



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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

Fiscal Year 2021 Refugee School Impact Refugee Support Services Set-Aside

Dear Colleague Letter 20-12

September 29, 2020

Dear Colleague:

ORR will issue Refugee School Impact (RSI) funding to states¹ as a “set-aside” within the fiscal year (FY) 2021² Refugee Support Services (RSS) formula allocation. This letter details RSI FY 2021 allocation determinations and proposed amounts. For a description of program goals and recommended services, as well as program reporting and monitoring activities, please reference [PL 19-01](#).

Qualification for FY 2021 RSI Allocations

The FY 2021 allocations to states are based on the number of ORR-eligible individuals, aged 5-18, who arrived and were served within FY 2019, as reported in the ORR-5 and verified against the ORR Refugee Arrivals Data System (RADS).

ORR has chosen to fund states for three years before states need to requalify. The first year of this three-year qualification period was FY 2019; FY 2021 is the third and final year. ORR used a floor of 60 ORR-eligible individuals aged 5-18 served to initially qualify states: as noted in the chart below, seven states that were funded in FY 2019 continue to receive FY 2021 RSI funding even though their client population fell below the total served floor of 60.

FY 2021 Allocation Chart

The chart below documents the number of eligible individuals served by each state in FY 2019 and the corresponding funding allocations for the RSI program for FY 2021. The proposed allocations are based on the availability of federal funding per ORR’s final FY 2021 appropriation and will be included in the quarterly FY 2021 RSS allocation as a “set-aside.” As required under ORR regulation 45 C.F.R. §400.210, these funds must be obligated by September 30, 2022, and must be liquidated by September 30, 2023.

State	FY 2019: Total Served Individuals	FY 2021 Allocation
Texas	1,958	\$1,040,000
California	1,855	\$1,040,000
Florida	1,240	\$1,020,000
New York	920	\$971,771
Washington	813	\$858,750
Virginia	643	\$679,183

¹ “States” throughout this Dear Colleague Letter refers to states and replacement designees.

² October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

Arizona	584	\$616,335
Kentucky	550	\$581,302
Ohio	530	\$559,296
Georgia	482	\$508,595
Michigan	481	\$507,539
Maryland	469	\$495,392
Pennsylvania	438	\$462,119
North Carolina	421	\$444,163
Illinois	385	\$406,137
Minnesota	353	\$372,864
Colorado	301	\$317,410
Tennessee	290	\$305,791
Iowa	260	\$274,103
Missouri	258	\$272,518
Indiana	240	\$253,505
Oregon	226	\$238,718
Utah	223	\$235,549
Massachusetts	211	\$222,345
Idaho	204	\$214,951
Wisconsin	198	\$209,494
Kansas	175	\$184,848
Nebraska	174	\$183,263
Nevada	158	\$166,363
New Jersey	134	\$141,012
Connecticut	101	\$106,684
New Hampshire	85	\$100,000
South Carolina	66	\$100,000
Maine	65	\$100,000
New Mexico	59	\$100,000
Vermont	49	\$100,000
North Dakota	48	\$100,000
South Dakota	45	\$100,000
Oklahoma	44	\$100,000
Louisiana	36	\$ 85,000
Rhode Island	31	\$75,000
Total	15,795	\$14,850,000

Explanation of Allocations

FY 2021 allocations fall into the following tiers: 1) a maximum tier for states that served 1,000 or more individuals, which was further broken down to 1,000-1,499 eligible individuals (\$1,020,000), and 1,500 or more eligible individuals (\$1,040,000); 2) a per capita tier for states that served between 100-999 eligible individuals; and 3) a floor tier for states that served 99 or fewer eligible individuals, which was further

broken down to 41-99 eligible individuals (\$100,000), 35-40 individuals (\$85,000), and fewer than 35 individuals (\$75,000). The goal of the tiered system is to ensure those states with similar arrival numbers receive comparable funding, while also ensuring that those states with lower arrivals have sufficient and sustainable funding.

Please note that even though this allocation reflected is based on arrivals for FY 2019, the service population includes all arrivals for the past five-year period.

Resources

Please direct any questions about this Dear Colleague Letter or the RSI program to your ORR Regional Representative. We also encourage you to use ORR's [Technical Assistance provider\(s\)](#) for additional resources on serving refugees.

Sincerely,

Heidi Stirrup
Acting Director
Office of Refugee Resettlement