

Transforming  
Lives

# Welcoming Washington: Statewide Refugee Advisory Council

Feb. 29, 2024

Sarah Peterson, MSW  
Washington State Refugee Coordinator  
Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services



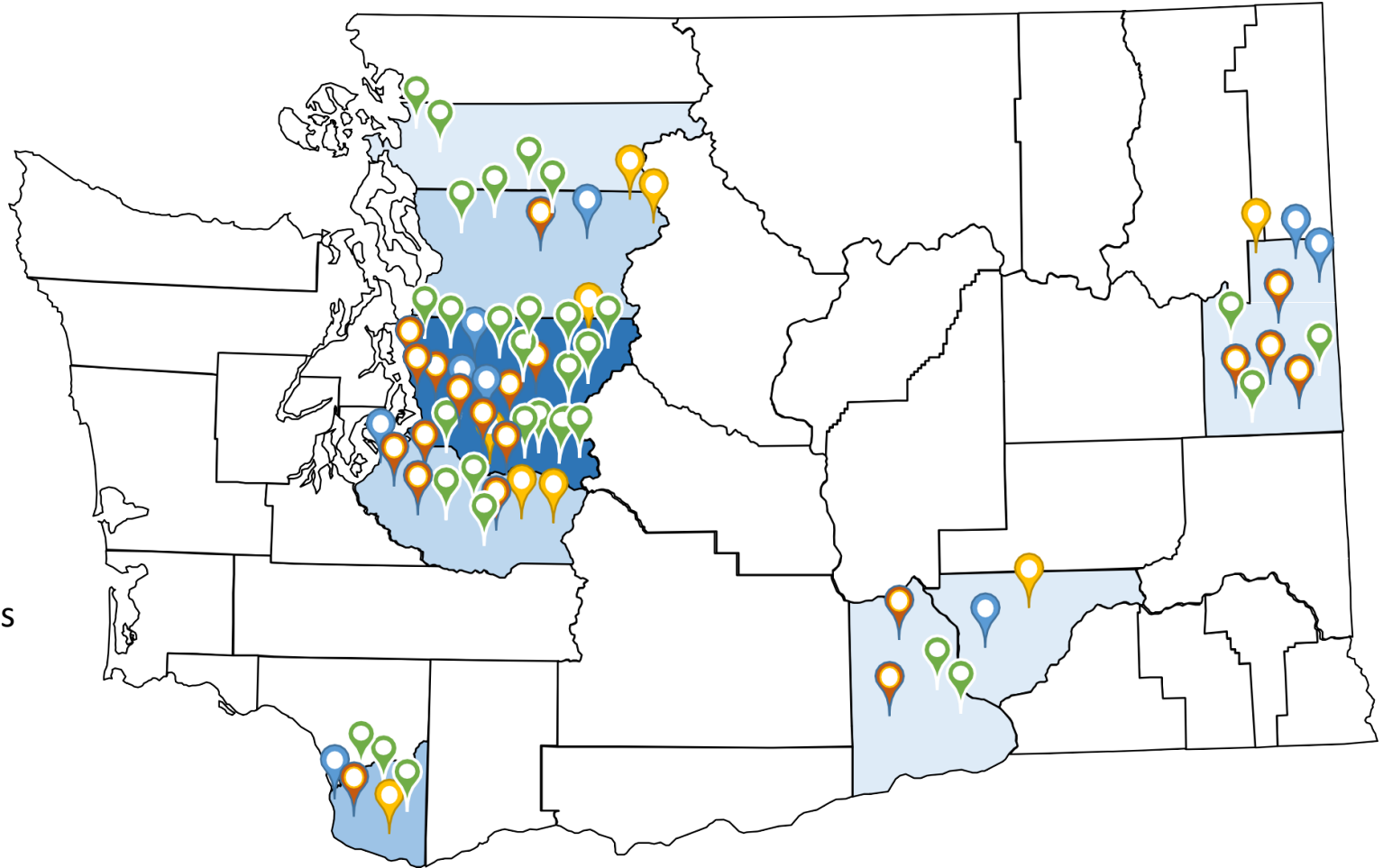
# Welcoming refugees is a collective effort.

## WA Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

invests federal and state funding into local community across Washington to provide services and resources that help refugees and humanitarian immigrants achieve economic stability and supports long-term integration.

### Partners with more than 80 organizations:

- Refugee Resettlement Agencies
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Ethnic Community-Based Organizations
- Public Health Departments and Health Clinics
- School Districts
- Community Colleges
- Other State Agencies



Refugee Health & Wellness



Employment & Training



Immigration Assistance & Naturalization Services



Whole Family Programs

# Welcoming refugees is a community investment.

**Refugees and asylees contributed a net \$123 billion to government from 2005 and 2019.**

## Populations Included in this Study

This study focuses on individuals who arrived in the United States since 1980 who were granted asylum or arrived under refugee status. The population includes refugees, asylees, Cuban/Haitian Entrants, and certain Special Immigrant Visa holders from Iraq and Afghanistan. For the purposes of this brief, we refer to these populations as refugees and asylees.

**Table 2. Expenditures, Revenues, and Net Impact for Refugees and Asylees, and their Immediate Families, 2005-2019**

	Revenue	Expenditures	Net
	<i>Refugees and Asylees</i>		
Total	\$581,009	\$457,229	\$123,781
Federal	363,040	331,539	31,501
State/Local	217,969	125,689	92,280
	<i>Refugees, Asylees, and Immediate Families</i>		
Total	\$739,401	\$723,366	\$16,035
Federal	467,450	429,995	37,455
State/Local	271,951	293,371	-21,420

Values expressed in million 2019 dollars.

Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement and microsimulation model TRIM3, and additional ASPE analysis of administrative and federal budgetary data.

# Welcoming refugees is a community investment.

## Refugees and Asylees in the U.S. for at least 10 years have Employment and Income Similar to U.S. Populations

**Table 1. Refugee and Asylee Average Annual Population Characteristics by Years of U.S. Residency, 2005 to 2019**

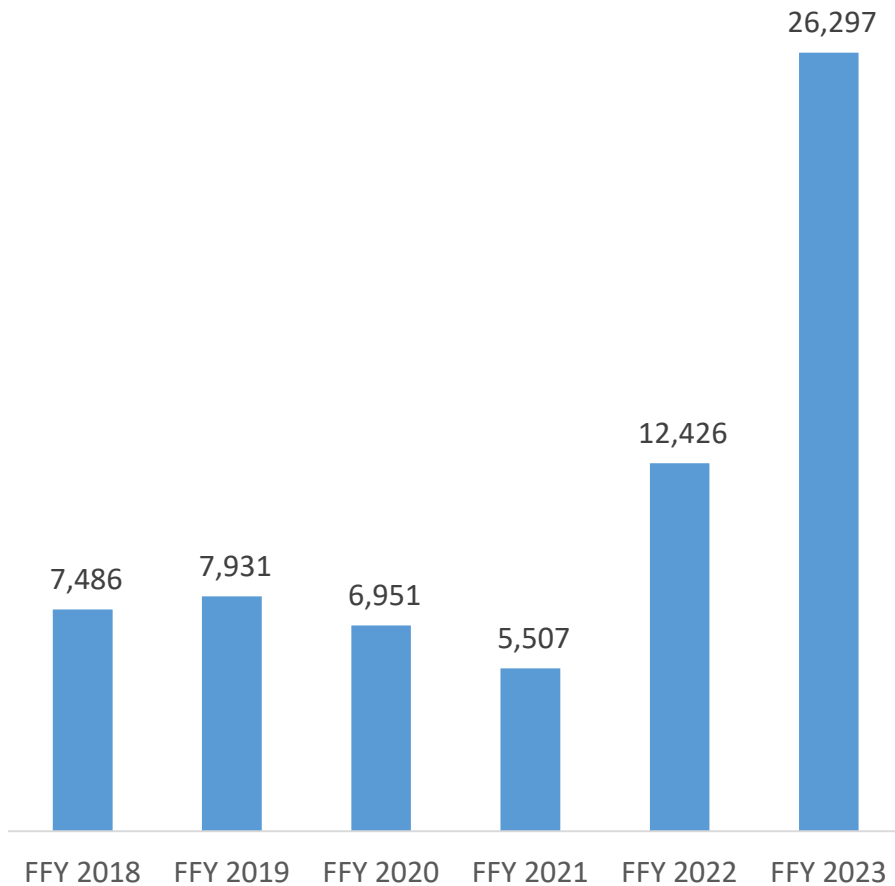
	Refugees and Asylees				Total U.S. Pop
	Total	Years of U.S. Residency			Total
		0-4	5-9	10 or more	
Percentage employed full time (ages 25-64)	57.3	42.9	55.9	60.0	57.2
Percentage with family income below poverty	18.3	33.9	20.3	14.4	13.2
Median annual household income <sup>1</sup>	\$51,686	\$32,016	\$47,021	\$59,072	\$59,002

Note: The table shows percentages of the refugee and asylee population. Estimates are the sum of annual values divided by 15.

<sup>1</sup>Values expressed in 2019 dollars.

Source: ASPE analysis based on data from the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement and microsimulation model TRIM3, 2005-2019. The CPS ASEC does not identify refugees and asylees directly. The current study uses the method devised by demographers Jeffrey Passel and Rebecca Clark (1998) to impute detailed immigration status based on a combination of survey-reported data and administrative records on non-citizen arrival.

# How many people are served by ORIA's Refugee Resettlement Programs?



Data collected and reported through the ORR-5.

