited with the Archdiocese of Toronto prior to the submission of the case to IRCC. These monies are held in trust for the refugee and are intended to support the refugee for a period of one year after their arrival to Canada. Please note that these monies can come from a variety of sources but they cannot come from the refugee themselves. Should the case be withdrawn by the Principal Applicant (refugee) or be rejected by the Canadian Migration Officer, deposited monies will be returned to the cosponsor.

Refugee resettlement is just one of many ways that refugees can immigrate to Canada. Only a very small number of refugees immigrate to Canada under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees program. If you have a refugee recognition certificate from UNHCR, you may consider looking into the Groups of 5, or Community Sponsorship streams of the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program. For more information on these programs please click on the following link:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/sponsor/index.asp>

Also, we encourage you to explore other immigration options. Please check the following IRCC link for more information about other options that are available:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/index.asp>

We hope you find the above information useful.

The ORAT Team