

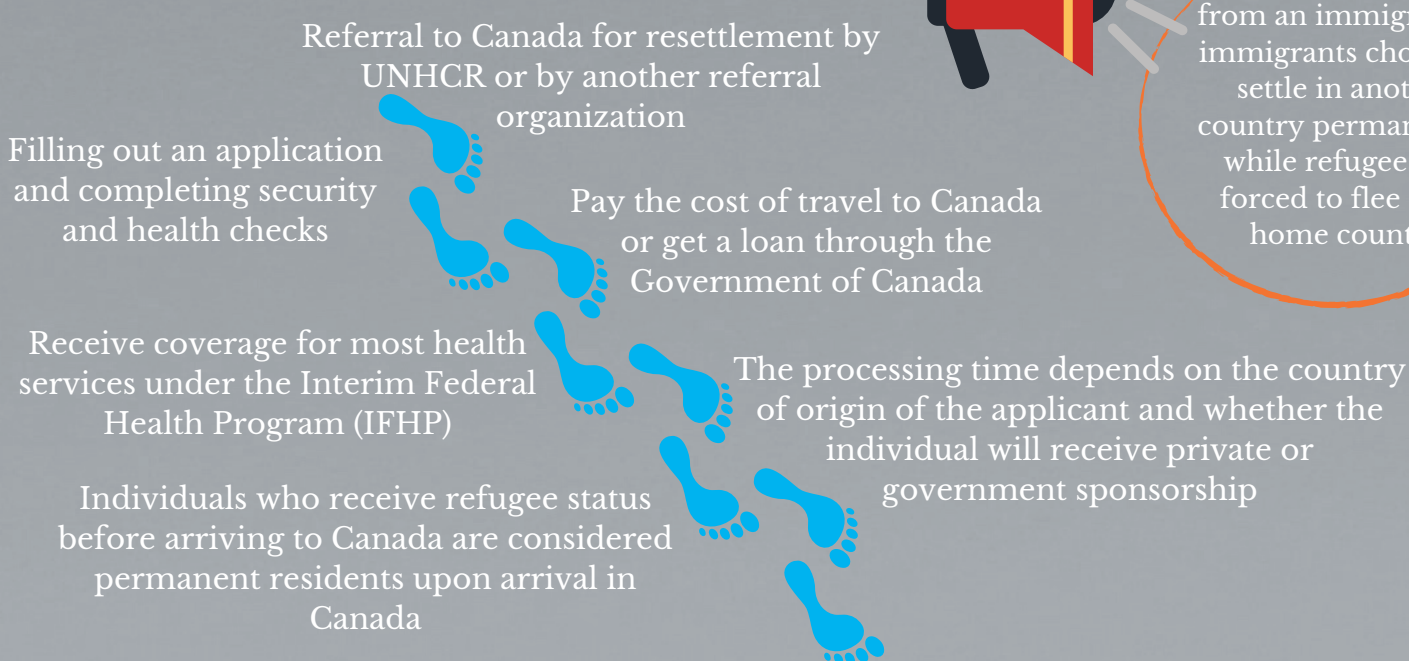
# NEWCOMERS TO CANADA: CATEGORIES OF CLASSIFICATION



## REFUGEES

A refugee is a person who is outside his or her home country and who has a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.\*

## Referral Process



## Sponsorship Options

### PSR

Privately sponsored refugees (PSRs) are received by their sponsors, who are scattered across the country

### BVOR

Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) program is a joint sponsorship program between the Government of Canada and private sponsors which is available to UNHCR referred refugees

### GAR

Government-assisted refugees (GARs) are assigned to one of many designated communities based on a pre-approved regional quota of refugee allocation and the match between a refugee's needs and community resources

GARs can access Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) to get help with resettlement

## Other Programs

### One Year Window (OYW) Program

supports family reunification by permitting resettled refugees to apply within one year of their arrival in Canada for the resettlement of family members who currently reside abroad

### Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS)

enables sponsoring organizations to partner with IRCC in the resettlement of refugees who are already in Canada, and have rare and complex needs

More info can be found on [AAISA's Toolkit](#)

## Refugee Claimant

A risk of unusual treatment or punishment if an individual returns to their home country

Refugee claimants are asylum-seekers who are already in Canada and have made a claim for protection to the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) and are awaiting a determination from the IRB

Fear of persecution

A risk to individual's life