## Serves all federal eligible immigrants, including:

- Refugees admitted under [§ 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act \(INA\)](#)
- People granted asylum [under § 208 of the INA](#)
- Cuban and Haitian entrants
- Amerasians
- Certified victims of human trafficking
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders from Iraq and Afghanistan
- Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-01](#) and [22-02](#))
- Afghan Special Immigrant Conditional Permanent Residents
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#))

## Federally Funded Refugee Services may include:

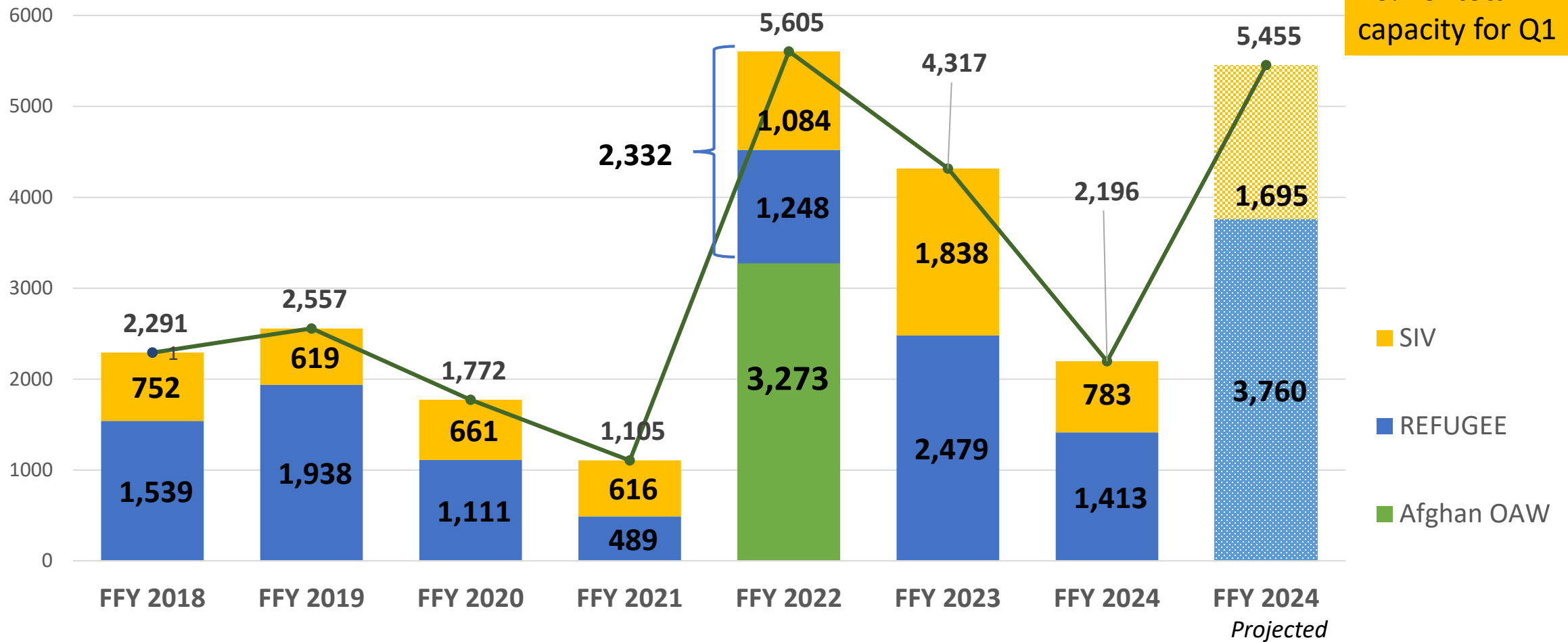
- Refugee Cash Assistance
- Refugee Medical Assistance
- Medical Screenings
- Refugee Support Services, including:
  - Health and Wellness
  - Employment & Training Services
  - Immigration-Related Legal Services
  - Whole Family Programs

## Pathways for New Arrivals for the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program

	<b>Refugees</b>	
<b>How do they arrive to the United States?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Refugee Admissions Program</li> <li>• Travel Arranged by International Organization of Migration</li> </ul>	
<b>Immigration Status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work Authorized</li> <li>• Pathway to legal permanent residency and citizenship</li> </ul>	
<b>What initial welcome services do people receive?</b>	Reception & Placement Program	Welcome Corps
	Refugee Resettlement Agencies	Private Sponsor Groups
	Federal stipend \$1,325 per person	Privately raised funds \$2,235 per person
<b>Public Benefits</b>	Eligible to receive federal cash, food, and medical assistance	
<b>Federal Refugee Resettlement Services</b>	Eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.	

# Washington State Arrivals: Refugee, Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) and Afghan Humanitarian Parolees – Operation Allies Welcome Arrivals FFY 2018 to FFY 2024 and Projected Numbers for FFY 2024

As of Jan. 2024  
40% of total capacity for Q1



Sources: State Post-Arrival Demographics Report, Dept. of State, Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
Afghan Placement and Assistance Program - Weekly Departure Status Report

# Washington State Arrivals: U.S. Refugee Admission Program FFY 2024: JAN. 2024

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	FFY 2024 Arrivals* Monthly				
						RE	SIV	AM	PRL	TOTAL
October	187	88	44	57	292	316	119	0	0	435
November	141	183	55	104	269	346	164	1		511
December	142	319	102	66	239	395	266			661
January	151	304	49	85	235	355	234			589
February	145	278	56	203	212					0
March	160	162	15	73	353					0
April	183	0	26	135	465					0
May	195	2	36	153	562					0
June	256	17	87	216	439					0
July	350	41	157	199	415					0
August	336	114	276	347	393					0
September	311	264	202	694	439					0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,557</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>2,332</b>	<b>4,317</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,196</b>

Nationality*	Individuals YTD	% of arrivals
Afghanistan	967	60.17%
Ukraine	173	10.77%
Syria	167	10.39%
Moldova	70	4.36%
Dem. Rep. Congo	60	3.73%
Iraq	48	2.99%
Eritrea	46	2.86%
Guatemala	46	2.86%
Venezuela	34	2.12%
Burma	29	1.80%

Language*	Individuals YTD	% of arrivals
Dari	712	44.31%
Pashto	196	12.20%
Arabic	186	11.57%
Spanish	164	10.21%
Russian	149	9.27%
Ukrainian	141	8.77%
Farsi	49	3.05%
Tigrinya	34	2.12%
Kiswahili	24	1.49%
Somali	22	1.37%

AGE DATA*		
Age Range	Individuals YTD	% of arrivals
0-4 years	324	14.75%
5-18 years	851	38.75%
65+	40	1.82%

Sources: State Post-Arrival Demographics, Department of State Refugee Processing Center  
 Provided by: WA State Office of Refugee & Immigrant Assistance (ORIA), Department of Social and Health Services  
 Feb. 15, 2024



## Pathways for New Arrivals for the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program

	Refugees	Humanitarian Pathways						
<b>How do they arrive to the United States?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U.S. Refugee Admissions Program</li> <li>Travel Arranged by International Organization of Migration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporter-Based applications</li> <li>Approved Travel Authorization</li> <li>Travel Independently</li> </ul>						
<b>Immigration Status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work Authorized</li> <li>Pathway to legal permanent residency and citizenship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Varied humanitarian entrants</li> <li>Eligible to apply for EAD</li> <li>Pathways to LPR/Citizenship vary</li> </ul>						
<b>What initial welcome services do people receive?</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9ead3; width: 33%;">Reception &amp; Placement Program</td> <td style="background-color: #00a0e3; color: white; width: 33%;">Welcome Corps</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9ead3;">Refugee Resettlement Agencies</td> <td style="background-color: #00a0e3; color: white;">Private Sponsor Groups</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9ead3;">Federal stipend \$1,325 per person</td> <td style="background-color: #00a0e3; color: white;">Privately raised funds \$2,235 per person</td> </tr> </table>	Reception & Placement Program	Welcome Corps	Refugee Resettlement Agencies	Private Sponsor Groups	Federal stipend \$1,325 per person	Privately raised funds \$2,235 per person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not eligible for R&amp;P resettlement services</li> <li>May be eligible to receive federal refugee resettlement services based on country of origin and immigration status.</li> </ul>
Reception & Placement Program	Welcome Corps							
Refugee Resettlement Agencies	Private Sponsor Groups							
Federal stipend \$1,325 per person	Privately raised funds \$2,235 per person							
<b>Public Benefits</b>	Eligible to receive federal cash, food, and medical assistance	Eligibility for federal or state cash, food, and medical assistance vary depending on country of origin and immigration status.						
<b>Federal Refugee Resettlement Services</b>	Eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.	Certain HPs are eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.						

# Ukrainian Arrivals in Washington January 2022 – January 2024

**23,596 Ukrainians** have arrived in Washington and received cash, food, and/or medical assistance from DSHS.

**11,579 Ukrainian households** received food assistance from DSHS.

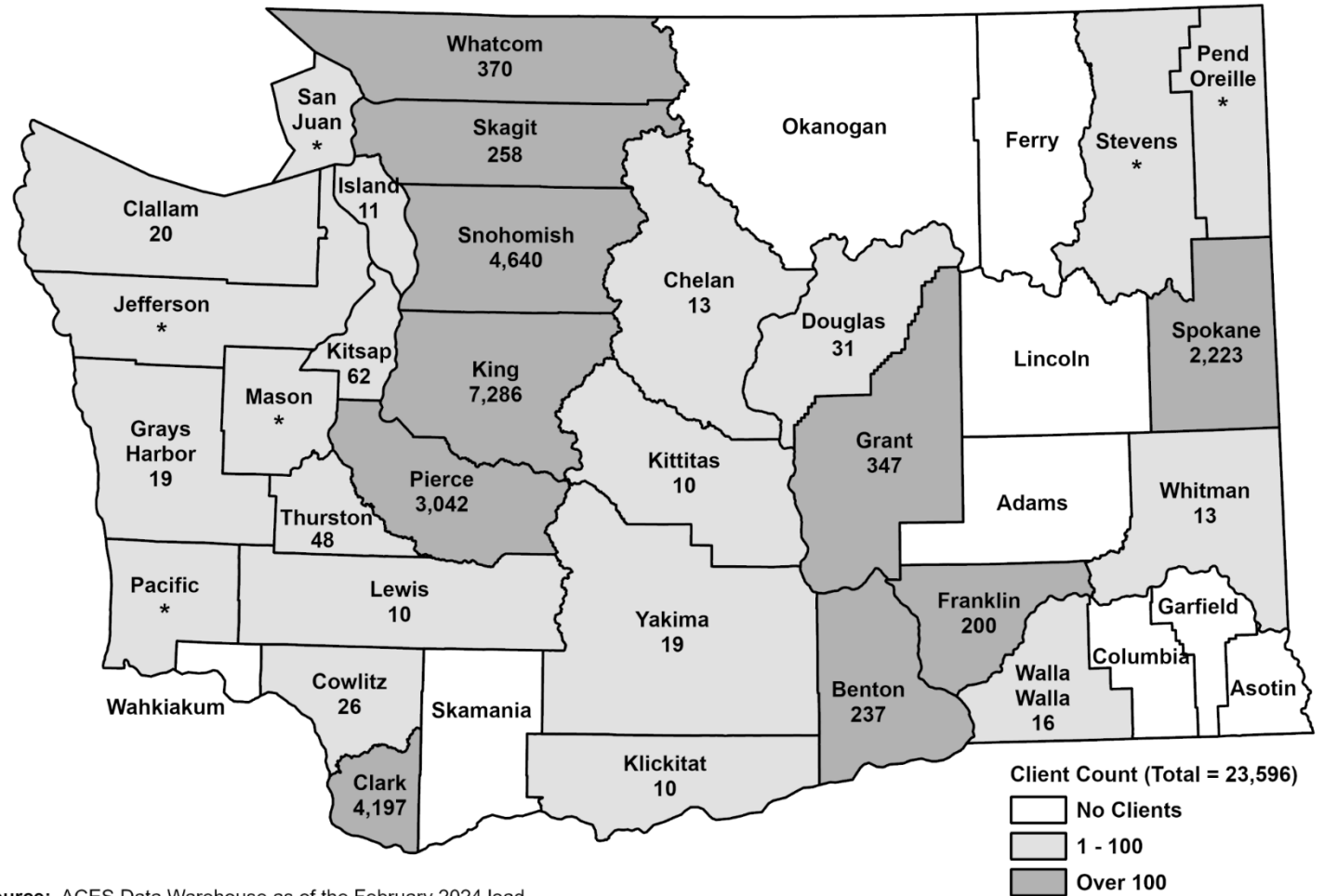


A 2% increase (462 people)

