

Message Mar-20-19 7:34 AM
From: Ministerial Correspondence / Correspondance Ministérielle (IRCC)
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To: Tracey Nelson-Trick [View in Browser](#)
Subject: Response from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
(Correspondence Ref. #: 2019-01036750)

Laura Dixon
Chairperson, Delta Board of Education
c/o Tracey Nelson-Trick
tnelson@deltasd.bc.ca; tnelsontrick@deltasd.bc.ca

Dear Laura Dixon:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 22, 2019, addressed to the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, concerning your request for funding to support settlement services for all newcomer students and their families. I have been asked to respond to your concerns.

I appreciate the circumstances that prompted you to write. Canada provides settlement supports to all immigrants, including refugees, and strives to eliminate barriers to integration and maximize newcomers' participation in and contribution to Canadian economy and society.

In support of this commitment, the Government provides substantial funding for the Settlement Program (outside Quebec). Over the years, the funding for the program (outside Quebec) has increased from \$200 million in 2005-2006 to approximately \$768 million in 2018-2019.

All permanent residents and protected persons are eligible for settlement services, both before and after they arrive in Canada. Federally-funded settlement services are delivered by approximately 500 Service Provider Organizations to help newcomers prepare for life in Canada and successfully integrate into society and contribute to the economy.

Individuals who have been determined to be [eligible to make a refugee claim](#) in Canada may also have access to social assistance, education, health services, emergency housing, and legal aid while a decision is pending on their claim. However, except for health services, which are funded by the Government of Canada (Interim Federal Health Program), provision of these supports is the responsibility of [provinces and territories](#). Municipalities or non-profit organizations also provide some supports.

Refugee claimants are not eligible for federal settlement services until they receive a positive refugee determination. Temporary residents, asylum seekers, and Canadian citizens are not eligible for federally-funded settlement services.

The Government of Canada does provide funding through the Canada Social Transfer, which is a federal block transfer to provinces and territories in support of post-secondary education, programs for children, social assistance, and other social programs. This is provided on an equal per capita basis to the provinces in accordance with Statistics Canada's annual population estimates. The population estimates include persons who are claiming refugee status and the family members living with them. The Canada Social Transfer provided \$13.7 billion in 2017-2018 to the provinces and territories.

Regarding your request for [funding](#), you may be aware that IRCC has [issued a call for proposals](#) (CFP) for the Settlement and Resettlement Assistance programs. The CFP is designed to be a fair, effective, and transparent competitive process that maximizes the efficiency and effectiveness of integration services for newcomers to Canada. The intake process has been streamlined since the previous CFP in 2015 to improve the experience for service provider organizations and to maximize funding flexibility.

Through these programs managed by IRCC, eligible newcomers receive the information that they need about life in Canada, the community in which they will settle, language training, help finding a job, and connections with established immigrants and Canadians. Programming also includes additional services to address the specific needs of refugees.

While Settlement and Resettlement Assistance are two separate programs, they will be administered through one intake process under CFP 2019. In spring 2019, IRCC will be seeking applications through a second intake process that will focus on indirect settlement services that are not included in first CFP 2019.

Further information about the CFP 2019 process is posted on IRCC's [funding](#) web page. The Delta Board of Education may wish to review the funding guidelines and submit a proposal through this process.

Thank you for taking the time to write. While I understand that this may not be the response you had anticipated, I hope that you will find this information to be helpful.

Sincerely,

S. Charbonneau
Ministerial Enquiries Division

This electronic address is not available for reply.