



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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

FY 2020 Refugee Support Services Formula Allocations

Dear Colleague Letter 20-06

May 19, 2020

Dear Colleague:

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has determined the Refugee Support Services (RSS) funding for each state¹ and Replacement Designee (RD) for fiscal year (FY) 2020.

Funding Formula

The table below displays the FY 2020 RSS base funding and the "population served"² figures ORR used to determine the allocations. To arrive at the "population served" figures, ORR compiled the FY 2019 U.S. Department of State refugee arrival data, Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) arrival data and Victims of Trafficking (VOT) data from the ORR Refugee Arrivals Data System (RADS). ORR then compared or matched data submitted by states through the ORR-5 report for the same time period for all other eligible populations and included those individuals in the population served totals. ORR then divided the total amount of available FY 2020 RSS funds by the adjusted "population served" figure to calculate each state's base funding allocation.

For states that have a "population served" of fewer than 25 people who have been in the United States for one year or less, ORR is providing a base amount of \$50,000. The base amount provides states with funding to support a minimal structure for the provision of employment and other support services necessary for the successful resettlement of ORR populations in American communities.

Services

States must provide services in accordance with 45 C.F.R. Part 400 Subpart I, Refugee Social Services, Policy Letter (PL) 18-04, and PL 20-04, if a state requested a waiver(s) modifying RSS requirements. Although the allocation formula is based on the most recent fiscal year (12 months) of populations served, states may provide services to ORR eligible clients who have been in the country up to 60 months (5 years). Additionally, if a state requested the specific waiver to extend the RSS eligibility period pursuant to PL 20-04, a state may also provide services to clients who would otherwise be time-ineligible for RSS. As a reminder, pursuant to 45 C.F.R. §400.152(b), for referral and interpreter

1. The term "states" throughout this Dear Colleague Letter refers to states and replacement designees who receive RSS funding from ORR.

2. "Population served" includes the total number of refugees, Amerasians, SIVs, and VOT arrivals. Also included are state matched data for Cuban and Haitian Entrants (including Cuban Medical Professional Parolees and Havana Parolees) and asylees (all populations are adjusted for verified secondary migration).

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services and citizenship and naturalization preparation services, states may provide these services without any time limitations.

The regulations at 45 C.F.R. §400.154 and §400.155 define services allowable under RSS. If a state wishes to provide additional services not delineated in these sections, pursuant to 45 C.F.R. §400.155(h), a state must submit a request to the ORR Director and receive approval, prior to providing the service.

In accordance with 45 C.F.R. §400.147, states must provide social services to refugees³ in the following order of priority, except in certain individual extreme circumstances: (a) all newly arriving refugees during their first year in the United States who apply for services; (b) refugees who are receiving cash assistance; (c) unemployed refugees who are not receiving cash assistance; and (d) employed refugees in need of services to retain employment or to attain economic independence. States should, to the extent possible, ensure that all newly arriving refugees receive specific services designed to address the employment barriers that refugees typically face.

In accordance with PL 19-07, a state must ensure that each individual member of a household is assessed for a family self-sufficiency plan (FSSP), a subsequently referred to services, and receives appropriate follow-up minimally at six and twelve months post enrollment.

Reporting

For RSS, states use the ORR-6 performance report, specifically, schedules A, C, D and the Annual Service Plan (OMB Clearance Number 0970-0036). The ORR-6 performance report may be found at: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/resource/report-forms. States must submit these reports on a semi-annual basis to ORR. States must also submit the Standard Form (SF) 425 Federal Financial Report through the Payment Management System (PMS) on a quarterly basis. For questions regarding PMS, please contact please contact the PMS Help Desk at 877.614.5533 or pmssupport@psc.gov.

In addition, states are required to submit the identification of all RSS enrollments on the ORR-5 report.

If you have any questions about the RSS allocations, please contact your ORR Regional Representative/Regional Analyst or Carl Rubenstein, DRA Director, at carl.rubenstein@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Heidi Stirrup
Acting Director
Office of Refugee Resettlement

3. "Refugees" in this paragraph refers to all ORR eligible populations.
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FY 2019 RSS Populations Served and FY 2020 RSS Formula Allocations