*Please join the Washington Ukrainian Welcoming Task Force for more information about our statewide effort.*

*Email: [oriainfo@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:oriainfo@dshs.wa.gov)*

Ukrainian Clients on Select Cash, Food, and Apple Health Medical Programs by County in Washington State, January 2022 - January 2024

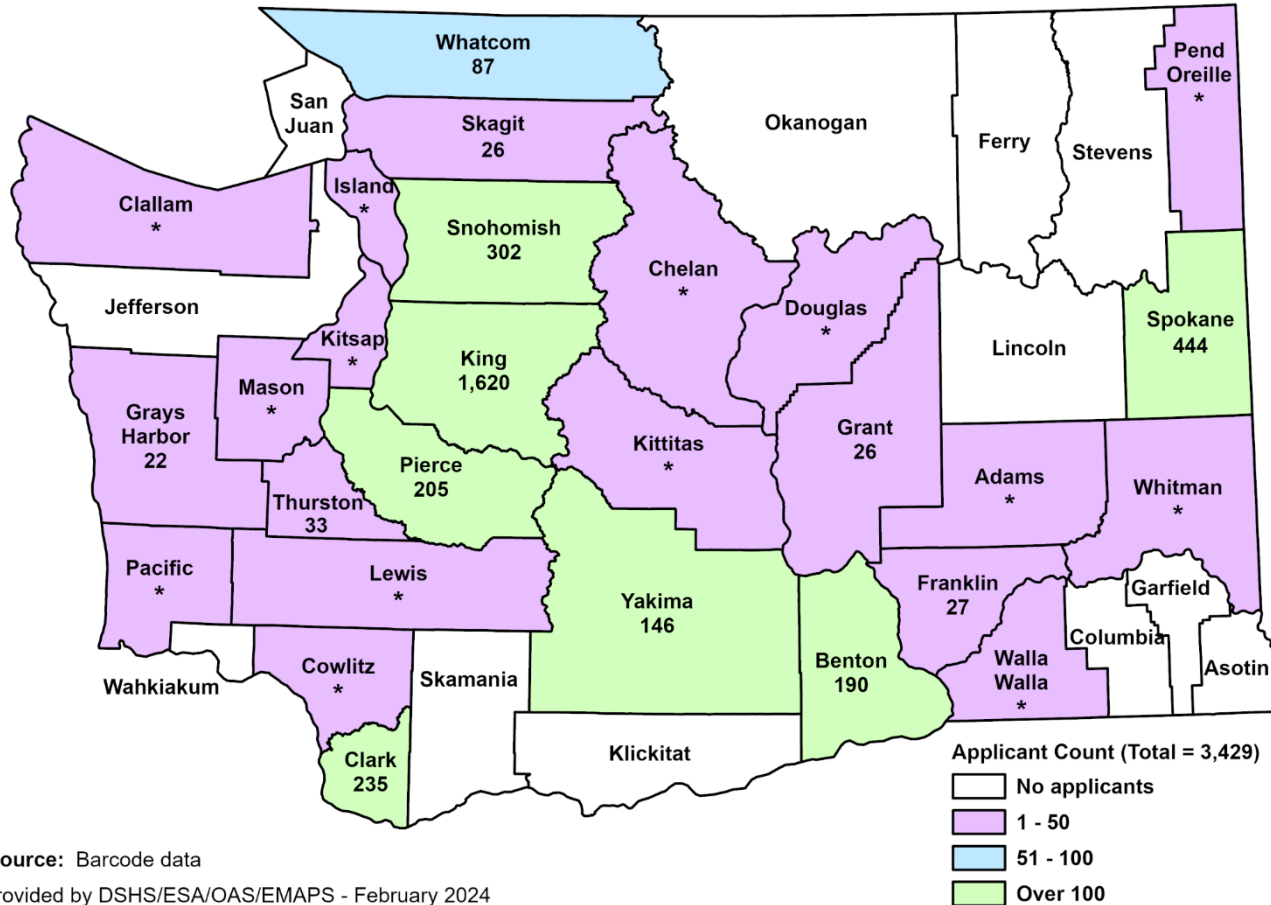


Source: ACES Data Warehouse as of the February 2024 load  
 Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS Assignment #M5655 - February 2024

\* When necessary, values less than 10 (but greater than zero) are not displayed in order to help protect client confidentiality. These counties are denoted with an asterisk (\*).

# Refugee and Humanitarian Immigrants in Washington in FY 2024

## Newly Arrived Refugee and Humanitarian Immigrant Applicants for DSHS Services by Residential County in Washington State: October 2023 - January 2024



Source: Barcode data  
 Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - February 2024

\* When necessary, values less than 10 (but greater than zero) are not displayed in order to help protect client confidentiality. These counties are denoted with an asterisk (\*).

### Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants<sup>1</sup> for DSHS Services, January 2024

Source: DSHS-ESA/EMAPS Assignment M5363 using the Barcode database as of February 2024

### Serves all federal eligible immigrants, including:

- Refugees admitted under [§ 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act \(INA\)](#)
- People granted asylum [under § 208 of the INA](#)
- Cuban and Haitian entrants
- Amerasians
- Certified victims of human trafficking
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders from Iraq and Afghanistan
- Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-01](#) and [22-02](#))
- Afghan Special Immigrant Conditional Permanent Residents
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#))

Unduplicated # of Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants	
January 2024	814
FFY 2024 (Oct. 2023 – September 2024) TO-DATE	3,429
FFY 2023 (Oct. 2022 – September 2023)	14,652

Top 10 Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants by Country of Origin		
Country	# of Applicants December 2023	# of Applicants YTD October 2023-September 2024
Afghanistan	278	1,048
Ukraine	125	593
Syria	26	180
Cuba	62	168
Venezuela	17	113
Haiti	35	112
Colombia	20	91
Congo, Democratic Republic of	*	83
Guatemala	20	70
Russia	25	70

## Pathways for New Arrivals for the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program

	Refugees		Humanitarian Pathways	Asylum Seekers
<b>How do they arrive to the United States?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U.S. Refugee Admissions Program</li> <li>Travel Arranged by International Organization of Migration</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporter-Based applications</li> <li>Approved Travel Authorization</li> <li>Travel Independently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel independently.</li> <li>May enter the United States without inspection</li> </ul>
<b>Immigration Status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work Authorized</li> <li>Pathway to legal permanent residency and citizenship</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Varied humanitarian entrants</li> <li>Eligible to apply for EAD</li> <li>Pathways to LPR/Citizenship vary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask for asylum from USCBP</li> <li>Case with Immigration Judge</li> <li>Apply for asylum,</li> <li>Apply for EAD (150 days)</li> </ul>
<b>What initial welcome services do people receive?</b>	Reception & Placement Program	Welcome Corps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not eligible for R&amp;P resettlement services</li> <li>May be eligible to receive federal refugee resettlement services based on country of origin and immigration status.</li> </ul>	Not eligible for federal refugee resettlement services
	Refugee Resettlement Agencies	Private Sponsor Groups		Eligibility for federal or state cash, food, and medical assistance vary depending on country of origin and immigration status.
	Federal stipend \$1,325 per person	Privately raised funds \$2,235 per person		<b>Approved Asylum Status (Asylees)</b>
<b>Public Benefits</b>	Eligible to receive federal cash, food, and medical assistance		Eligibility for federal or state cash, food, and medical assistance vary depending on country of origin and immigration status.	Eligible to receive federal cash, food, and medical assistance
<b>Federal Refugee Resettlement Services</b>	Eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.		Certain HPs are eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.	Eligible for federally funded programs and services, including Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, and ORIA-administered programs and services.



Pictures

29 Photos - October 4, 2023 - 6:05 AM PDT

## Migrants in record numbers arrive at US-Mexico border

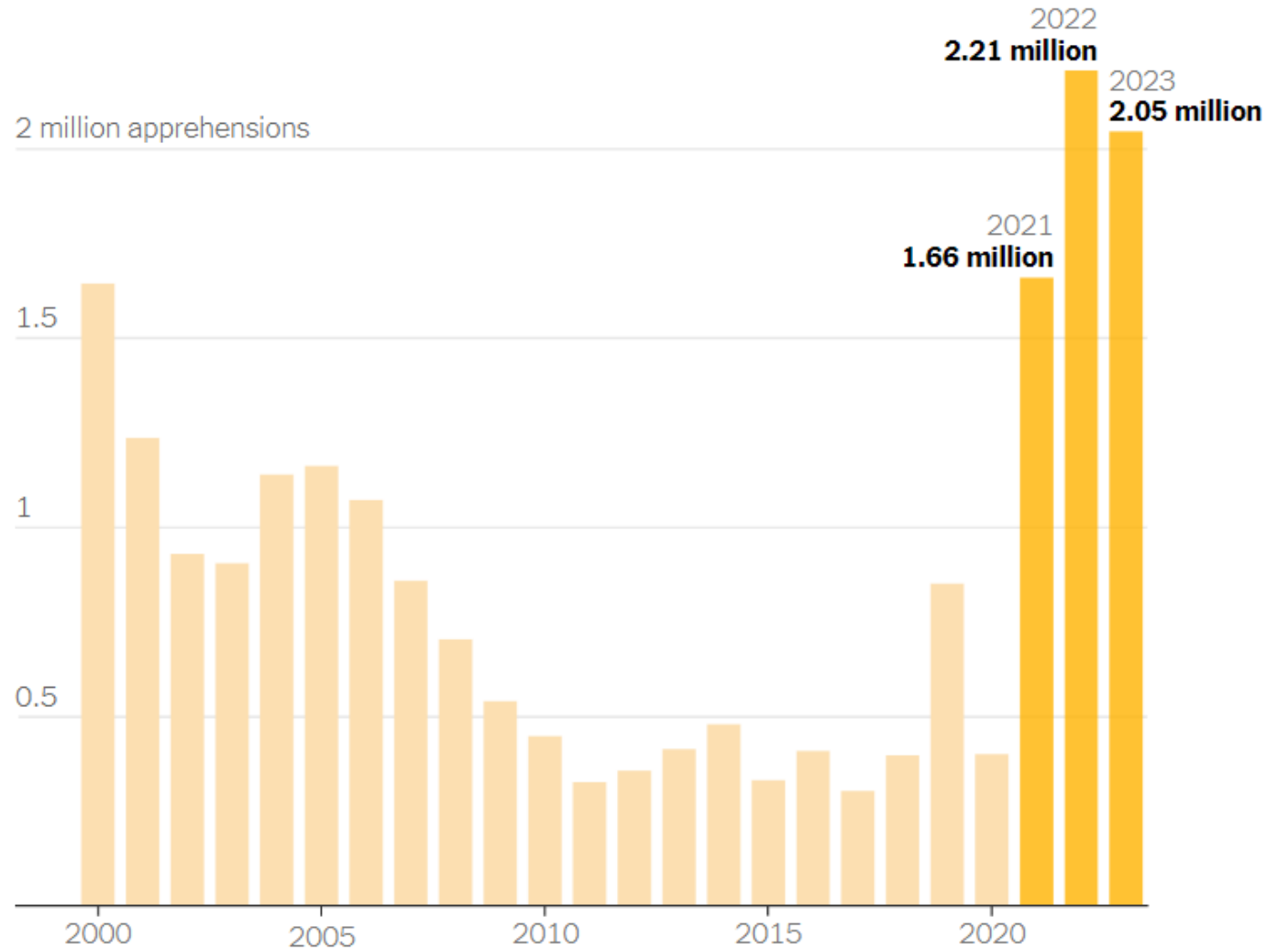
Thousands of migrants have crossed into the U.S. from Mexico in recent weeks, amid record numbers of people moving north across the continent.

