



CDSS

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GOVERNOR

August 31, 2016

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 16-09

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS
COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS

SUBJECT: FINAL FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016 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) 2016 Refugee Social Services (RSS) grant. Counties are authorized to provide services with this grant beginning October 1, 2016. The FFY 2016 RSS Formula Allocations were released to states by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) on April 21, 2016 via Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) No. 16-06. A copy of the letter may be accessed on the Funding page of the Refugee Programs Bureau's (RPB) web site at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/>. The final county RSS allocations could not be released until ORR provided the final award amount for the Wilson/Fish Alternative project. The Wilson/Fish award amount was released by ORR on August 25, 2016.

Federal Allocation Methodology

The state's total FFY 2016 RSS funding is \$7,620,726, which represents \$6,894,928 for the state refugee program, and \$725,798 for the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. The total RSS amount is a decrease of \$338,004 from last year's final amount. The ORR determined each state's total allocation based on its refugee arrivals in proportion to total arrivals nationwide (adjusted for secondary migration) for the two-year period of October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2015. Refugee arrivals include refugees, Amerasians, asylees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, Cuban medical professionals, Havana parolees, federally-certified trafficking victims, and Iraqi and Afghan special immigrants.

The federal DCL No. 16-06 explains the basis for the estimate of each state's arrivals, and the ORR arrival data for California is consistent with RPB data. In November 2015, the ORR requested that states submit data on asylees who were granted asylum and other populations who received RSS services between October 1, 2013, and September 30, 2015.

The RPB submitted data which was provided by the counties and the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project in San Diego. The ORR matched the data from states with information in federal databases, then included the number of federally-verified populations in the formula to determine the states' final RSS allocations.

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 FFY 2016 amount of \$725,798 for this project was determined by ORR using the number of arrivals to San Diego County over the last two years who were Refugee Cash Assistance type adults.

State Allocation Methodology

The state's adjusted RSS allocation is \$6,894,928. The amount of state administrative funds withheld from the state's adjusted allocation was reduced from 15 percent to 13 percent. The reduction of state administrative funds will support an additional impacted county and help minimize the counties' impact of decreased RSS funding awarded to the state. Therefore, after setting aside 13 percent of the state's adjusted allocation for state administrative costs, the remaining \$5,998,587 will be allocated for social services and administrative costs to counties in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code Section 13276.

The 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 Report, dated August 31, 2016. The FFY 2016 final allocations are shown in the enclosed spreadsheet.

Eligible Counties

Counties are eligible to receive RSS funds if they have received at least 400 refugee arrivals during the period of October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2015. In addition, county submitted asylee data that was verified by ORR was added to the arrivals data to determine eligible counties. Based on that threshold, ten counties are eligible for FFY 2016 RSS funds: Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus. Contra Costa will participate as an impacted county and will receive FFY 2016 RSS funding to serve refugees in its county. The RPB will begin discussions with Riverside County for participating as an impacted county for FFY 2017 RSS funding.

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, 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://www.sam.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.”

Federal Funding Terms and Conditions

All recipients and sub-recipients of federal funding, including RSS funding, are required to adhere to specific terms and conditions. For information regarding these terms and conditions and requirements, please visit ORR's web site at:

- General Terms and Conditions:
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/general_terms_and_conditions_mandatory.pdf
- General Terms and Conditions Addendum (RSS Funding):
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/refugee_cma_socserv_tag_tc_addendum.pdf

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Camille Ancona, Manager, Funding and Data Unit, at (916) 653-7785 or Camille.Ancona@dss.ca.gov, or Bao Her, Analyst, Funding and Data Unit, at (916) 653-5208 or Bao.Her@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

KIM JOHNSON, Chief
Child Care and Refugee Programs Branch

Enclosure

c: CWDA

FINAL REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES (RSS) ALLOCATION FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016

*(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.93.566 - Refugee Assistance - State Administered Programs)
(Grant Period - October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2018)*

\$ 7,620,726 Final FFY 2016 RSS Standard Funds
 \$ (725,798) Funding Reserved for San Diego Wilson/Fish Project ¹
\$ 6,894,928 Final Adjusted State Allocation
 \$ (896,341) State Administrative Funds (13% of Final Adjusted State Allocation) ³
\$ 5,998,587 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	RESS1601	113	79	93	170	99	362	4.1%	\$ 245,942	\$ 36,891	\$ 209,051
Contra Costa	RESS1602	45	14	14	68	18	100	1.1%	\$ 65,984	\$ 9,898	\$ 56,086
Los Angeles	RESS1603	1,071	301	625	1,607	376	2,608	29.4%	\$ 1,763,585	\$ 264,538	\$ 1,499,047
Orange	RESS1604	130	71	115	195	89	399	4.5%	\$ 269,936	\$ 40,490	\$ 229,446
Sacramento	RESS1605	842	358	300	1,263	448	2,011	22.7%	\$ 1,361,679	\$ 204,252	\$ 1,157,427
San Diego ¹	RESS1606	632	525	1,301	948	656	2,905	32.8%	\$ 1,967,537	\$ 295,130	\$ 1,672,407
San Francisco	RESS1607	37	13	13	56	16	85	1.0%	\$ 59,986	\$ 8,998	\$ 50,988
Santa Clara	RESS1608	68	10	22	102	13	137	1.5%	\$ 89,979	\$ 13,497	\$ 76,482
Stanislaus	RESS1609	120	26	42	180	33	255	2.9%	\$ 173,959	\$ 26,094	\$ 147,865
Total		3,058	1,397	2,525	4,589	1,748	8,862	100.0%	\$ 5,998,587	\$ 899,788	\$ 5,098,799

Notes:

¹ The allocation for non-CalWORKs recipients for San Diego County is allocated to a Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. The amount of funding for the project is 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, 2016.

³ The amount of state administrative funds withheld from the state's adjusted allocation was reduced from 15 percent to 13 percent. The reduction of state administrative funds will support an additional impacted county and help minimize the counties' impact of decreased RSS funding awarded to the state.