State	REF	SIV	VOT	C/H Entrant	Asylees	Adjustments for Splits and Secondary Migrations	U.S. Citizen Babies	FY 2019 Total With Adjustments	FY 2020 RSS Base Funding
Alabama	21	10	0	1	3	0.50	0	36	\$74,278
Alaska	45	0	0	0	7	1.33	4	57	\$117,330
Arizona	1,200	128	84	110	55	26.33	0	1,603	\$3,299,670
Arkansas	43	9	0	0	1	1.50	0	55	\$113,214
California	1,783	3,547	80	143	840	74.00	139	6,606	\$13,863,517
Colorado	612	218	11	74	129	43.00	20	1,107	\$2,278,687
Connecticut	140	140	5	2	26	3.50	34	351	\$722,510
Delaware	4	1	0	6	3	3.50	0	18	\$50,000
District Of Columbia	4	8	14	0	39	4.50	0	70	\$144,091
Florida	634	132	103	12,512	940	219.17	31	14,571	\$29,993,580
Georgia	1,181	201	16	79	13	18.00	0	1,508	\$3,104,120
Hawaii	0	1	3	0	5	0.00	0	9	\$50,000
Idaho	505	29	0	0	0	20.33	0	554	\$1,140,373
Illinois	973	180	50	20	172	28.33	0	1,423	\$2,929,152
Indiana	847	14	2	4	91	19.50	0	978	\$2,013,149
Iowa	716	25	1	12	11	57.00	0	822	\$1,692,034
Kansas	391	69	6	1	2	17.83	0	487	\$1,002,458
Kentucky	1,394	59	5	493	23	104.50	0	2,079	\$4,279,486
Louisiana	12	7	3	21	88	7.33	7	145	\$299,060
Maine	128	12	1	0	40	9.00	0	190	\$391,102
Maryland	729	449	5	5	378	34.00	0	1,600	\$3,293,495
Massachusetts	505	75	11	81	87	12.33	1	772	\$1,589,112
Michigan	1,123	280	9	26	31	36.50	0	1,506	\$3,100,003
Minnesota	844	44	20	10	108	29.50	0	1,056	\$2,173,707
Mississippi	10	0	0	1	5	0.50	0	17	\$50,000
Missouri	655	102	3	12	10	21.33	3	806	\$1,659,098
Montana	83	0	0	0	4	13.00	0	100	\$205,843
Nebraska	438	92	0	102	16	14.67	0	663	\$1,364,742
Nevada	210	74	1	507	31	44.50	2	870	\$1,790,838
New	247	2	0	0	3	1.83	0	254	\$522,842
New Jersey	228	75	20	162	168	27.00	0	680	\$1,399,735
New Mexico	132	17	0	41	9	6.50	0	206	\$424,038
New York	1,803	377	172	6	562	47.83	0	2,968	\$6,109,434
North	1,219	101	7	34	23	36.50	0	1,421	\$2,925,035
North Dakota	126	4	1	0	8	1.83	0	141	\$290,240
Ohio	1,398	124	2	0	22	20.33	0	1,566	\$3,223,509
Oklahoma	208	6	2	17	7	12.50	0	253	\$520,809
Oregon	546	77	19	37	34	16.00	0	729	\$1,500,599

State									
Pennsylvania	1,062	136	23	45	95	30.50	0	1,392	\$2,865,341
Rhode Island	88	0	1	0	0	0.33	0	89	\$183,227
South Carolina	187	6	8	1	1	8.00	0	211	\$434,355
South Dakota	126	7	1	5	5	5.00	0	149	\$306,733
Tennessee	636	98	4	87	130	24.83	16	996	\$2,050,201
Texas	2,408	1,441	366	3,060	926	225.83	85	8,512	\$17,521,395
Utah	446	33	3	5	58	18.50	3	567	\$1,167,132
Vermont	108	1	0	0	4	3.50	0	117	\$240,837
Virginia	522	1,308	38	7	64	35.50	0	1,975	\$4,065,408
Washington	1,925	704	37	12	253	33.33	0	2,964	\$6,101,200
West Virginia	2	5	0	0	0	1.50	0	9	\$50,000
Wisconsin	587	22	4	2	8	15.33	0	638	\$1,313,281
Total	29,234	10,450	1,141	17,743	5,538	1,438	345	65,896	\$136,000,000

- *FY 2020 RSS Formula Allocation total funding does not include funding for RSS set-asides: Refugee Health Promotion, Refugee School Impact, Services for Older Refugees and Youth Mentoring.*
- *ORR awarded Texas's RSS formula allocation funding between the RDs.*
- *SIV and Asylee babies were values that the states reported as U.S. citizen babies.*
- *States received partial credit for funding purposes for secondary migration for all populations. If an individual moved between two states, each state received 50% credit. If an individual moved between three states, each state received 33% credit. Secondary migration was noted by states in the Migration Status and Date of Migration field on the ORR-5 form.*
- *Splits were combined with secondary migrations this year in one overall total for each state. Splits were records for C/H Entrants and Asylees that were submitted by two or more states. States received partial credit for funding purposes for individuals that were split among two or more states.*