## Trends in Arrivals Nationally

- ✓ 49.8% come from countries other than Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador
- ✓ Venezuelans represent third-most border crossings after Mexicans and Guatemalans
- ✓ Increase in people in families

## Annual southwestern border apprehensions

By fiscal year, from October to September



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection · Note: Only encounters between ports of entry are shown.

# Top 20 Countries of Origin for Washington's State-Funded Food Assistance Program Clients Immigrants and arrived in the U.S. on or after Jan. 1, 2021, January 2023 – December 2023

Country of Origin	# of FAP Clients												12-Month Average
	Jan-2023	Feb-2023	Mar-2023	Apr-2023	May-2023	Jun-2023	Jul-2023	Aug-2023	Sep-2023	Oct-2023	Nov-2023	Dec-2023	
<b>Mexico</b>	1,237	1,347	1,483	1,597	1,768	1,911	2,084	2,337	2,505	2,733	3,015	3,417	2,119.5
<b>Russia</b>	1,241	1,457	1,616	1,735	1,927	1,958	2,031	2,052	2,080	2,006	2,063	2,054	1,851.7
<b>Venezuela</b>	571	647	731	822	1,017	1,171	1,379	1,620	1,951	2,427	2,835	3,385	1,546.3
<b>Ukraine</b>	1,279	1,298	1,361	1,430	1,416	1,461	1,476	1,460	1,406	1,437	1,717	2,026	1,480.6
<b>Colombia</b>	635	718	833	960	1,092	1,177	1,272	1,358	1,480	1,640	1,864	2,100	1,260.8
<b>Marshall Islands</b>	597	615	657	742	801	849	870	917	934	947	975	975	823.3
<b>Afghanistan</b>	496	531	571	605	659	690	704	731	739	766	810	888	682.5
<b>Micronesia</b>	506	531	566	582	610	658	686	724	752	755	764	795	660.8
<b>Nicaragua</b>	440	506	540	620	631	634	646	645	647	654	689	715	613.9
<b>Romania</b>	284	296	305	302	335	368	389	450	553	635	639	671	435.6
<b>Honduras</b>	221	226	251	270	291	328	359	442	527	616	704	774	417.4
<b>Ethiopia</b>	237	254	269	329	353	390	426	453	472	481	511	529	392.0
<b>Peru</b>	99	159	196	242	314	351	398	433	470	529	587	644	368.5
<b>Somalia</b>	168	191	229	282	368	419	454	453	447	408	395	402	351.3
<b>Angola</b>	69	94	142	200	297	377	405	423	469	511	548	601	344.7
<b>Guatemala</b>	164	191	214	234	252	264	281	302	329	375	449	544	299.9
<b>Eritrea</b>	89	111	143	159	189	228	253	258	265	261	254	249	204.9
<b>El Salvador</b>	132	139	147	156	175	190	202	204	216	237	272	304	197.8
<b>Congo, Democratic Republic of</b>	96	125	141	176	188	201	205	211	216	236	245	271	192.6
<b>Vietnam</b>	93	97	111	118	117	120	131	144	157	179	184	195	137.2

# Washington State Legislature: Asylum Seekers and Migrants

## [Substitute House Bill 2368: Assisting refugees and immigrants](#)

- Codifies Washington's current refugee resettlement programs and services
- Coordinate statewide efforts to support the economic and social integration and basic needs of immigrants and refugees arriving and resettling in Washington.
- Allows services to immigrants who are ineligible for federal refugee resettlement services
- Requires engagement with communities impacted to determine an equitable funding distribution.

## Budget Appropriations for State-funded Services

- Governor's Budget: \$5 million for SFY 2025
- Senate Budget: \$5 million for SFY 2025
- House Budget: \$25,250,000 for SFY 2024-2025
  - \$250,000 for SFY 2024 and \$750,000 for school districts
  - \$700,000 for Sub-Saharan African Community
  - \$810,000 for ORIA staff and administration



**Thank you!**

Sarah Peterson, MSW  
Washington State Refugee Coordinator  
Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance  
Email: [sarah.Peterson@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:sarah.Peterson@dshs.wa.gov)



REFUGEE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Health Updates - February 2024

# Global Health is a Local Partnership



# Refugee and Immigrant Health Program

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**Mission:** Support health and wellness in refugee and immigrant communities in Washington State by cultivating a community of trusted support, health equity centered systems and evidence-based practices.



**Surveillance and  
Evaluation**



**Health Systems and  
Collaboration**



**Community  
Connection**

# Key Outcomes – FFY2023

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- 5,586** people completed refugee medical screening examinations
- **>90%** completed key health screening indicators
  - **96%** were connected to primary care

- 991** people accessed refugee health promotion programs
- **249** attended at least one Health Education Session
  - **857** received Health Navigation or Coordination Support
  - **167** attended at least one Wellness Group



# Areas of Work - FFY2024

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- Explore options to expand refugee medical screening capacity
- Data modernization
- Expand funding for community health outreach workers through local health jurisdictions
- Improve information sharing about health programs and services
- Diversify geographical reach and increase access for clients accessing Refugee Health Promotion programs



# Health Insurance Update

Refugees and other humanitarian immigrants are potentially eligible for Apple Health (Medicaid).

Children and people who are pregnant are potentially eligible for Apple Health **regardless of immigration status.**

## Apple Health managed care

Service area map - January 2023



Health plans offered	
AMG	- Amerigroup Washington
CCW	- Coordinated Care of Washington
CHPW	- Community Health Plan of Washington
MHW	- Molina Healthcare of Washington
UHC	- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan



Sources:

[https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/service\\_area\\_map.pdf](https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/service_area_map.pdf)

[https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/citizenship\\_alien\\_status\\_guide.pdf](https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/citizenship_alien_status_guide.pdf)

# Background of Apple Health Expansion

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## 2022

- Legislature provided funding to operationalize this program and directed HCA to prepare to implement Apple Health Expansion.

## 2023

- Legislature directed HCA to develop a program providing equivalent Medicaid health care coverage to uninsured adults who are ineligible for other federal assistance. The proviso directed the agency to implement on **July 1, 2024**.
  - ▶ Program funding was not at the level requested.
  - ▶ Recognize there are more immigrant community members who would be enrolled for this program than funding can support.



Source: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/apple-health-medicaid/apple-health-expansion>



# Apple Health Expansion – Eligibility

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- ◉ Adults age 19 or older:
  - ▶ Countable income under 138% of the federal poverty level.
  - ▶ Do not qualify for other Apple Health programs based on immigration status.
  - ▶ Are not eligible for federal advance premium tax credits through the individual market.
- ◉ Implementation of Apple Health Expansion will provide a full scope coverage option.
- ◉ Individuals enrolled in Medical Care Services, Apple Health for Pregnant Individuals, After - Pregnancy Coverage, and Apple Health for Kids will remain in those full scope programs:
  - ▶ As individuals age out of pregnancy coverage or the Apple Health for Kids program, their eligibility is redetermined and if they are eligible for another program they are enrolled.
  - ▶ This process applies to Apple Health Expansion if they meet eligibility requirements and there is space available.

Source: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/apple-health-medicaid/apple-health-expansion>

# Questions?

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Refugee and Immigrant Health Program  
Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology  
Washington State Department of Health  
206-418-5500

[RefugeeHealthProgram@doh.wa.gov](mailto:RefugeeHealthProgram@doh.wa.gov)

[www.doh.wa.gov/RefugeeHealth](http://www.doh.wa.gov/RefugeeHealth)



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email [civil.rights@doh.wa.gov](mailto:civil.rights@doh.wa.gov).



