

## 1.1 Community Support Program (CSP)

The CSP is a private sponsorship program for people in humanitarian situations overseas. SSI is an Approved Proposing Organisation (APO) that can propose eligible persons to apply for a Subclass 202 Global Special Humanitarian Visa under the CSP program.

The CSP does not rely on public funds. It depends on motivated Australians to take the lead in helping some of the world's most vulnerable persons start a new life in a secure and welcoming environment.

The CSP is designed to ensure that newly arrived refugees not only feel welcome in their new home but become self-sufficient within the first twelve months after their arrival. Supporters are indispensable to achieving this goal by assisting in helping new arrivals find employment and permanent housing opportunities. Supporters will also take the lead in linking refugees with sports groups, education pathways, health services, and other community engagement activities.

Supporters work alongside Approved Proposing Organizations (APOs), such as SSI, to finalize the submission of visa applications, and arrange settlement services for new arrivals.

The CSP provides Australian citizens, permanent residents, and eligible New Zealanders in Australia with the opportunity to actively support and engage in the international resettlement of refugees. Individuals, groups, organizations and/or businesses are encouraged to work together to take responsibility for sponsoring a refugee or refugee family to travel to Australia.

## 1.2 Eligibility for CSP Humanitarian application?

To enter Australia under the CSP, a principal applicant needs to meet the following criteria:

- be outside their home country and outside of Australia.
- be subject to substantial discrimination in their home country.
- satisfy all Class XB (subclass 202) criteria of the Global Special Humanitarian visa.
- be aged between 18 and 50
- have adequate English and be able to demonstrate this at a visa interview.
- have a job offer or skills to enable them to get employment.
- Under CSP, only one parent can be listed as a secondary applicant. Parents who are either widowed or divorced.

## 1.3 Eligibility as a Supporter?

**Eligibility requirements for principal supporters and/or assurance of support signatories include but are not limited to:**

- Demonstrating a strong understanding and commitment to participating in the CSP and financial capacity.

- Being 18 years of age or over.
- Assurance of support is a mandatory requirement for CSP application.

Assurance of support: All refugee participants in the CSP require both a principal supporter as well as an assurer of support to endorse their application through the CSP. ***One or more persons must act as the principal supporter for the purposes of the visa application while a maximum of three adults may sign the Assurance of Support to take legal responsibility for any government debts incurred by newly arrived refugees during their first twelve months in Australia.*** The principal supporter does not have to be the same individual operating as the assurer of support and assurers of support can be businesses.

- Being an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, or holder of a New Zealand passport with a protected special category visa

SSI encourages individuals, groups, organizations and businesses to form broad “Communities of Support” to ensure that the needs of newly arrived refugees in Australia are adequately met. Communities of Support can vary in size but should include individuals who are willing to take on a multitude of different tasks. This includes receiving newcomers at the airport, making an offer of employment, or signing on as an Assurer of Support.

## 1.4 What responsibilities do Supporters have?

Supporters are required to assist refugee participants in the CSP both before and after they arrive in Australia.

### **Pre-arrival responsibilities include but are not limited to:**

- Covering the cost of all visa and APO service fees
- Paying for any pre-departure health checks or exit permits, as required
- Booking and covering the cost of all airfares to Australia
- Identifying possible employment pathways
- Organizing and financing suitable accommodation for upwards of 12 months

### **Post-arrival responsibilities include but are not limited to:**

- Meeting, greeting and welcoming newly arrived refugees at the airport
- Providing newcomers with basic necessities.
- Introducing newly arrived refugees to their Community of Support and area of residence
- Providing transportation to medical appointments, meetings with the Department of Social Services, and helping facilitate applications for driver’s licenses, etc.
- Assisting in the procurement of viable and appropriate employment
- Assisting in registering all children in school, purchasing uniforms, books, pencils, etc., as required
- Covering the cost of all Humanitarian Settlement Program (HSP) fees

## 1.5 CSP Application phases:



- Stage 1 : EOI - Initial screening for eligibility by completing the preliminary assessment form attached below:

**Preliminary Assessment Form for Interested Supporters**  
**Preliminary Assessment Form for Interested Applicants**

- Stage 2: In-dept Assessment of Applicant/s & Proposer to ensure they meet the CSP program guidelines.
- Stage 3: Detail Review & Lodgement of a valid visa application under the CSP APO authority.
- Stage 4: Post transferal assistance - including biometrics, Visa, Health, exit permit, and any visa processing requirements and liaison with overseas post.
- Stage 5: Settlement of Entrants: providing individualise support through case management.

The below is the breakdown of the APOs fees by stage of visa processing/application.

Number of Applicants	Expression of Interest	Indept Assessment	Visa preparation & Lodgement	Post-transferral Support	Settlement Support & Case Coordination
Single Applicant	\$150	\$1500	\$3750	\$1500	\$4000
Any Additional Applicant 16+	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$750
Additional Under 15	\$0	\$0	\$150	0	\$750

### 1.1. CSP Government Visa Application Charges (VAC)

The government visa application charges are separate to the above fees charged by SSI. The VAC charges are paid directly to the department in two lots; VAC 1 is **\$535** and VAC 2 is **\$7,270**.

### 1.2. Other charges

The applicant/s may need to pay for the following items which are not factored into the visa processing charges.

- Medical examination charges
- Airfares
- Local transport
- Accommodation
- Any other charges not mentioned above.

If you are interested in participating in the CSP as either an Australian Supporter or Humanitarian/Refugee Applicant please complete a Preliminary Assessment Form and return it to [csp@ssi.org.au](mailto:csp@ssi.org.au).

We are happy to review your Preliminary Assessment Form free of charge and will assess it for its eligibility and priority needs.

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If your case meets the eligibility criteria provided by the Department of Home Affairs and falls under one of SSI's priority streams, we will be in touch with you as soon as possible. We regret that we do not have the capacity to respond to every expression of interest that we receive.

