



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

October 5, 2011

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 11-10

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS
COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS

SUBJECT: FINAL FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2011 REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES
ALLOCATIONS

REFERENCE: CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NO. 93-566

This letter provides counties with final allocations for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 Refugee Social Services (RSS) grant. Counties are authorized to provide services with this grant beginning October 1, 2011. The Notice of Final FFY 2011 Formula Allocations to States for RSS was released by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) on September 8, 2011, and may be accessed on the Funding page of the Refugee Programs Bureau's (RPB) web site at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/>.

Federal Allocation Methodology

The state's final RSS allocation is \$10,001,006, which is a decrease of \$1,805,552 from last year's final allocation. The primary reason for this decrease is that California has experienced a reduction in new arrivals over the last two years, while many states' arrivals numbers have increased. The ORR determined each state's allocation based on its refugee arrivals in proportion to total arrivals nationwide (adjusted for secondary migration) for the two-year period of October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2010. Refugee arrivals include refugees, Amerasians, asylees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, Cuban medical professionals/parolees, Havana parolees, federally-certified trafficking victims, and Iraqi and Afghan special immigrants.

The ORR's Final Notice explains the basis for the estimate of each state's arrivals, and the ORR arrival data for California is consistent with RPB data. In February 2011, ORR requested that states submit data on asylees who were granted asylum and received RSS services between October 1, 2008, and September 30, 2010. The RPB submitted asylee data which was provided by the counties and the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project in San Diego. The ORR matched asylee data from states with information in federal databases, then included the number of federally-verified asylees in the formula to determine the states' final RSS allocations.

Eligible Counties

Counties are eligible to receive RSS funds if they have received at least 400 refugee arrivals during the period of October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2010. Based on that threshold, eight counties are eligible for FFY 2011 RSS funds: Alameda, Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus. Fresno, Merced and

San Joaquin Counties no longer meet the arrivals threshold and will not be receiving RSS funds in FFY 2011.

Wilson/Fish Alternative Project

The Wilson/Fish Alternative Project is operated in San Diego County by Catholic Charities under direct contract with the ORR. The amount of \$1,648,964 for this project in FFY 2011 was determined by ORR using a Wilson/Fish-specific funding formula and then deducted from California's total FFY 2011 RSS allocation.

Effective February 2010, the Wilson/Fish project in San Diego County began serving only Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)-type adult arrivals instead of all refugee arrivals to the county. Since that time, the CDSS has been working closely with ORR to ensure RSS funding for the project is allocated in a way that is consistent with how other states and Wilson/Fish projects throughout the U.S. are allocated RSS funds. Therefore, the ORR determined the FFY 2011 Wilson/Fish RSS allocation by using the methodology recommended by CDSS, which is to base the amount on the number of arrivals over the last two years who were RCA-type adults. The new formula results in a more equitable distribution of RSS monies being available for counties to provide services to refugee families.

State Allocation Methodology

The state's adjusted RSS allocation, after the Wilson/Fish deduction, is \$8,352,042. After setting aside 15 percent of the state's adjusted allocation for state administrative costs, the remaining \$7,099,236 will be allocated for social services and administrative costs to counties in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code Section 13276.

RSS funds are allocated based on the number of refugees on aid in each eligible county, weighted according to the length of time that the refugees are in the United States (U.S.), as follows:

- 1) A weight of 1.50 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. one year or less.
- 2) A weight of 1.25 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. two years or less, but more than one year.
- 3) A weight of 1.00 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. five years or less, but more than two years.

Data used in the allocation process was obtained from the most recent Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) Report, dated August 31, 2011. FFY 2011 final allocations are shown in the enclosed spreadsheet.

