

Private Sponsor Group Commitment

Welcome Corps on Campus

This commitment form describes the requirements for all Welcome Corps on Campus sponsors. By filling out and signing this form, you commit to supporting the refugee student(s) for 12 months after they arrive in the United States.

Sponsor groups must support refugee student(s) with the core requirements listed below. For more information or resources to help you navigate the requirements, visit [Core Sponsorship Services](#).

You must check every box to agree to the program requirements.

▲ You must upload every page of this document into your application.

Reception

Sponsors must greet the refugee student(s) at the airport and transport them to their housing.

Our sponsor group will send at least one sponsor to the airport to greet the refugee student(s) at the airport and transport them to their initial housing.

Housing

Refugee student(s) need a comfortable, safe place to live during the 12-month sponsorship period that is close to campus and public transportation.

Students can be housed on or off campus. For off-campus housing, newly arrived refugee students may not meet the basic requirements to secure housing due to a lack of references, credit score, and proof of income. If you house students off-campus, you will need to support the refugee student(s) in overcoming these barriers.

Our sponsor group will secure housing and will consider the following when doing so:

- Cleanliness and safety
- Proximity to the campus and to sponsor group members
- Access to public transportation to go to work, school, and other essential places such as grocery stores

Our sponsor group will ensure the refugee student(s) understand how to use the utilities and appliances in the dorm/home. This includes things like safely using a stove, what a smoke detector is, and how/why to lock doors and windows.

Applying for Benefits

Finding and applying for available services and benefits can be a challenge. It may require accompanying the students and traveling long distances to access benefit centers.

Our sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in completing the application processes for the following benefits and services, as eligible, or enroll them in private insurance:

Essential Benefits

- Medical Assistance (Refugee Medical Assistance [\(RMA\)](#), [Medicaid](#))

Healthcare

Your sponsor group will need to guide and accompany the refugee student(s) to access several different types of health and mental health services. You may have to use in-person or virtual interpretation when helping the refugee student(s) access medical care.

Our sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in receiving necessary medical care including routine medical visits, medications, mental health care, and emergency care.

Our sponsor group will respect the privacy of the refugee student(s) in all medical appointments.

For [urgent care or emergency medical care](#), it is important for sponsor groups and refugee student(s) to understand how to call 911 or get medical care. Please note that Medicaid and Refugee Medical Assistance is generally retroactive, refugee students should access emergency care if needed regardless of insurance status.

Our sponsor group will ensure the refugee student(s) know how to access urgent care and emergency medical care in our community.

Mental health resources are hard to find in some communities. You may find relevant information for your location through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration ([SAMHSA](#)), researching local crisis response resources, or on your state's office of mental health website.

Our sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in receiving mental health services, as needed.

Initial Medical Screening

After refugee students arrive to the U.S., they must complete a medical screening. This medical examination is called a Refugee Health Assessment and is different from a routine primary care visit. You will be responsible for making sure the refugee student(s) complete this screening. Since the screening can sometimes take up to 2-3 visits to complete, sponsors should help refugee students get their screening within 30 days upon arrival.

Regardless of the distance to the health care provider, sponsor groups are responsible for completing this process with the refugee student(s).

Our sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in scheduling and going to their initial medical screening appointments.

Academic Advising

Your sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in accessing academic advising and other academic support services on campus.

Our sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in accessing academic advising and support services.

Learning English

Your sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in improving their English skills. This could include:

- English classes on campus
- In-person or virtual English language classes off campus
- Conversation circles at libraries
- Tutoring through local literacy groups
- Informal language learning through regular conversational practice

Our sponsor group will support the refugee student(s) in formal and informal English language learning.

Translation Services

Your sponsor group may need to communicate with refugee students in their language, by using professional interpretation and translation tools, if needed. This is even more important when discussing issues like health and core sponsorship services.

In-person or phone interpretation is required for appointments and communicating important information, while apps like Google Translate or Tarjimly can be used for more casual settings. Interpretation may or may not be required depending on the refugee students' English language abilities.

Our sponsor group will provide professional interpretation services for critical appointments and communicating important information, if needed.

Orientation

Refugee student(s) will need a basic introduction to their new home, campus, community, and life in the United States. This will include a review of topics such as home and personal safety, rights and responsibilities, employment, laws, navigating public transportation, banking, and community support.

Our sponsor group confirms that we will provide information and orientation around:

- Home and personal safety
- Life on campus
- Navigating public transportation
- Laws
- Rights and responsibilities
- Employment
- Banking
- Community Support
- Healthcare
- What to do in an emergency

Employment

If the student expresses interest in getting a job, the sponsor group will need to support them in finding employment that does not interfere with their coursework. This may include job preparation such as orientation to the American workplace, connection to career services on your campus or in your community, development of short-term and long-term employment goals, resume preparation, and interview practice. Refugee students are eligible to work upon arrival by using their I-94 as proof of employment eligibility.

Our sponsor group will help the refugee student(s) with resume preparation, interview practice, brainstorming employers, and applying for jobs, as desired.

Transportation

Your sponsor group will help the refugee student(s) learn how to use transportation in their community, such as bus, metro, rideshare, taxi, bike, or walking. They will need to use transportation to go to jobs, school, healthcare, faith communities, shopping, and grocery stores.

Our sponsor group commits to ensuring refugee student(s) learn how to access public transportation to attend critical needs, employment, and appointments.

Financial Support

Your sponsor group will need to secure full financial support, including academic and living expenses, for each refugee student your group is sponsoring during the 12-month sponsorship period.

Our sponsor group will have sufficient financial resources and capacity to fulfill our sponsorship responsibilities.