**2024 TAX SEASON**  
**Free Tax Prep, Tax Credits & More**  
**(VITA, EITC, WFTC)**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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# Presenters

**April**



President  
PIM Savvy

[april@pimsavvy.com](mailto:april@pimsavvy.com)

**Marc**



Vice President, Operations Director  
PIM Savvy

[marcm@pimsavvy.com](mailto:marcm@pimsavvy.com)



# PIM SAVVY, INC.

- Founded in 2017 (based in Renton, WA)
- Specialize in community outreach, education & fieldwork
- Focused on helping marginalized communities and passionate about helping immigrants and refugees
- Run financial and health related programs and continue to expand

# AGENDA TOPICS

1. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
2. Working Families Tax Credit
3. An Introduction to Taxes
4. Q&A

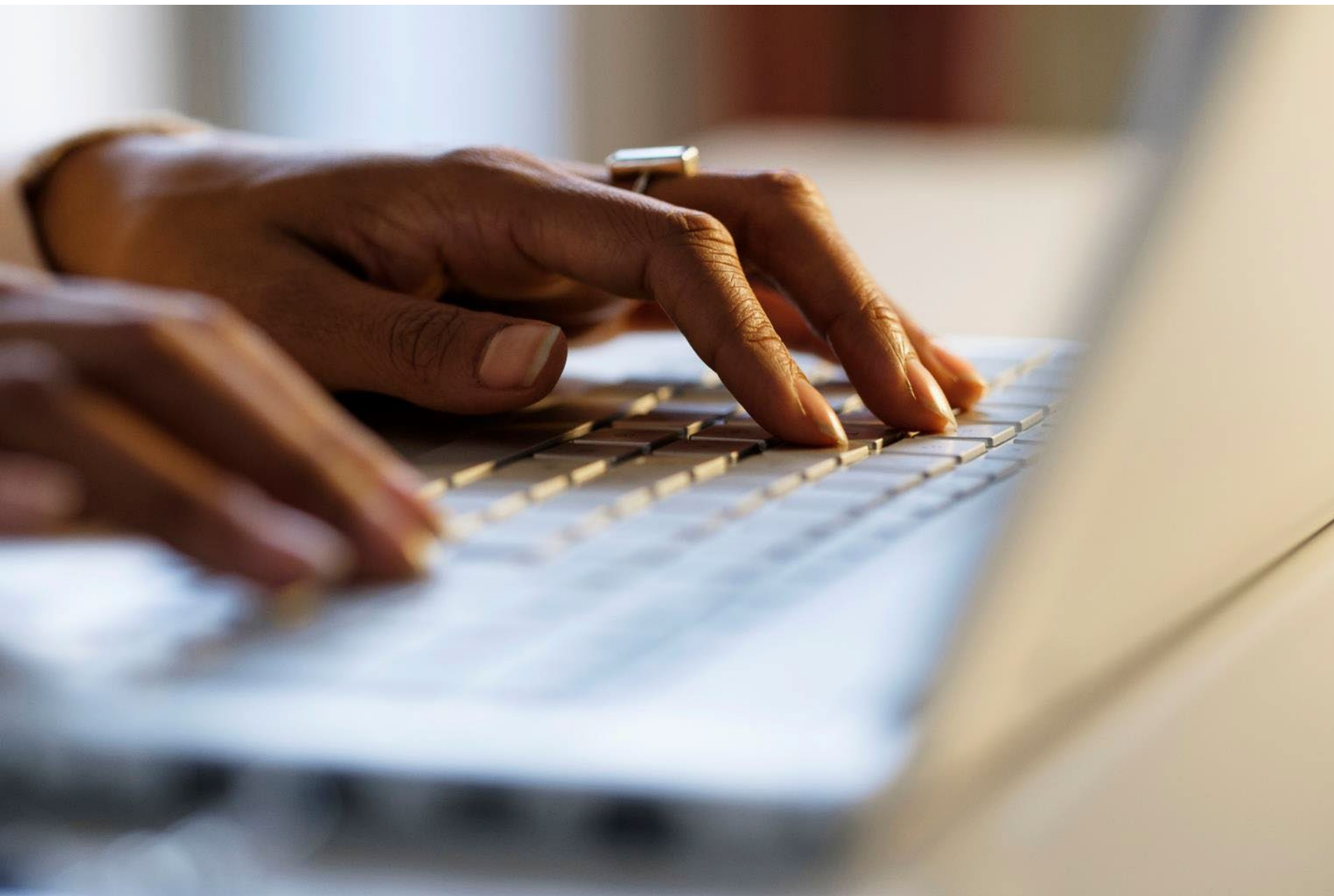




# WHAT IS VITA?



- VITA stands for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program
- The IRS VITA program has operated for over 50 years
- Offers FREE basic tax return preparation to qualified taxpayers



# QUALIFYING TAXPAYERS CAN UTILIZE VITA SERVICES

- Individuals/families with low to moderate incomes (\$79,000/year or less), OR
- persons with disabilities, OR
- persons with limited English-proficiency

# HOW TO FIND OTHER VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) SITES?

- How to find a provider:  
[irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep](https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep)

VITA/TCE Locator Tool

## Get Free Tax Prep Help

The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs

Zip Code  within  miles

- 5
- 10
- 25
- 50
- 100



## Get Free Tax Prep Help

The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs offer free tax help for taxpayers who qualify. Find a provider near:

within  miles

[Find >>](#)

16 results found

<< < 1 2 > >>

Provider	Distance	Dates	Hours	Languages	Appointment
PIM Savvy 707 S Grady Way Suite 600 Renton, WA 98057 206-471-6017 Volunteer Prepared Taxes <a href="#">Get Directions and Service Details</a>	1.9 MI	23 JAN 2024 - 29 OCT 2024		English Spanish Mandarin	Required
Rainier Beach Community Center 8825 Rainier Avenue South Seattle, WA 98118 Volunteer Prepared Taxes <a href="#">Get Directions and Service Details</a>	1.9 MI	16 JAN 2024 - 18 APR 2024	SAT 10:00AM - 4:00PM	English	Not Required
HIRE at Holy Family 9622 20th Ave SW Seattle, WA 98106 206-767-6220 Volunteer Prepared Taxes <a href="#">Get Directions and Service Details</a>	3.0 MI	10 FEB 2024 - 13 APR 2024		Spanish English	Required
EL Centro De La Raza 1660 S Roberto Maestas Festival Street Centilia Cultural Center Seattle, WA 98144 Volunteer Prepared Taxes <a href="#">Get Directions and Service Details</a>	3.1 MI	15 JAN 2024 - 16 APR 2024	MON 5:00PM - 9:00PM TUE 5:00PM - 9:00PM SUN 10:00AM - 4:00PM	English	Not Required



## Get Free Tax Prep Help

Get directions to the VITA or TCE help center near you:

to

PIM Savvy  
707 S Grady Way  
Suite 600  
Renton, WA 98057  
206-471-6017  
Volunteer Prepared Taxes

**Service Details:**

Tue 9:00AM to 4:00PM Appointment needed for in-person tax preparation. No appointment needed if dropping off tax information for virtual tax filing. ; Fri 9:00AM to 1:00PM Appointment needed for in-person tax preparation. No appointment needed if dropping off tax information for virtual tax filing.; ApptPhone:(206) 471-6017; ApptURL: <https://pimsavvy.com/vita/> or [vita@pimsavvy.com](mailto:vita@pimsavvy.com)

[Get Directions >>](#)



23 JAN 2024 - 29 OCT 2024

Appointment Required

English, Spanish, Mandarin

The information displayed here, including hours of operations and languages is provided to the IRS and subject to change. Please contact the site to confirm.

**OVER-THE-PHONE INTERPRETER (OPI)**





# IRS Certified Volunteers Providing

# **FREE TAX PREPARATION**

**IRS VITA/TCE return preparation sites are operated by certified volunteers. Site operating hours and services offered may be limited. In addition, by law, some sites provide priority services to seniors. Please be advised that you may not be immediately served. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.**

## **Will Prepare**

- Wages, salaries, etc. (Form W-2)
- Interest Income (Form 1099-INT)
- Dividends Received (Form 1099-DIV)
- State Tax Refunds (Form 1099-G)
- Unemployment Benefits (Form 1099-G)
- IRA Distributions (Form 1099-R)
- Pension Income (Forms 1099-R, RRB-1099-R, CSA-1099)
- Social Security Benefits (Form SSA-1099, RRB-1099)
- Simple Capital Gain/Loss (Form 1099-B) *limited*
- Sale of Home (Form 1099-S) *limited*
- Prior Year and Amended Returns
- Self-Employed Income (Form 1099-MISC, Form 1099-NEC and Form 1099-K) *limited*
- Gambling Winnings (Form W-2G)
- Cancellation of Debt (Form 1099-C) *limited*
- Health Savings Accounts (Form 1099-SA) *limited*
- Itemized Deductions *limited*
- Education Credits (Form 1098-T)
- Child Tax Credit
- Earned Income Credit
- Health Insurance Statements (Forms 1095-A, B or C)

## Will Not Prepare

- Schedule C with net loss, depreciation or business use of home
- Complex Schedule D, Capital Gains and Losses
- Form SS-5 (request for Social Security Number)
- Form 8606 (non-deductible IRA)
- Form 8814 (child taxed at parent's tax rate)
- Form SS-8 (determination of worker status for purposes of federal employment taxes and income tax withholding)
- Parts 4 & 5 of Form 8962 (Allocation of Policy Amounts, Alternative Calculation for Year of Marriage)

- Form W-7 (application for Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) )
- Returns with casualty/disaster losses



**Please see a professional preparer for assistance with complicated returns.**

## What to Bring

- For married filing jointly, both spouses must be present
- Original photo identification such as driver's license, school, employer, military, or state id for you and your spouse (if married)
- Social Security cards or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number documents for you, your spouse, and dependents
- Birth dates for you, spouse, and dependents
- A copy of last year's tax return
- All Forms W-2 and 1099

- Forms 1095-A, B or C (ACA Statements)
- Information for other income
- Information for all deductions (including charitable contributions)/credits
- Total paid to daycare provider and their tax ID number
- For direct deposit of refund, proof of account and bank's routing number
- For prior year returns, copies of income transcripts from IRS (and state, if applicable)

**VITA sites have access to use the IRS's over-the-phone interpretation service (100+ languages)**

# Toggle to Spanish, Ukrainian and Dari



ESPAÑOL

УКРАЇНСЬКА

داری

## PIM Savvy's Free Tax Prep (VITA) Program

In partnership with the Washington State Department of Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), PIM Savvy provides **FREE IN-PERSON** and **DROP-OFF TAX PREPARATION** throughout King and Snohomish Counties in Washington State. We ensure taxpayers maximize their refunds by claiming all credits they are eligible for, including the federal [Earned Income Tax Credit \(EITC\)](#) and [Washington State's Working Families Tax Credit \(WFTC\)](#).



We provide *in-person tax prep* and *drop-off tax prep* services.

