

[The Blended Visa Office Referred \(BVOR\) program](#) resettles refugees identified by UNHCR and submitted to Canadian visa offices. Refugees have already met eligibility and admissibility criteria but must be matched with a sponsor before they can travel to Canada. This sponsorship model is one that connects strangers with one another.

In 2019, Canada has approved the resettlement of 1650 refugees from abroad through the BVOR program. All of these individuals receive full background checks and typically arrive in Canada 2-4 months after matching with a sponsorship group. Upon arrival, the Canadian government pays for 50% of their settlement costs.




On July 8, 2019, in partnership with the South Essex Community Council, WE LIP organized an information meeting facilitated by Emilie Coyle of [The Refugee Hub](#). In attendance were WE LIP Council member organization representatives from the settlement

sector. The meeting, held at the Leamington office of the Greater Essex County District School Board Language Assessment and Resource Centre, provided an opportunity to receive information about the [The Refugee Hub BVOR 2019 Fund](#).


Thanks to generous donations from the Shapiro Foundation and G. Barrie Landry, from **May 2 - August 31, 2019**, qualifying Canadian groups can apply to have the sponsor-side settlement costs through the Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR) program fully covered by the BVOR 2019 Fund (excluding start-up costs). In addition, in 2019, [Sponsorship Agreement Holders \(SAHs\)](#) who qualify can also apply for funds to help with administrative tasks associated with BVOR sponsorship in 2019.

Interested parties can send an Expression of Interest to BVORFund@refugeehub.ca.

Applying to the BVOR fund



- 1** Send Expression of Interest in the form of an email to BVORFund@refugeehub.ca
- 2** Together with your Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH), find a profile through the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP)
- 3** Fill out your BVOR Fund application form with your SAH and submit it to the Refugee Hub (BVORFund@refugeehub.ca)
- 4** Submit your sponsorship application (including letter of guarantee) to Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)
- 5** Advise the Refugee Hub of IRCC's decision (approval or rejection) and send your invoice to BVORFund@refugeehub.ca
- 6** Send your Notice of Arrival from IRCC to the Refugee Hub to allow the cheque to be issued.



The RefugeeHub
Le carrefour des réfugiés