Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Economic Services Administration · Community Services Division

The Department of Social and Health Services' Economic Services Administration's **Refugee Cash Assistance** program is a federally funded program that provides up to 12 months of cash assistance to single and married adults with an eligible immigration status who do not have dependents.

Refugee Medical Assistance is a federally funded medical assistance program available to refugees and eligible immigrants for up to 12 months for those who are ineligible for Washington Apple Health. Since the expansion of Medicaid, less than 1% of all refugee and humanitarian immigrant individuals and families are ineligible for Washington Apple Health. In an average year, fewer than 50 arrivals a year receive RMA.

DSHS seeks to improve the lives of clients receiving RCA by:

Ensuring all participants receive consistent referrals to employment, education and social service providers to support them in enhancing their English skills, finding and maintaining employment and moving towards independence.

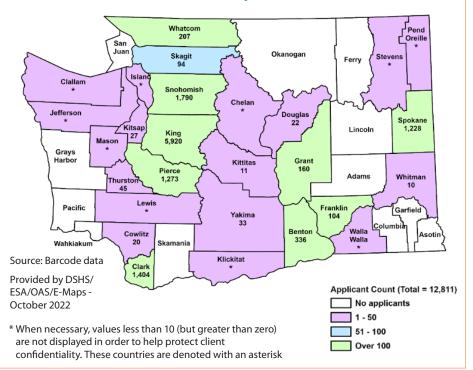
Who is eligible for RCA?

- Refugees
- People granted asylum ("asylees")
- Certified Victims of Human Trafficking
- Citizens and nationals of Afghanistan paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021 and Sept. 30, 2023.
- Citizens and nationals of Ukraine paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022 and Sept. 30, 2023.
- Amerasians.
- Cuban-Haitian Entrants.
- Special Immigrant Visa holders from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Who are refugees?

Refugees are people who are unable to return to their country of origin due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

Newly Arrived Refugee and Humanitarian Immigrant Applicants for DSHS Services by Residental County in Washington State: October 2021 – September 2022



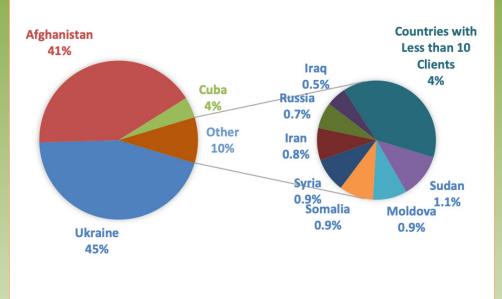
Washington State Department of Social & Health Services Transforming lives 8/2023

More information:

Sarah Peterson, MSW - Chief, Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance - State Refugee Coordinator Phone: 360.890.0691 | Email: sarah.peterson@dshs.wa.gov

Refugee Cash Assistance Facts 2022

RCA Clients by Country of Origin



RCA Caseload 2013-2022

State Fiscal Year	Monthly Average Cases	
2013	414	
2014	425	
2015	428	
2016	454	
2017	569	
2018	280	
2019	211	
2020	268	
2021	175	
2022	476	

Expenditures for State Fiscal Year 2022

Month	Total Caseload	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	74	\$30,764	\$415.73
August	81	\$33,353	\$411.77
September	94	\$35,739	\$380.20
October	135	\$38,115	\$282.33
November	273	\$87,293	\$319.75
December	404	\$148,307	\$367.10
January	548	\$200,642	\$366.14
February	692	\$264,492	\$382.21
March	752	\$300,860	\$400.08
April	743	\$300,624	\$404.61
May	633	\$253,057	\$399.77
June	1,279	\$306,933	\$239.98
Average	476	\$166,681	\$350.17

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and Community Service Office of Issuance

