

**DSHS Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA)
Early Refugee School Impact (RSI) (Birth to Five)
Questions and Answers
Posted on September 8, 2023**

- 1. Q. Are all refugees eligible for this program or just Afghans and Ukrainians?**
 - A. Anyone who has a documented refugee status or other humanitarian eligibility as outlined in the Request for Application document is eligible for the program. Eligible refugee clients may only receive these services during their first 60 months in the country.

- 2. Q. Do providers need to confirm whether a client is on TANF or BFET?**
 - A. No. Eligibility for this program is based on immigration status (less than 60 months) and not dependent on receipt of any public benefit.

- 3. Q. We have another School Impact Grant for K-12 students. How do we avoid duplication - for example, if we are giving school navigation services to parents/a family with both a 3-year-old and a 10-year-old student?**
 - A. In this scenario, a 3-year-old would not be able to be enrolled in the traditional Refugee School Impact program (which only serves K-12th grade). The 3-year-old and their parent could be enrolled in the Early RSI program for daycare/preschool navigation services while the parent and 10-year-old are enrolled in the Refugee School Impact program for K-12th school navigation services. Preschool/daycare navigation and K-12th navigation are different services so there would not be a duplication.

- 4. Q. Do DSHS families count as refugees? Clients don't let us know their status.**
 - A. Not all DSHS families will be eligible for this program. Some DSHS clients who have a documented refugee status (or other humanitarian eligibility) will be eligible. Providers who receive a contract under this program will need to verify and document the immigration status of the participants.

- 5. Q. How many clients need to be served each month?**
 - A. There is no minimum number of clients for this contract. Providers should consider how many people they can serve within a month and their capacity to reach and enroll eligible clients.

- 6. Q. What if an organization is new to this kind of program and recently received their license? Are they eligible to apply for funding?**

 - A. If an organization has the minimum requirements in providing these types of services, they may apply even if they were providing the services prior to becoming licensed.

- 7. Q. Do organizations need to provide any documentation that they are licensed?**

 - A. No. Organizations should explain this in the narrative portion of their application, but they don't have to provide a copy of the license.

- 8. Q. Are there established agencies that can help with developmental screenings related to Service Type #2?**

 - A. There are many organizations in Washington that currently offer access to developmental screenings. For example, all Early Head Start/Head Start and ECEAP programs offer access. Through this Request for Application, interested applicants are also invited to develop programs that would administer developmental screenings to eligible refugee children.

- 9. Q. How can a program get enrolled to be a provider for refugee families?**

 - A. ORIA regularly posts funding opportunities on our [website](#). If you provided your e-mail in the chat, we will add you to our distribution list

Note: Applicants may continue to direct any questions to the EarlyRSI@dshs.wa.gov email address until the deadline of the application, September 28, 2023.