

Federal Housing Assistance Available for Afghan Evacuees

Assistance from the Department of State:

Through the Afghan Placement and Assistance Program, Afghans granted humanitarian parole will be provided initial relocation services for 30 to 90 days after arrival through local refugee resettlement agencies and community partners. A one-time per capita amount of \$2,275 is provided to the resettlement agencies and community partners, of which \$1,225 is available to use to fund critical direct assistance needs such as housing and basic necessities like food, clothing, and furnishings.

Services also include cultural orientation, assistance with enrollment in English language services, assistance with school enrollment, access to immigration assistance, and referral to other social, medical, and employment services as eligible. ([U.S. Department of State](#))

Assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services:

As an initial tranche, the Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriation (ASA) 2022 has provided the HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) with specific appropriations to provide services to support citizens or nationals of Afghanistan. To date, ORR has allocated a total of \$191 million to states for Refugee Support Services (RSS), including \$100 million for emergency/temporary and longer-term housing assistance, including any necessary wraparound services during temporary housing ([Afghan Refugee Support Services Supplement: FY 2022](#)). In addition, ASA funding included \$25 million to support the education needs of Afghan children and \$28 million to support Afghan health needs.

Based on need, ORR intends to provide additional funding in order to support the transition into longer-term housing for Afghan individuals as well as other support services.

In addition, Afghan individuals who have been granted humanitarian parole may be eligible for cash assistance, medical assistance, employment preparation, job placement, English language training, and other services offered through HHS/ORR.

Afghan humanitarian parolees paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021 and through September 30, 2022 are eligible to apply for mainstream benefits such as cash assistance through Supplemental Security Income or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, health insurance through Medicaid, and food assistance through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program as well as receive ORR funded refugee assistance and services.

Those not eligible for SSI or TANF may receive ORR Refugee Cash Assistance for up to 8 months from their date of eligibility to help meet basic needs like food, housing, and transportation. ([HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement](#))

Emergency Rental Assistance

The Emergency Rental Assistance program has so far made about \$46 billion available to assist households that are unable to pay rent or utilities. Two separate programs have been established: ERA1 provides up to \$25 billion, and ERA2 provides up to \$21.55 billion. The funds are provided directly to states, U.S. territories, local governments, and (in the case of ERA1) Indian tribes. As of September 30, state, local, and Tribal governments have [distributed](#) over \$10 billion out of the total \$46 billion allocated to both ERA programs. ([Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#))

Other forms of assistance:

- Employment income
- Private sponsorships
- Charities and non-profit organizations (i.e., Fremont's Afghan Refugee Help Fund, Airbnb.org)