

Sponsoring under Tier 1 – Refugee Family Support Category

Guide to the application process

Note: You are the sponsor.

REGISTRATION FORM

Fill in the Registration Form “Refugee Family Support Category Tier One Sponsor Registration Form” (INZ1094).

IMPORTANT

When you get to Section F of the form, you will see a sponsor's declaration. You must sign this declaration in front of a lawyer or JP.

DOCUMENTS

You will be asked to send important documents with your application, such as your passport. DO NOT send original documents. Send *certified copies*.

CERTIFIED COPIES – are photocopies that have been stamped and signed by a lawyer, Justice of the Peace, or notary public to say that it is a true copy of the original document.

NZ RESIDENCY OR CITIZENSHIP

You must attach a *certified copy* of:

- The residency visa in your passport, **or**
- The residency visa in your refugee travel document, **or**
- Your citizenship certificate or your NZ passport (If you are a NZ citizen).

SINGLE PARENTS / SOLE CARER

If you are a single parent in NZ or the sole carer of a dependent relative, you will need to attach evidence of this. This can be a letter from Work & Income saying you get the Sole Parent Benefit or from your GP saying you are the sole carer of a dependent relative.

IF YOU HAVE CHANGED YOUR NAME

If you have changed your name since you came to New Zealand, you will need to attach a **statutory declaration** confirming the change. Contact us for help with this.

SENDING THE APPLICATION

When it is complete. Post the *Refugee Family Support Category Sponsorship form*, and all the attached documents to:

Immigration New Zealand Refugee Family Support Category
PO Box 22315
Otahuhu
Auckland 1640.

Important information

MONEY

The family you sponsor will **not** be given the same financial support as quota refugees.

You (the sponsor) **must** pay for your family's accommodation for 24 months (2 years) after they arrive in NZ. You do not have to have a house for them now, but when the visa is getting close to being granted, Immigration will want to see you have an accommodation plan for your family. Common examples include evidence that you have enough savings to rent a house for your family. Or permission from your landlord for them to live with you, or another family who own a house.

An emergency benefit is available for the family once they arrive in New Zealand. They will **not** qualify for an accommodation supplement.

YOU must pay for any documents needed for the application. Such as police certificates, birth certificates, passports, and translations.

Immigration will pay for airfares and medicals.

There are no registration fees or residency fees.

IMPORTANT

Immigration need to see you can afford to support your sponsor family when they arrive.

Settlement service providers can help you put your accommodation plan together, but they will not pay accommodation costs for your family. You must start saving now.

AFTER YOU HAVE APPLIED

Once Immigration has your application, they will check to make sure you are eligible. If they believe you are eligible, they will then send you an ***invitation to apply*** for residency.

Your family then has **12 months** to apply for residency from the date of the invitation to apply letter.

There are no extensions to the 12-month deadline.

See our hand out on applying for residency.

IMPORTANT

It is important to remember that an invitation to apply does not guarantee your family will get residency. The residency process takes many years, and you must meet many more requirements. It is not a quick process. Danger in your family's home country will generally not be enough to give your application priority.