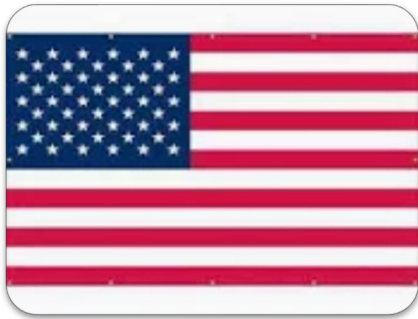


# Why welcoming newcomers is important



**“The United States is proud of its history of welcoming immigrants and refugees.** The U.S. refugee resettlement program reflects the United States’ highest values and aspirations to **compassion, generosity and leadership.**”

*(US Department of State website)*



**In Minnesota, refugees provide a story of resilience and hope for our community.** People with refugee status have experienced extreme loss and had to start their lives and careers over again. These same individuals are now legislators, school board members, teachers, state workers, nurses, factory workers and business owners. **Their resiliency strengthens the future of MN.**

# Pathways to Humanitarian Protection in the U.S.



## Temporary Protection Statuses

**MAY apply for Work Authorization after status approved**

Temporary – start and end date.

Benefit eligibility variable

## Asylum Applicants

**MAY apply Work Authorization 150 days after application**

Application can be pending a long time before approved/denied.

Eligible for State Benefits only

## Refugee / Asylum Approved

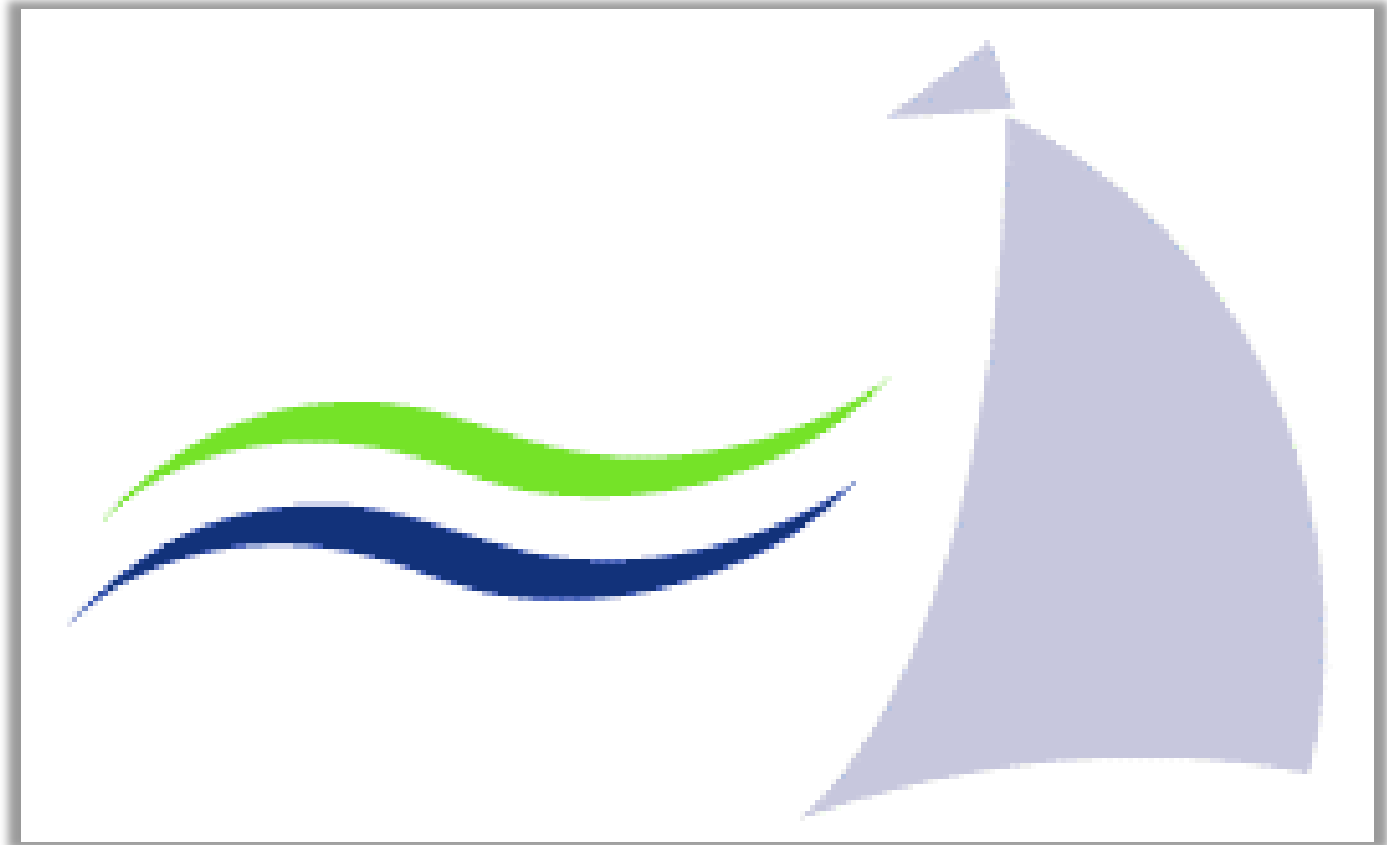
**Work authorized**

Permanent status & pathway to US Citizenship

Benefit Eligible – State and Federal

# Shifting trends:

**Who**  
**When**  
**Where**  
**How**



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)  
[The Fiscal Impact of Refugees and Asylees at the Federal, State, and Local Levels from 2005-2019 | ASPE \(hhs.gov\)](#)

# Stay Connected!

## Twin Cities Immigration Forum (*monthly*) – City of Minneapolis Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (ORIA) & City of Saint Paul Immigrant and Refuge Program

- **Purpose:** Monthly series originated in 2021 to unpack federal immigration policies, programs, actions and news. Meeting has expanded beyond immigration updates to include discussions on a variety of topics, including city updates touching Minnesota's immigrant, refugee, and newcomer community. This virtual meeting series is recorded.
- **To Connect:** email [michelle.rivero@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:michelle.rivero@minneapolismn.gov) and [edmundo.lijo@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:edmundo.lijo@ci.stpaul.mn.us). recordings for previous forums are available at: <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/ncr/immigrants-refugees/meetings-events/>

## Welcoming Minnesota Forum (*bi-weekly*) – Resettlement Programs Office (MNDHS)

- **Purpose:** A workspace for community members to collaboratively address emergent needs and concerns affecting newcomers arriving to the State of Minnesota from abroad, including from the Southern Border.
- **To Connect:** email [welcomeminnesota.dhs@state.mn.us](mailto:welcomeminnesota.dhs@state.mn.us)

## Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Forum (*monthly*) - Office of New Americans (DEED)

- **Purpose:** To connect state leaders, legislators, and providers with immigrant and refugee communities to help close the communication and working relationship gap, share state resources, and policies that help remove barriers, and amplify available or intentional advocacy on creating opportunities for immigrants and refugees in Minnesota. Monthly meetings are facilitated by the Office of New Americans.
- **To Connect:** Email [newamericans@state.mn.us](mailto:newamericans@state.mn.us)