



Are you a privately sponsored refugee?

Here are answers to a few questions you may have about sponsorship and costs.

PSR

- 1) **My sponsor asked me to pay money toward the processing of my refugee application. Should I pay? You are interested in resettling to Canada and your application has received an initial review by Canadian officials. Now you are probably wondering what will happen next. This bulletin provides information about the next steps in the process and gives you more information about Canada.**

No one should ask you for any money to cover the cost of your sponsorship. You do not have to pay anyone to process your application.

Note: Quebec has its own process to sponsor refugees. This means that the rules private sponsors in Quebec must follow are different from the rest of Canada. If your sponsor is from Quebec and you have questions, contact [Immigration, Diversité et Inclusion](#). This is the part of the Quebec provincial government that deals with immigration.

- 2) **I am a privately sponsored refugee. My sponsor has asked me to pay money to support myself in Canada. Should I pay?**

No, you do not have to pay.

Being a privately sponsored refugee means that a group of people in Canada has volunteered to help you adjust to life here. Your sponsorship group will help you find a place to live, give you food and clothing and financial support. They have made a commitment to support you for one year after you arrive in Canada or until you can support yourself, whichever comes first.

However, sometimes there are refugees who come to Canada with their own money. If you have the money and are able to support yourself, your sponsor may expect you to contribute to your own settlement costs. This could be from funds you've brought to Canada or money you earn during your sponsorship period.

Sponsors will support refugees who need the financial support.

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3) I am coming to Canada as a privately sponsored refugee, and I am bringing some of my own money with me. Does my sponsor get any of this money?

No, you do not need to make any payment for your sponsorship application. However, after you arrive in Canada, sponsors may expect you to contribute to your own settlement costs from the funds you bring with you.

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4) Does the Government of Canada ask private sponsors to collect money from me or my relatives to fund my sponsorship or settlement in Canada?

No, the Government of Canada does **not** charge or collect application fees for refugees to be resettled.

Notices asking you to deposit money that will later be refunded are **false**. They do not come from the Government of Canada.

5) What should I do if I already paid someone money to cover the cost of my refugee sponsorship?

You should contact the person you gave your money to and ask them to return it right away.

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6) What can I expect from my sponsor after I travel to Canada as a refugee?

When you arrive in Canada, your sponsor will welcome you at the airport and help you get settled.

Your sponsor will find a place for you to stay, such as an apartment, house or hotel. Depending on what your sponsor has arranged, this may be a temporary place for you to stay for your first weeks in Canada or a place where you may stay for a much longer period. They will also give you food and clothing.

Your sponsor will answer questions about life in Canada and help you with things such as

- covering the cost of food, rent and household utilities as well as other day-to-day living expenses
- providing clothing, furniture and other household goods (some items may be new and some may be donated by people in your sponsorship group)
- finding an interpreter if you need one
- choosing a family doctor and dentist
- applying for provincial health-care coverage and a social insurance number
- enrolling children in school and adults in language training
- introducing you to people with personal interests similar to yours
- explaining banking services and transportation, etc. and
- helping you look for a job.

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