



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Office of Refugee Resettlement | 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr

Refugee School Impact Refugee Support Services Set-Aside: FY 2023 Funding

Dear Colleague Letter 23-04

October 3, 2022

Dear Colleague:

ORR will issue Refugee School Impact (RSI) funding to states¹ as a “set-aside” within the FY 2023² Refugee Support Services (RSS) formula Refugee and Entrant Assistance (REA) allocation. This letter explains ORR’s method of determining RSI 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 within [ORR Policy Letter \(PL\) 22-07, Refugee School Impact Program](#).

Qualification for FY 2023 Allocations

This is the second year of a three-year qualification period for the RSI 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 threshold³ will receive an RSI 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 0-18, 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.

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 RSI 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.

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

² October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

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

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

FY 2023 RSI Allocation by State

State	Total Arrived/Served FY 2020 & FY 2021 Aged 0-18	Allocation
Alaska	20	\$ 140,000
Arizona	600	\$ 1,471,841
Arkansas	37	\$ 190,000
California	5,719	\$ 5,500,000
Colorado	496	\$ 1,215,834
Connecticut	207	\$ 507,926
District Of Columbia	55	\$ 210,000
Florida	3,547	\$ 4,100,000
Georgia	531	\$ 1,301,715
Idaho	242	\$ 593,808
Illinois	523	\$ 1,283,312
Indiana	306	\$ 749,620
Iowa	228	\$ 560,273
Kansas	205	\$ 501,792
Kentucky	727	\$ 1,750,000
Louisiana	93	\$ 260,000
Maine	68	\$ 210,000
Maryland	939	\$ 1,750,000
Massachusetts	454	\$ 1,112,776
Michigan	555	\$ 1,361,832
Minnesota	439	\$ 1,075,970
Missouri	372	\$ 912,795
Montana	52	\$ 210,000
Nebraska	216	\$ 530,010
Nevada	149	\$ 400,000
New Hampshire	60	\$ 210,000
New Jersey	238	\$ 582,766
New Mexico	42	\$ 190,000
New York	1,147	\$ 2,100,000
North Carolina	540	\$ 1,325,026

North Dakota	44	\$ 190,000
Ohio	509	\$ 1,248,959
Oklahoma	74	\$ 210,000
Oregon	206	\$ 504,246
Pennsylvania	543	\$ 1,331,160
Rhode Island	50	\$ 210,000
South Carolina	72	\$ 210,000
South Dakota	52	\$ 210,000
Tennessee	299	\$ 734,490
Texas	3,590	\$ 4,100,000
Utah	243	\$ 596,262
Vermont	32	\$ 190,000
Virginia	1,792	\$ 2,500,000
Washington	1,467	\$ 2,100,000
Wisconsin	350	\$ 857,586
Total	28,122	\$47,500,000

Explanation of Allocations

FY 2023 allocations fall into the following three tiers.

- 1) A maximum tier that had 701 or more individuals arrive/were served, which was further broken down to:
 - a. 5,001 or more eligible individuals (\$5,500,000)
 - b. 3,001-5,000 eligible individuals (\$4,100,000)
 - c. 1,501-3,000 eligible individuals (\$2,500,000)
 - d. 1,001-1,500 eligible individuals (\$2,100,000)
 - e. 701-1,000 eligible individuals (\$1,750,000);
- 2) A per capita tier for states that had arrivals/served between 201-700 eligible individuals; and
- 3) A lower tier for states that had arrivals/served of 200 or fewer eligible individuals, which was further broken down to:
 - a. 101-200 eligible individuals (\$400,000)
 - b. 76-100 eligible individuals (\$260,000)
 - c. 50-75 eligible individuals (\$210,000)
 - d. 30-49 eligible individuals (\$190,000)
 - e. 30 or fewer eligible individuals (\$140,000)

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 RSI program to your ORR Regional Representative or DRaprograms@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