



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Office of Refugee Resettlement | 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201  
[www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr)

## **Youth Mentoring Refugee Support Services Set-Aside: FY 2023 Funding**

Dear Colleague Letter 23-03

October 3, 2022

Dear Colleague:

ORR will issue Youth Mentoring (YM) funding to states<sup>1</sup> as a “set-aside” within the fiscal year (FY) 2023<sup>2</sup> Refugee Support Services (RSS) formula Refugee and Entrant Assistance (REA) allocation. Although ORR issued previous fiscal year funding in the fourth quarter, ORR will issue FY2023 YM funding in the first quarter.

This letter explains ORR’s method of determining YM FY 2023 awards and details the funding amounts, contingent on federal funds available upon final Congressional approval of the FY 2023 Federal Budget. Description of program goals and recommended services, as well as program reporting and monitoring activities, are included in [ORR Policy Letter \(PL\) 22-09, Youth Mentoring Program](#).

### **Qualification for FY 2023 Allocations**

This is the second year of a three-year qualification period for the YM program. States that qualified for funding last year will remain eligible to receive funding for this year and next. In FY 2023, forty-five states whose arrived/served population was above the RSS base formula floor threshold<sup>3</sup> will receive a YM Set-Aside allocation. Current floor states may also see increasing arrivals, and ORR may elect to include additional states in the future depending on arrival patterns and overall availability of funds.

### **Basis for Funding**

The FY 2023 allocations to states are based on the number of ORR-eligible individuals, aged 15-24, who arrived/were served in FY 2020 and FY 2021 (combined), as reported in the ORR-5 and verified against a number of federal sources in the ORR Refugee Arrivals Data System (RADS). ORR will use this two-year lookback period to determine RSS allocations, providing a level of funding stability in response to the variance in arrivals during the relevant time period.

---

<sup>1</sup> “States” throughout this DCL refers to states and replacement designees (RDs) funded to administer RSS.

<sup>2</sup> October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to [RSS DCL 22-19, FY 2022 Refugee Support Services Formula Allocations](#), for listing of RSS base formula floor states.

### FY 2023 Allocations Chart

The chart below documents the number of eligible individuals who arrived/were served in each state in FY 2020 and FY 2021 and the state’s corresponding funding allocation for the YM program for FY 2023. As required under ORR regulation 45 C.F.R. §400.210, these funds must be obligated by September 30, 2024, and must be liquidated by September 30, 2025.

The first quarter award will be a partial award of the amount reflected. ORR will provide the balance of the award pending the final FY 2023 appropriation. All awards are subject to the availability of federal funds.

#### FY 2023 YM Allocation by State

State		
Alaska	5	\$ 65,000
Arizona	442	\$ 446,672
Arkansas	22	\$ 65,000
California	1,855	\$ 1,800,000
Colorado	240	\$ 242,354
Connecticut	63	\$ 100,000
District Of Columbia	58	\$ 100,000
Florida	4,000	\$ 3,250,000
Georgia	264	\$ 266,085
Idaho	116	\$ 116,633
Illinois	309	\$ 312,031
Indiana	125	\$ 125,721
Iowa	94	\$ 115,000
Kansas	73	\$ 115,000
Kentucky	389	\$ 392,648
Louisiana	60	\$ 100,000
Maine	25	\$ 65,000
Maryland	400	\$ 403,924
Massachusetts	221	\$ 222,663
Michigan	348	\$ 351,414
Minnesota	180	\$ 181,766
Missouri	158	\$ 159,045
Montana	17	\$ 65,000
Nebraska	96	\$ 115,000
Nevada	171	\$ 172,677
New Hampshire	36	\$ 79,000
New Jersey	164	\$ 165,609
New Mexico	25	\$ 65,000

New York	619	\$ 625,409
North Carolina	283	\$ 285,271
North Dakota	14	\$ 65,000
Ohio	245	\$ 247,403
Oklahoma	46	\$ 79,000
Oregon	99	\$ 115,000
Pennsylvania	291	\$ 293,350
Rhode Island	30	\$ 79,000
South Carolina	41	\$ 79,000
South Dakota	18	\$ 65,000
Tennessee	146	\$ 147,769
Texas	2,057	\$ 1,800,000
Utah	131	\$ 131,780
Vermont	13	\$ 65,000
Virginia	607	\$ 612,954
Washington	532	\$ 536,714
Wisconsin	113	\$ 114,108
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,233</b>	<b>\$ 15,000,000</b>

### Explanation of Allocations

FY 2023 allocations fall into the following three tiers.

- 1) A maximum tier that had 1,001 or more individuals arrive/were served, which was further broken down to:
  - a. 3,501 or more eligible individuals (\$3,250,000)
  - b. 1,001-3,500 eligible individuals (\$1,800,000);
- 2) A per capita tier for states that had arrivals/served between 101-1,000 eligible individuals; and
- 3) A lower tier for states that had arrivals/served of 100 or fewer eligible individuals, which was further broken down to:
  - a. 71-100 eligible individuals (\$115,000)
  - b. 56-70 eligible individuals (\$100,000)
  - c. 30-55 eligible individuals (\$79,000)
  - d. Less than 30 eligible individuals (\$65,000)

The goal of the tiered system is to ensure that states with similar numbers of arrivals/served receive comparable funding, while also ensuring states with lower arrival/served numbers have sufficient funding for program sustainability.

Please note that even though this allocation reflected is based on arrivals/served for FY 2020 and FY 2021, the service population includes all arrivals for the past five-year period.

### Resources

Please direct any questions about this DCL or the YM program to your ORR Regional Representative or [DRPrograms@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:DRPrograms@acf.hhs.gov). We also encourage you to use ORR's [Technical Assistance provider\(s\)](#) for additional resources on serving refugees.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Tota  
Director, Refugee Program  
Office of Refugee Resettlement