Debarment and Suspension Requirements

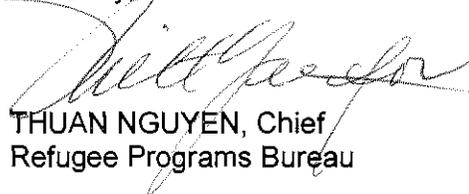
Federal regulations require that individuals be prohibited from receiving federal financial and non-financial assistance and benefits if they have been debarred or suspended, pursuant to 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 76. Reasons for debarment/suspension may include a conviction for committing fraud or any other crime or action that shows a lack of business integrity (see 45 CFR Part 76.305 for specific debarment/suspension criteria). The debarment/suspension requirements extend to an organization if a debarred/suspended individual is an officer, director, owner, or partner, or if the individual has management or supervisory responsibility within the organization.

Counties are required to comply with the debarment and suspension provisions in 45 CFR Part 76 as a condition of receiving RSS funding. When arranging RSS-funded services through a subgrant or subcontract, counties must verify that the subgrantee or subcontractor is not excluded or disqualified from participation in federal assistance programs by:

- 1) Checking the federal General Services Administration's Excluded Parties List System, found at <http://epls.gov>, which has the most current information about persons who have been excluded or disqualified for participation in federal programs; and/or
- 2) Adding a clause to the contract/agreement in which the contractor agrees to certify that he/she and his/her principals are not debarred or suspended from federal financial assistance programs and services. Example: *"For federally funded agreements in the amount of \$25,000 or more, the Contractor certifies that he/she and his/her principals are not debarred or suspended from federal financial assistance programs and activities."*

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (916) 654-4356, or Ms. Camille Ancona, Analyst, Refugee Policy Unit, at (916) 653-7785 or Camille.Ancona@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



THUAN NGUYEN, Chief
Refugee Programs Bureau

c: CWDA

Enclosure

FINAL REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES (RSS) ALLOCATION FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2011

*(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.93.566 - Refugee Assistance - State Administered Programs)
(Grant Period - October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2013)*

\$ 10,001,006 Final FFY 2011 RSS Standard Funds
 \$ (1,648,964) Funding for San Diego Wilson/Fish Project¹
\$ 8,352,042 Final Adjusted State Allocation
 \$ (1,252,806) State Administrative Funds (15% of Adjusted State Allocation)
\$ 7,099,236 Final Funds to be Allocated to Counties

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
County	Allocation Number	Adult refugees receiving RCA/CalWORKs who have been in the U.S. 60 months or less ²							Final County Allocations	Final County Administrative Costs @15% maximum	Final County RSS Service Dollars
		Totals by Time in the U.S.			Weights						
		<1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	(<1) X 1.5	(1-2) X 1.25	Weighted Total (cols 5 + 6 + 7)	% of Weighted Total			
Alameda	RESS1101	212	119	120	318	149	587	6.21%	\$ 440,863	\$ 66,129	\$ 374,734
Los Angeles	RESS1102	561	568	1,667	842	710	3,219	34.05%	\$ 2,417,290	\$ 362,594	\$ 2,054,696
Orange	RESS1103	109	96	124	164	120	408	4.32%	\$ 306,687	\$ 46,003	\$ 260,684
Sacramento	RESS1104	166	219	235	249	274	758	8.02%	\$ 569,359	\$ 85,404	\$ 483,955
San Diego ¹	RESS1105	426	1,042	1,600	639	1,303	3,542	37.47%	\$ 2,660,082	\$ 399,012	\$ 2,261,070
San Francisco	RESS1106	92	44	42	138	55	235	2.49%	\$ 176,771	\$ 26,516	\$ 150,255
Santa Clara	RESS1107	93	85	105	140	106	351	3.71%	\$ 263,382	\$ 39,507	\$ 223,875
Stanislaus	RESS1108	75	76	145	113	95	353	3.73%	\$ 264,802	\$ 39,720	\$ 225,082
Total		1,734	2,249	4,038	2,603	2,812	9,453	100.00%	\$ 7,099,236	\$ 1,064,885	\$ 6,034,351

Notes:

- ¹ The allocation for non-CalWORKs recipients for San Diego County is diverted to a Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. The amount of funding for the project was determined by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement. San Diego's RSS allocation to serve refugee families is shown in Column 10.
- ² One month data from Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) File Report dated August 31, 2011.