**MAKE APPOINTMENT BY PHONE (ENGLISH)**

Call Marc Matsui, [206-565-2961](tel:206-565-2961), **Option 4** or email at



# WHERE ARE PIM SAVVY VITA SITES?

## RENTON OFFICE

Our PIM Savvy Office in Renton



Our standard Renton office hours are:

9 am to 4 pm on Tuesdays beginning 1/23/24

9 am to 1 pm on Fridays beginning 1/26/24

**Our Renton office location is:**

707 S Grady Way, Suite 600  
Renton, WA 98057

## EVERETT OFFICE

Our PIM Savvy Office in Everett at The Carl Gipson Center



Our standard Everett office hours are:

9 am to 3 pm on Mondays beginning 2/12/24

**Our Everett office location is:**

3025 Lombard Ave (Mt. Adams Room)  
Everett, WA 98201

## PIM Savvy VITA Services:

1. In-person free tax preparation
2. HYBRID OPTION: Drop-in and drop-off for virtual tax preparation (followed by a virtual review or in-person review)

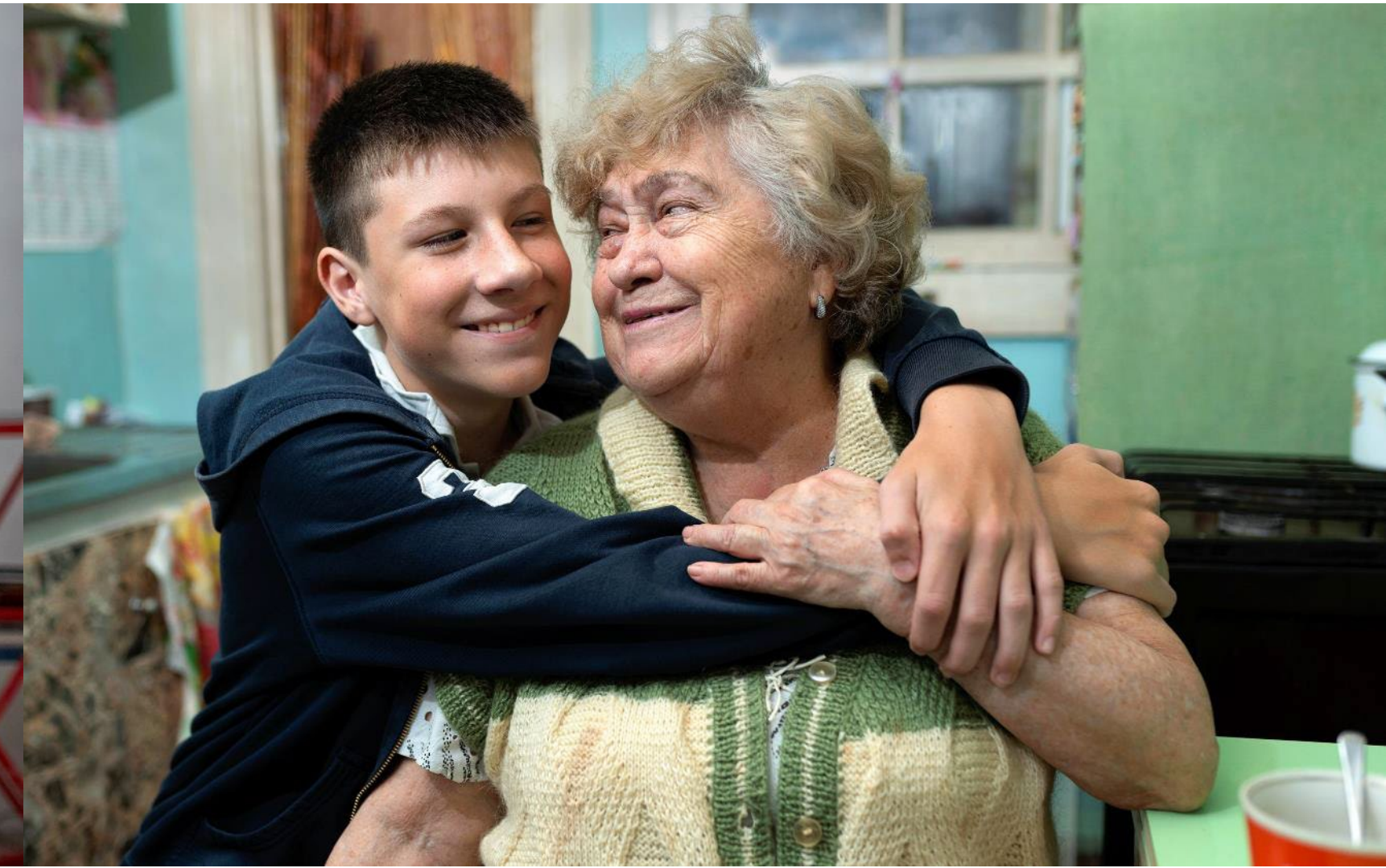


# HOW TO MAKE A FREE TAX PREP APPOINTMENT WITH PIM SAVVY?



- Visit [pimsavvy.com/vita](https://pimsavvy.com/vita) and self-book an appointment
- Call or text Marc at **206-565-2961**, option 4
- **EN ESPAÑOL** - Llame a Vanessa, al **206-565-2961**, opción 2 o envíe un correo electrónico a [vita@pimsavvy.com](mailto:vita@pimsavvy.com).
- Scan the QR code





# A TAX REFUND FOR WASHINGTON WORKERS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

# WHAT IS THE WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT?



- The Washington Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) is a refund of retail sales or use tax for low to moderate income Washington workers (individuals and families) who meet certain eligibility requirements
- Refund range is \$50 - \$1,255

# WHO QUALIFIES?

## Applicants must have:

- Filed a federal income tax return
- A valid Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)
- Met requirements for the federal EITC **OR** would have met the requirements for EITC but filed with an ITIN
- Lived in Washington State for more than 183 days the previous year
- Be at least 25 years old and less than 65 **OR** had a qualifying child



# How is the Working Families Tax Credit different from an IRS refund?

VS

## Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC)

The WFTC refund comes from the **Washington State Department of Revenue (DOR)**.

If approved for a WFTC refund, you'll receive a separate deposit or check from the DOR.

A refund of state sales tax paid as a resident of Washington.

You submit a WFTC application and attach your complete federal tax return form (1040).

ITIN holders are eligible for a WFTC refund.

## Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) refund comes from the **IRS**.

If approved for an EITC refund, you'll receive a separate check or deposit from the IRS.

A refund of income tax paid anywhere in the nation.

You submit your federal tax return form (1040).

ITIN holders are not eligible for an EITC refund.

Those that qualify for WFTC can get extra cash in addition to what they may receive from the IRS!



# INCOME REQUIREMENTS

## Tax Year 2023 Working Families Tax Credit

Number of qualifying children	Applicant must make less than the following in 2023		Maximum credit amount
	Single	Married <i>(filing jointly)</i>	
0	\$17,640	\$24,210	\$315
1	\$46,560	\$53,120	\$625
2	\$52,918	\$59,478	\$940
3	\$56,838	\$63,398	\$1,255

**APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED FOR UP TO  
THREE YEARS FROM THE DATE THE  
FEDERAL TAX RETURN WAS DUE**

# WFTC ELIGIBILITY CHECKER - [WFTC.WA.GOV](https://wftc.wa.gov)

Applications now open

English Español عربي 中文 繁體中文 မကွယ်ဇွဲ 한국어 Kajin Majöl Русский Af-soomaali Tagalog український Tiếng Việt

Department of  
**Revenue**  
Washington State

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## WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT

# A tax credit for Washington workers

Individuals and families may receive up to \$1,255 back if they meet certain eligibility requirements.

[See if you qualify](#)

[Apply now](#)





## A tax credit for Washington workers!

The Working Families Tax Credit will provide payments up to \$1,255 for tax year 2023 to individuals and families who meet the requirements.

### Who is eligible for the tax credit?

Individuals and families are eligible if they meet all of the following requirements:

- Lived in Washington a minimum of 183 days.
- Are at least 25 and under 65 years of age OR have a qualifying child in 2023.
- Filed a 2023 federal tax return with a Social Security Number (SSN) or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).
- Eligible for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit on their 2023 tax return.
  - Go to [www.irs.gov/eitc](http://www.irs.gov/eitc) to learn more.
- Meet the income requirements (seetable).

### How much will individuals and families get back?

It depends on the number of qualifying children and income level. Seetable for estimates based on the 2023 income eligibility thresholds.

### What are the income thresholds?

Number of qualifying children	Applicant must make less than the following		Maximum refund
	Single	Married (filing jointly)	
0	\$17,640	\$24,210	\$315
1	\$46,560	\$53,120	\$625
2	\$52,918	\$59,478	\$940
3 or more	\$56,838	\$63,398	\$1,255

Apply now at [WFTC.wa.gov/apply](http://WFTC.wa.gov/apply).



[info@pimsavvy.com](mailto:info@pimsavvy.com)  
Main: 206-565-2961, option 3

To access additional information or sign-up for updates, visit our website: [WFTC.wa.gov](http://WFTC.wa.gov) or call 360-763-7300.



# WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT



- Payments are based on income level and the number of qualifying children
- Applications opened February 1, 2024 for tax year 2023
- [Link](#) to WFTC flyer in 13 languages

# HOW TO APPLY FOR WFTC

## 1. Online through MyDOR

- Create or use your existing SAW account. Online application available in English and Spanish.

## 2. Tax preparation software and providers

- At Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and AARP centers: [Additional free resources](#)
- Other providers: [Apply using tax preparation software](#)

## 3. With Dept. of Revenue **Community partners** in your area: [Get help in your community](#)

## 4. Paper

- [Paper applications](#) available in 13 languages
- Download from website or pick up at one of DOR's local [offices](#), or reaching out to [community partners](#)

Condensed version



**PIM  
SAVVY**

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO TAXES**

**Who, What, When, Where, Why, How about Taxes and Tax Credits**

Part 1: The Who and What of Federal Income Taxes

Part 2: The Why, When, Where and How of Federal Income Taxes

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

# Who Should File Federal Income Taxes?

- Most U.S. citizens and people who work in the United States must pay taxes on income above a minimum total income.
- **Even if a person earns less, consider filing. They may be eligible for tax credits, e.g., Earned Income Tax Credit.**

**2023 Filing Requirements Chart for Most Taxpayers**

<b>IF your filing status is...</b>	<b>AND at the end of 2023 you were...</b>	<b>THEN file a return if your gross income was at least...</b>
Single	Under 65	\$13,850
	65 or older	\$15,700
Head of household	Under 65	\$20,800
	65 or older	\$22,650
Married filing jointly	Under 65 (both spouses)	\$27,700
	65 or older (one spouse)	\$29,200
	65 or older (both spouses)	\$30,700
Married filing separately	Any age	\$5
Qualifying surviving spouse	Under 65	\$27,700
	65 or older	\$29,200

## 2023 tax brackets and federal income tax rates

(taxes due April 15, 2024, or Oct. 15, 2024, with an extension)

### Tax brackets 2023

Tax Rate	Single	Married filing jointly	Married filing separately	Head of household
10%	\$0 to \$11,000.	\$0 to \$22,000.	\$0 to \$11,000.	\$0 to \$15,700.
12%	\$11,001 to \$44,725.	\$22,001 to \$89,450.	\$11,001 to \$44,725.	\$15,701 to \$59,850.
22%	\$44,726 to \$95,375.	\$89,451 to \$190,750.	\$44,726 to \$95,375.	\$59,851 to \$95,350.
24%	\$95,376 to \$182,100.	\$190,751 to \$364,200.	\$95,376 to \$182,100.	\$95,351 to \$182,100.
32%	\$182,101 to \$231,250.	\$364,201 to \$462,500.	\$182,101 to \$231,250.	\$182,101 to \$231,250.
35%	\$231,251 to \$578,125.	\$462,501 to \$693,750.	\$231,251 to \$346,875.	\$231,251 to \$578,100.
37%	\$578,126 or more.	\$693,751 or more.	\$346,876 or more.	\$578,101 or more.

