



Toplines for Fraud Prevention and the Welcome Corps

The [Welcome Corps](#) is a refugee sponsorship initiative under the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP). Through the Welcome Corps, Americans, in groups of at least five adults, support newly arrived refugees by securing and preparing initial housing, greeting them at the airport, enrolling children in school, helping adults find employment and meet other needs to ensure they are prepared for life in the United States.

- **The Welcome Corps is free for refugees and sponsors.** Refugees should not pay money for any U.S. Refugee Admissions Program services, including the Welcome Corps. Sponsor application resources, including weekly webinars and one-on-one support sessions, are also completely free. Although the application asks for proof that sponsors have enough funds to welcome refugees, the Welcome Corps does not ask sponsors or refugees for money.
- **Refugees should beware of anyone who asks for money to influence or expedite processing – they are lying.** The Welcome Corps cannot help you recover money paid to access this program.
- **Individuals may report anyone who requests money or favors from refugees to fraud@welcomecorps.org.** The Welcome Corps team works to ensure the confidentiality and safety of those submitting reports.
- **The Welcome Corps takes allegations of fraud very seriously.** All applications go through rigorous screening. Fraudulent applications will be denied. Knowingly making a false statement in an application before the U.S. government could lead to a denial of future immigration applications and may be a criminal offense under the laws of the United States.
- **To be eligible for Welcome Corps, individuals can be of any nationality but must meet the definition of a refugee under U.S. law. They must have one of the following registration documents:**
 - Refugee or Asylum Seeker Registration Confirmation. Individuals must have registered by September 30, 2023, with the UNHCR or the government where they currently live;
 - Movilidad Segura (Safe Mobility Initiative) Registration; or,

- Pending Form I-134 or I-134A for refugees of Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan nationality.
- **Refugees should not move to a different country in an attempt to become eligible for sponsorship through the Welcome Corps.**
- **Welcome Corps refugee applicants have the same processing requirements as all other refugee applicants in the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.** If someone says they can help move an application faster, this is a scam and is not true.
- **The Welcome Corps will never contact individuals about their applications over social media.**
- **Applicant identity documents belong to the applicant.** Sponsors in the United States do not have the right to take or keep refugees' documents.
- **Only the U.S. government determines if an applicant is a refugee.** Sponsors cannot send refugees back to their countries of origin or cancel their cases with the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.
- **The Welcome Corps takes allegations of fraud, abuse, and exploitation very seriously.** Welcome Corps sponsors are required to pass comprehensive background checks. Refugees are advised to report allegations of abuse, exploitation, or mistreatment immediately to the Welcome Corps at fraud@welcomecorps.org. All information submitted will be treated confidentially.