Note: If the affiliated institution commits to providing full financial support for the costs outlined in the institutional commitment letter, the sponsor group is not financially responsible for these costs. If the affiliated institution does not cover the costs outlined in the institutional commitment letter, the sponsor group is responsible for securing any additional funds, including for basic necessities, through additional fundraising and/or in-kind donations.

Necessities

When a refugee student arrives, sponsor groups must provide for their [basic needs](#). Your group can provide these basic needs through in-kind donations or by fundraising to purchase the following items:

- Clothing for all seasons
- School supplies
- Dorm, bedroom, kitchen, and bathroom supplies
- Furniture

Our sponsor group commits to ensuring the refugee student(s) have all above listed basic needs met until the end of the 12-month sponsorship period.

Our sponsor group commits to providing at least \$200 in pocket money to each refugee student every month for the full 12 months after arrival. If sponsoring more than one student, we will give each student the money separately.

Documentation

Your sponsor group will support each refugee student in securing and submitting important documentation, including those listed below:

- Refugee students who are male and ages 18 – 25 are legally required to register for [Selective Service](#).
- Each refugee student should get a state ID and/or driver's license.
- Each refugee student is legally required to complete a [Change of Address Card](#) and submit that form to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) each time they move. Additionally, refugee student(s) must file a [U.S. Postal Service \(USPS\) Change of Address](#) form each time they move.
- Refugee students also apply for Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) overseas. EADs should arrive within a month of the refugee's arrival. If the card does not arrive by that time, you may submit [an inquiry with USCIS](#).
- Refugee students apply for their Social Security cards overseas, and the cards should arrive within seven to ten business days of the delivery of the EAD. If the card does not arrive by that time, you should take the refugee student(s) to your [local Social Security office](#).

Our sponsor group will assist the refugee student(s) in securing and submitting the above-listed documentation.

Transition from Sponsorship

Your sponsor group and the refugee student(s) will discuss the conclusion of your sponsorship support. You must plan for the refugee students to gradually become economically self-sufficient and to integrate into your community.

Our sponsor group commits to planning support and services available to refugee students after the sponsorship period ends.

Cultural Connections

Your sponsor group should ask the refugee student(s) whether they would like cultural connections in your community, such as access to culturally appropriate foods, houses of worship, and other campus and community-led organizations.

Our sponsor group commits to supporting the refugee student(s) in facilitating appropriate cultural connections, as desired.

Reporting and Feedback

As part of ensuring accurate information and data is available for program improvement and oversight, your sponsor group will:

- Complete 30- and 90-day reports via an established online submission process
- Complete post-certification, 6-month, and 12-month sponsorship experience surveys
- Support the process for refugee student(s) to complete surveys within 30-days of arrival and at 6 months and 12 months post arrival; and
- Communicate to your Private Sponsor Organization if you are unable to deliver any of the core services listed above, or if there are incidents related to refugee safety and wellbeing.

Our sponsor group commits to completing all required reports and surveys and communicating critical incidents as needed.

Sponsorship Breakdown

When applying to sponsor refugee students through the Welcome Corps on Campus, sponsor groups make a firm commitment to providing refugee students with core sponsorship services that will help them integrate into their new community and succeed academically. If circumstances change and prevent your sponsor group from fulfilling your commitment, the Welcome Corps on Campus staff will work with your group to determine the best course of action for ongoing provision of core services. Depending on the reason, your sponsor group/campus may be disqualified from participating in the Welcome Corps on Campus in the future.

If a sponsored refugee student drops out of class or is suspended for violating college policies or the law during the sponsorship period, no ongoing sponsorship services are required. If this happens during the first 90 days, the program will work with the student(s) to connect them with additional supports, either through a resettlement agency affiliate office or through virtual/independent reception and placement services.

If a sponsored refugee is temporarily barred from living on campus because they violated campus policies, the sponsor group should identify temporary housing arrangements until a decision is made or, if the campus has the capacity, the student should remain in on-campus housing until a decision is made. If a student is expelled for violating campus policies within the first 90 days or during the sponsorship period, the sponsor group is no longer responsible to deliver core services.

Please review the program [Liability FAQ here](#).

U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident

Every member of your sponsor group must sign below to confirm their status as a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident, agree to the above Commitment form, and agree to the [Welcome Corps on Campus Code of Conduct](#).

Signature

▲ Each group member must:

- Sign electronically or hand-sign and
- List their printed name and
- List today's date

Sponsor Group Coordinator

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

*Sponsor Group Coordinator Name

*Sponsor Group Coordinator Signature

*Date

Group Member #2 (required)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

*Group Member #2 Name

*Group Member #2 Signature

*Date

Group Member #3 (required)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

Group Member #3 Name

*Group Member #3 Signature

*Date

Group Member #4 (required)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

*Group Member #4 Name

*Group Member #4 Signature

Date

Group Member #5 (required)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

*Group Member #5 Name

*Group Member #5 Signature

*Date

Group Member #6 (if applicable)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

Group Member #6 Name

Group Member #6 Signature

Date

Group Member #7 (if applicable)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

Group Member #7 Name

Group Member #7 Signature

Date

Group Member #8 (if applicable)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

Group Member #8 Name

Group Member #8 Signature

Date

Group Member #9 (if applicable)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

Group Member #9 Name

Group Member #9 Signature

Date

Group Member #10 (if applicable)

- I attest that I am a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. I authorize the U.S. Government to confirm my status.
- I have read and agree to the above Commitment form.
- I have read and agree to the Welcome Corps Code of Conduct.

Group Member #10 Name

Group Member #10 Signature

Date