Source: IRS<sup>[2]</sup>.

Federal income tax returns for 2023 are due by April 15, 2024, or October 15, 2024, with a [tax extension](#). There are seven tax rates: 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35% and 37%.



# What are Standard Deductions?

- A specific dollar amount you subtract from your adjusted gross income to lower the amount of income you get taxed on.
- The standard deduction generally depends on your tax-filing status.
- Additional deductions for individuals who have dependents (up to \$4,700 per dependent, usually children), are blind, or aged 65+.

## Standard deduction 2023 (taxes due April 2024)

The 2023 standard deduction is \$13,850 for single filers and those married filing separately, \$27,700 for those married filing jointly, and \$20,800 for heads of household.

Filing status	2023 standard deduction
Single	\$13,850.
Married, filing separately	\$13,850.
Married, filing jointly; qualified widow/er	\$27,700.
Head of household	\$20,800.

---

# What are the most important factors that affect your tax return?

- Income
- Deductions
- Credits
- Tax Withheld (by employers)



# Wage Income Reports: 1099s vs. W-2s

## 1099 NEC

- Documents various non-employee compensation (NEC) payments
- Payer provides details, sends copies to the recipient and IRS
- **Federal Tax is NOT withheld**

## W-2

- Records employee pay and **tax withholding**
- Filled out by employers annually.
- Employer provides details, sends copies to the employee and IRS

22222		VOID <input type="checkbox"/>	a Employee's social security number		For Official Use Only OMB No. 1545-0008	
b Employer identification number (EIN)			1 Wages, tips, other compensation	2 Federal income tax withheld		
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code			3 Social security wages	4 Social security tax withheld		
			5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare tax withheld		
			7 Social security tips	8 Allocated tips		
d Control number			9	10 Dependent care benefits		
e Employee's first name and initial		Last name	Suff.	11 Nonqualified plans	12a See instructions for box 12	
f Employee's address and ZIP code			13 Statutory employee <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement plan <input type="checkbox"/> Third-party sick pay <input type="checkbox"/>	12b		
			14 Other	12c		
15 State Employer's state ID number			16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State income tax	18 Local wages, tips, etc.	19 Local income tax
						20 Locality name

Form **W-2** Wage and Tax Statement **2023** Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service  
 Copy A—For Social Security Administration. Send this entire page with Form W-3 to the Social Security Administration; photocopies are not acceptable. For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions. Cat. No. 10134D  
**Do Not Cut, Fold, or Staple Forms on This Page**



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# Examples of Tax Credits

- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Child Tax Credit
- Child and Dependent Care Credit
- Adoption Credit
- Education Credits
- Clean Vehicle Credits
- Washington's Working Families Tax Credit





# WHAT IS THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)?

- **Refundable tax credit**
  - Can reduce the federal tax to zero and any unused credits refunded.
- Enacted in 1975, EITC is one of the government's largest antipoverty programs helping millions of American families every year.

*Workers **must** file a tax return to get the credit even if their income is below the filing requirement. The average amount of EITC received nationwide in 2023 was about \$2,541.*



# 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT AWARENESS DAY

>1/26/24 was EITC Awareness Day

>Tax Year 2023, the number of EITC  
Claims in WA = 352,000 totaling \$779  
Million

>Average EITC Amount  
in WA = \$2,212

- According to the IRS, only 80% of eligible workers claim and get their EITC.
- About one-third of the EITC eligible population turns over each year, so check your EITC eligibility today at [www.irs.gov/eitc](https://www.irs.gov/eitc).
- If you qualify for EITC, you must file a federal income tax return and claim the credit to get it, even if you owe no tax or aren't required to file a return.

---

# What is the Child Tax Credit?

## Child Tax Credit

Qualifying child criteria:

- i. Under 17 at year-end
- ii. U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or resident alien
- iii. Claimed as dependent
- iv. Relationship criteria
- v. Didn't provide over half of own support
- vi. Lived with taxpayer over half the year
- vii. Social Security number valid for employment

# PRESENTATION SUMMARY

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Lead **individuals** and **families** who meet eligibility requirements to no-cost options for tax return help (VITA and TCE) – [irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep](https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep)
2. Motivate people to explore whether they qualify for refundable credits like EITC. Use the EITC Assistant – [apps.irs.gov/app/eitc](https://apps.irs.gov/app/eitc)
3. Spread the word about VITA/EITC/WFTC to your community (reach out to PIM Savvy at [vita@pimsavvy.com](mailto:vita@pimsavvy.com) if you'd like approved social media posts for these topics)







Thank you!

Questions? Email [vita@pimsavvy.com](mailto:vita@pimsavvy.com) or text PIM Savvy @ 206-565-2961

# **Appendix**

## **(Additional Info)**



---

# Where's My Refund?

## Refund Timeline

- IRS usually issues refunds in under 21 days.

## Contact the IRS if:

- E-filed return is more than 21 days old.
- Mailed paper return is more than 6 weeks old.
- "Where's My Refund?" tool advises contacting the IRS.



## CRÉDITO TRIBUTARIO PARA FAMILIAS TRABAJADORAS

¿Cuál es la diferencia entre un reembolso del Crédito Tributario para Familias Trabajadoras y uno del IRS?

VS

### Crédito Tributario para Familias Trabajadoras (WFTC)

El reembolso del WFTC viene del **Departamento de Ingresos del Estado de Washington (DOR)**.

Si se aprueba su reembolso del WFTC, recibirá un depósito o cheque por separado del DOR.

Un reembolso del impuesto estatal sobre las ventas que paga por vivir en Washington.

Usted envía una solicitud de WFTC y adjunta su formulario de declaración de impuestos federales completo (1040).

Las personas con ITIN son elegibles para un reembolso de WFTC.

### Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS)

El reembolso del Crédito Tributario por Ingreso del Trabajo (EITC) proviene del **IRS**.

Si se aprueba su reembolso del EITC, recibirá un cheque o depósito por separado del IRS.

Un reembolso del impuesto sobre la renta que se paga en todo el país.

Usted envía su formulario de declaración de impuestos federales (1040).

Las personas con ITIN no son elegibles para un reembolso del EITC.

¡Las personas que califican para WFTC podrían recibir dinero extra además de lo que puedan recibir del IRS!

Transforming  
Lives

# Refugee and Humanitarian Immigration Pathways & Access to Benefits

Feb. 29, 2024

Yein Pyo

Lead Policy Analyst

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services



# Agenda

- Run through some ice breaker questions.
- Overview of certain humanitarian immigration pathways
- Discuss which immigration statuses are eligible for federal refugee resettlement services and federal benefits.
- Discuss what benefits may be available to individuals who are ineligible for federal benefits due to their immigration status.
- Questions for us?
- Close out questions

# Ice Breaker Questions

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Options to join (choose one):

1. Go to **menti.com** and enter code **9622 9135**
2. Scan the following **QR code**



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# Humanitarian Immigration Pathways

# Approval pathways for humanitarian immigration

- Immigration statuses that receive approval to **reside in the U.S. before arrival:**

- Refugees
- Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) Holders
- Some humanitarian parolees
- Some Cuban-Haitian Entrants

- Immigration statuses that receive approval to **remain in the U.S. after arrival:**

- Asylees (individuals granted asylum)
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Some humanitarian parolees
- Victims of human trafficking who have received certification or eligibility letters or granted a T visa
- Victims of qualifying crimes (U visa holders)

# What pathway leads to permanent residence?

- **DOES or CAN** lead to lawful permanent resident (LPR) status:

- Refugees
- Asylees
- U visa holders
- T visa holders
- Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders

- **DOES NOT**, in and of itself, lead to permanent residence:

- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Humanitarian parole



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# Humanitarian Immigration Pathways

# How do refugees come to the United States?



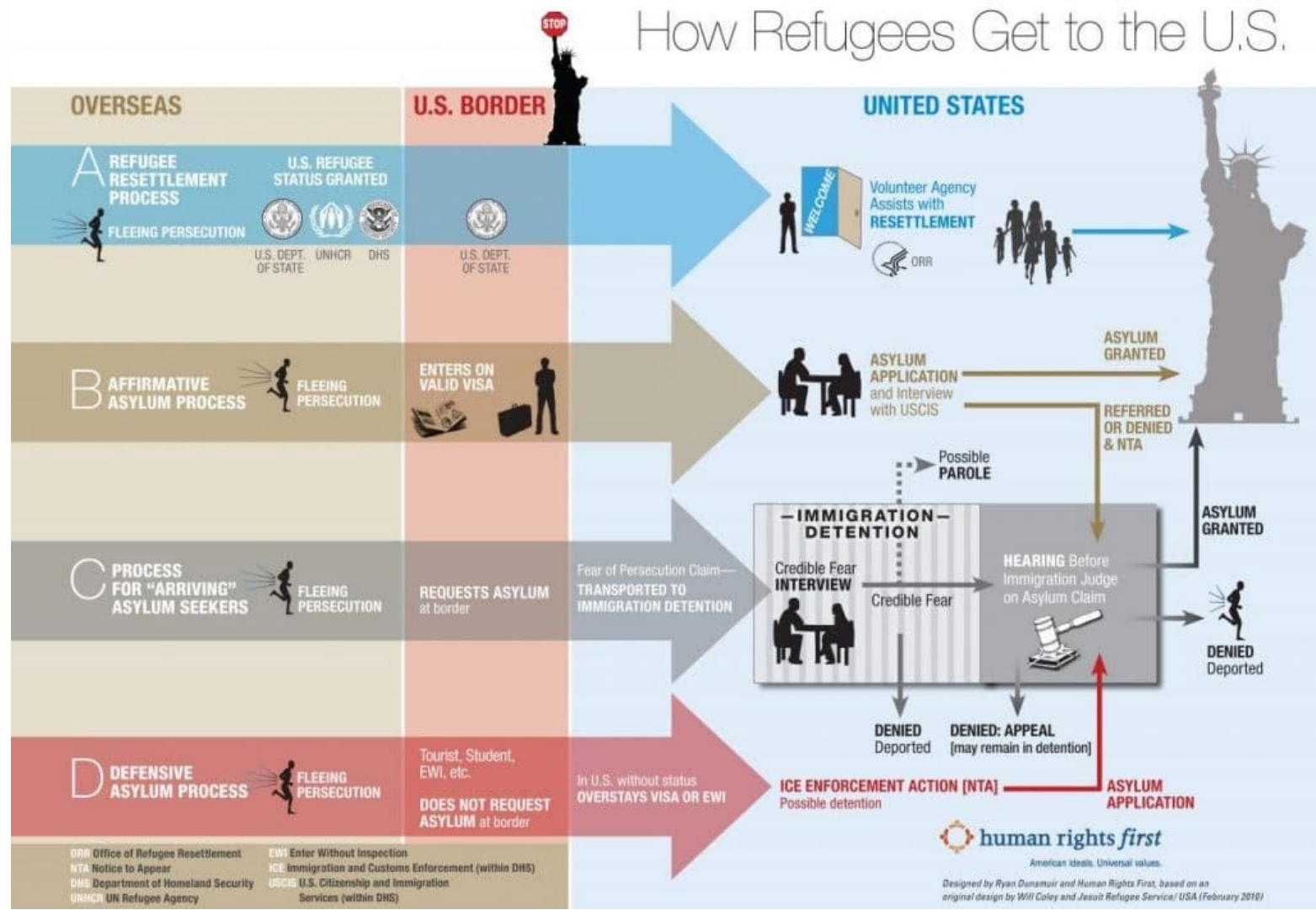
Under United States law, a refugee is someone who:

