

Services For Refugees In B.C.

FEDERAL

Settlement services are primarily the responsibility of the federal government.

Under their Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) each government-assisted refugee is eligible for:

- **Income support for up to 1 year:**
 - *Single person, approximately \$8,800/yr*
 - *Single parent with three children, \$14,400/yr*
 - *Family of four with two adults and two dependents, \$16,200/yr*
 - **Resettlement services for the first 4-6 weeks, including:**
 - *Reception services – airport pick-up; coverage of a meal at the airport; transport to temporary housing; information/brochures, etc.*
 - *Temporary accommodation and assistance with permanent accommodations*
 - **Additional allowances:**
 - *Staple – to set up a household with basic food and cleaning supplies. \$175 for a single person, \$400 for family of four*
 - *Furniture – to set up a household with furniture, linens, pots/pans, etc. \$1,330 for a single person, \$2,945 for family of four; the government may provide in-kind support in place of cash payment*
 - *Telephone installation – one-time allowance of \$45*
 - *Clothing – \$325 per adult, \$250 per dependent; additional amounts for winter clothing may be available*
 - *Transportation for medical appointments – \$15 per adult, \$42 per dependent*
 - *Dietary – supplements for clients with specific dietary needs confirmed by doctor or nurse (maximum \$75 per month)*
 - *Maternity – additional monthly food allowance of \$75 and \$200 one-time allowance for clothes for pregnant women*
 - *Newborn – one-time allowance of \$750 for baby supplies*
 - *School start-up – one-time allowance of \$750 for school supplies (ages 4-18 years)*
 - *Funeral – equivalent to social assistance rates*
- **Financial information and planning**
 - **Life skills training**
 - **Interim Federal Health Care**
 - **Canada Child Tax Benefit**

PROVINCIAL

On average, B.C. welcomes 1,600 refugees and 37,000 permanent residents every year.

- **Every new refugee in B.C. is eligible for the following services:**
 - *Health care through the Medical Services Plan:*
 - *Premiums waived for one year*
 - *Enrollment in B.C.'s public schools*
 - *Employment Program of BC – help with getting a job*
 - *Child Care Subsidy – up to \$850 a month*
 - *BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit – up to \$55 per month per child under age 6*
 - *BC Basic Family Bonus – up to \$111 per child per month when combined with the National Child Benefit Supplement*
 - *Student Aid*
- **Since the federal government announced plans to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees into Canada, the Province has provided:**
 - *A \$1 million Refugee Readiness Fund; and,*
 - *\$1 million through the Canada-BC Job grant to help get refugees job training and match them with employers.*
- **The Province also provides \$4 million for newcomers not eligible for federal services to access:**
 - *Orientation and community connections;*
 - *Formal/informal language training and practice; and,*
 - *Trauma counselling for refugee claimants.*



Ministry of
Jobs, Tourism
and Skills Training
and Responsible for Labour