

10 FIRST STEPS

if you are applying for Refuge in Canada

1

Bank account and phone

Opening a bank account and having a Canadian phone is a **MUST** for financial assistance and for the Government to be able to contact you



Apply to Ontario Works

Ontario Works is the Government's financial assistance for those who cannot afford their living expenses in Canada.

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Apply to Legal Aid

Legal Aid is the financial assistance that will allow you to pay for a lawyer, if you cannot do it on your own.



Find a lawyer

Now you should find a lawyer to help you fill out the forms that you must send to the Government. Remember that you have a month to do it.

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Medical tests

The Government asks you to send your medical exams and you will only have one month to do so. You will need an appointment and your UCI number.



School

Your refugee claimant status allows you to send your children under the age of 18 to school. Find the school closest to your address.

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Learn English

Regardless of your age, you can take English classes at no cost. Make an appointment at the YMCA to take a test and find out what level you are at.



Community resources

Canada offers many community resources for newcomers: libraries, food banks, recreation assistance, etc.

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Work permit

Your status will allow you to apply for a work permit. Ask us how to do it and we can help you.



Stay in contact

Remember that whenever you change your address, telephone or email, you must inform your lawyer and the Government of Canada.

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