- ✓ Is located outside of the United States
- ✓ Is of special humanitarian concern to the United States
- ✓ Demonstrates that they were persecuted or fear persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group
- ✓ Is not firmly resettled in another country
- ✓ Is admissible to the United States

Credit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhSnIgeXQ8Q>

# Asylum Seekers/Applicants:

- Must meet the same persecution requirement as refugees, but they arrive in the U.S. first and then seek asylum (permission to remain in the U.S.)
- Asylum process can be affirmative, defensive, or happen through an Asylum Merits Interview and be granted by USCIS or an immigration judge, depending on the process
- 180-day asylum EAD clock
  - Can apply for employment authorization 150 days after filing asylum application
  - Eligible to receive employment authorization after application has been pending for an additional 30 days



Credit: Human Rights First

**Asylees:** Individuals granted asylum

# Humanitarian Parolees

Granted parole and permission to enter the U.S. as an arriving immigrant

- Individuals who are outside of the U.S. may request parole into the U.S. temporarily based on urgent humanitarian or significant public benefit reasons.
- Examples include:
  - Afghan humanitarian parolees who arrived through Operation Allies Refuge (OAR) or Operation Allies Welcome (OAW)
  - Ukrainian humanitarian parolees arriving through Uniting for Ukraine (U4U)
  - Individuals arriving through the Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans (CHNV) parole process

Granted parole after arrival in the U.S.

- Individuals in removal proceedings may be granted parole and released from detention for humanitarian or significant public benefit reasons.
- Length of time that parole is granted varies, but individuals in removal proceedings who are paroled into the U.S. are often paroled for just a few weeks or months.

# Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

## What is TPS?

- The Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a country for TPS due to conditions in that country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately.

## Who is eligible for TPS?

- Eligible nationals of the designated countries who are already in the U.S.
- Eligible individuals without nationality who last resided in the designated country.
- Individuals must have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since the effective date of the most recent designation date of their country and have been continuously residing in the U.S. since the date specified for their country.

## How long can someone have TPS status?

- TPS is temporary and does not, in and of itself, lead to lawful permanent resident status or any other more permanent immigrant status.
- A TPS designation for a country can expire. The Department of Homeland Security determines the initial registration and re-registration (if the country is re-designated for TPS) periods, which differ depending on the designated country.

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Lives

# Federal refugee resettlement services and federal benefits

# Who is eligible for federal refugee resettlement (ORR) services?

- ❖ Refugees admitted under [§ 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act \(INA\)](#)
- ❖ People granted asylum [under § 208 of the INA](#)
- ❖ Cuban and Haitian entrants
- ❖ Amerasians
- ❖ Certified victims of human trafficking
- ❖ Special Immigrant Visa Holders from Iraq and Afghanistan
- ❖ Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-01](#) and [22-02](#))
- ❖ Afghan Special Immigrant Conditional Permanent Residents
- ❖ Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#))

Additionally, the following minors are eligible for the Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) program:

- ❖ Unaccompanied minors with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)
- ❖ Unaccompanied minors who hold U status

# Federal Refugee Resettlement Services and Federal Benefits

## Who determines eligibility?

- Eligibility for federal refugee resettlement services and federal benefits is determined by Congress

## What are refugee resettlement programs?

- Programs administered by the WA Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA)
- Reception and Placement Program

## What are other federal benefits or assistance programs?

- **Cash Assistance** (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- **Food Assistance** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- **Federal Medicaid**



Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance:  
Policy Changes to Eligibility for Benefits and Services

## Ukrainian and Afghan Humanitarian Parolees

Due to current federal law, **Ukrainian and Afghan humanitarian parolees who are paroled into the United States after Sept. 30, 2023, are *not* eligible for federal public benefits and refugee resettlement services, *unless* they are arriving to join certain immediate family members who have been previously paroled into the United States.**

Afghan Humanitarian Parolees	
Eligible for Federal Benefits	Afghans who were paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2023.
	Afghans who were paroled into the U.S. after Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>ONLY IF</u></b> they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A spouse or child (child meaning unmarried person under twenty-one years of age) of an Afghan humanitarian parolee who was paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>OR</u></b></li><li>• A parent or legal guardian of an Afghan humanitarian parolee who is an unaccompanied child and was paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2023.</li></ul>
Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees	
Eligible for Federal Benefits	Ukrainians who were paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022, and Sept. 30, 2023.
	Ukrainians who were paroled into the U.S. after Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>ONLY IF</u></b> they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A spouse or child (child meaning unmarried person under twenty-one years of age) of a Ukrainian humanitarian parolee who was paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022, and Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>OR</u></b></li><li>• A parent, legal guardian, or primary caregiver of a Ukrainian humanitarian parolee who is an unaccompanied refugee minor or unaccompanied child and was paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022, and Sept. 30, 2023.</li></ul>

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Individuals who are ineligible  
for federal benefits

# Individuals ineligible for federal benefits

Those who are ineligible for federal benefits due to immigration status may still be eligible for benefits that are funded by the state, including:

- **Food Assistance** through the Food Assistance Program (FAP)
- **Cash Assistance** through the:
  - State Family Assistance (SFA) program *if* they are pregnant or there are minor children in the household, or
  - Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance Program *if* they are 65 years of age or older, blind, or disabled
- **Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral** *if* they are unable to work for at least 90 days due to a physical and/or mental incapacity
- **Medical Assistance** through the:
  - Health Care Authority (HCA) *if* they are pregnant or under 19 years of age
  - Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) *if* they are enrolled in ABD or HEN Referral or a survivor of certain crimes and enrolled in SFA

# Medical Assistance – Apple Health Expansion

- Undocumented individuals who are low-income may qualify for the Apple Health Expansion, which is a Medicaid-like program for individuals who are:
  - Age 19 or older,
  - Have countable income under 138% of the Federal Poverty Level,
  - Are not pregnant or did not have a pregnancy end in the last 12 months, and
  - Do not qualify for other Apple Health programs, qualified health plans with tax credits, or federally-funded medical assistance programs
- Administered by the Health Care Authority
- Enrollment for the Apple Health Expansion has not yet been announced
- Coverage starts on July 1, 2024
- The number of individuals who can enroll in the Apple Health Expansion depends on available funding and capacity

# Some immigration statuses that are eligible for state-funded benefits

- **Asylum seekers/applicants** (individuals who have not yet been granted asylum)
- **Humanitarian parolees ineligible for federal benefits**, including
  - Afghan and Ukrainian humanitarian parolees who arrived after Sept. 30, 2023, and do not meet immediate family member criteria to be eligible for federal benefits
  - Humanitarian parolees from other countries who are not eligible for federal benefits
- Applicants and recipients of **Temporary Protected Status (TPS)**
- **DACA Recipients**
- **Survivors of Certain Crimes**

# Survivors of Certain Crimes

## Who is a survivor of certain crimes?

- Survivors of certain crimes are noncitizens and their qualifying family who have filed or preparing to file with USCIS for:
  - T visa (for trafficking victims)
  - U visa (for victims of [qualifying crimes](#))
  - Asylum and have been harmed by one of the specific crimes in [WAC 388-424-0001\(4\)\(c\)\(ii\)\(A\)-\(C\)](#)
- The term “survivor of certain crimes” is specific to describing public benefits eligibility in Washington state.

## Who are qualifying family members?

- The spouse and child(ren) of the survivor of certain crimes
- The parents or unmarried minor siblings, if the survivor is under 21 years of age.

Benefits that don't require a  
specific immigration status

# Benefits that do not require a specific immigration status

- There are certain benefits that do not require a specific immigration status or for an individual to be a lawfully present immigrant.
- These programs are often limited based on available funding, in scope, or in the number of times it can be offered in a given time period.
- These programs include:
  - **Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP)** – cash assistance available once a year to families or pregnant individuals who have a qualified emergency and are not eligible for other cash programs
  - **Alien Emergency Medical (AEM)** – an emergency medical program for individuals who do not meet the citizenship or immigration status requirements for other Apple Health programs. Individuals must have a very specific qualifying medical condition to be eligible for AEM.
    - DSHS determines eligibility for those age 65+ or seeking long-term care
    - HCA determines eligibility for all other AEM applicants



# Hypothetical Client Examples

Low-income asylum seeker/applicant with no other immigration status



Aged 45 with no minor children, not pregnant, and does not have an incapacity, disability, blindness, or qualifying medical condition.



May be eligible for: Food assistance  
NOT eligible for: Cash assistance, HEN Referral, or medical assistance (at this time). May qualify for Apple Health Expansion.

Low-income asylum seeker/applicant with no other immigration status



Aged 32, has two minor children in the household, does not have an incapacity, disability, blindness, or qualifying medical condition



May be eligible for: Food and cash assistance.  
NOT eligible for: HEN Referral.  
Medical: Children may be eligible for medical assistance. Head of household not eligible for medical assistance (at this time) but may qualify for Apple Health Expansion.

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Questions?

# Closeout Questions

Options to join (choose one):

1. Go to **slido.com** and enter code **3303081**
2. Scan the following **QR code**



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# Thank you!

- For further questions or information, please contact:
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