

COVID-19 Refugee Health Resource Infographic



To access the electronic version and below links, please scan the QR code

This infographic is a snapshot of key messages and resources provided to refugees at each step of the resettlement process.

IOM Refugee Health Assessment

(3 to 6 months prior to departure)

During the health assessment, also known as the required overseas medical exam, IOM staff provide basic information about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention methods such as social distancing, respiratory and cough etiquette, handwashing, and use of masks. For cases with significant medical conditions (SMC), IOM offers additional counseling on COVID-19 risk factors, protection measures, and relevant pre-departure preparations. At present, IOM does not routinely provide COVID-19 vaccinations to refugees but may facilitate access of eligible refugees to the national COVID-19 vaccination programs when available. IOM also provides counseling and documents vaccinations on DS medical forms included in the IOM travel bag.

IOM Pre-Departure Medical Check and Testing

(24 to 72 hours prior to departure)

IOM staff repeat information previously provided at the Refugee Health Assessment. IOM also conducts COVID-19 testing for all refugees within 3 days prior to their departure. Immediate post-arrival needs of refugees with SMC are also coordinated at this stage. A Travel Hygiene Kit is provided to all refugees and includes 3-4 masks, hand sanitizer, and tissues. IOM asks about symptoms, contacts, and checks temperatures at the pre-embarkation physical exams. The CDC Welcome Booklet is provided to all refugees and outlines the testing and voluntary stay-at-home guidance after arrival in the United States.

IOM Port of Entry (POE)

(upon entry to the United States)

IOM reinforces basic information on COVID-19 symptoms and prevention. Thermometers are provided along with an additional copy of the CDC Welcome Booklet, which includes instructions on how to use a thermometer. Testing and voluntary stay-at-home guidance is reiterated at this time.

Domestic Cultural Orientation

(within 30-90 days after arrival in U.S.)

Domestic CO providers review content offered at pre-departure medical check and POE COVID-19 resources. In addition to the required CO curriculum, CO providers also share information on community spread, prevention methods, and vaccination resources.

Ongoing Care

(beyond the Reception & Placement Period)

Continuation of care in the refugees' new community is provided by various partners and includes educating refugees about COVID-19, vaccinations, linking refugees to health and human resources, collaborating with health departments for COVID-19 contact tracing and testing in refugee populations, providing ongoing case management, and aiding clients as service delivery may be delayed or altered during the pandemic.



Overseas Cultural Orientation

(3 months to 1 week prior to departure)

Overseas cultural orientation (CO) providers deliver information on COVID-19 transmission; precautionary hygiene; symptoms; prevention methods such as isolation, quarantine, and social distancing; stay-at-home recommendations; role of the resettlement agency; at-risk populations; and what to do if sick. As part of the health and hygiene curriculum, overseas CO providers reiterate the basic safety of vaccinations and advise unvaccinated refugees to work with their resettlement agencies and healthcare providers upon arrival to access local vaccination services.

Departure

Refugees board flight with a Travel Hygiene Kit (masks, hand sanitizer, and tissues).

Arrival at Final Destination

(Immediately after arrival)

Resettlement agencies counsel refugees to either receive a post-arrival COVID test 3-5 days after arrival and stay at home for 7 days if the test is negative, or, if not tested, stay at home for 10 days after arrival. Resettlement agencies also share any local quarantine requirements and vaccination guidance including information and assistance in accessing local vaccination services.

Domestic Medical Exam

(within 30 days of arrival)

A comprehensive medical exam is provided which connects newly arrived refugees to a medical provider and the U.S. medical system. This exam is an opportunity for domestic providers to offer COVID-19 vaccinations to eligible refugees, reiterate messages of COVID-19 prevention, and to provide their contact information in case further questions or care regarding COVID-19 is needed.

Refugee-Facing Materials



To access the electronic version and below links, please scan the QR code

This infographic links the key resources shared with refugees at each step of the resettlement process. After arrival, domestic resettlement agencies will vary the materials provided, as appropriate.

Overseas Cultural Orientation

(3 months to 1 week prior to departure)

- [COVID-19: How to Protect Yourself and Stop the Spread of the Virus Video](#)
- [Resettling to the United States during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [COVID-19: Understanding Guidance and Rules](#)
- [Refugee Resettlement during COVID-19 FAQs](#)

Departure

Refugees board flight with the Travel Hygiene Kit.

Arrival at Final Destination

(immediately after arrival)

- [CORE COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Refugee-Facing COVID-19 Resources with translated materials for refugee audiences](#)
- [Refugee Resettlement during COVID-19 FAQs](#)

Domestic Medical Exam

(within 30 days of arrival)

Health screening clinics disseminate various resources from CDC and other health agencies, including information about the COVID-19 vaccines which can be found at:

- [Switchboard: Round-Up of Multilingual Resources on COVID-19](#)
- [CDC Communications Toolkit for Migrant, Refugees, and other Limited-English-Proficient Populations](#)
- [CDC: Resources for Newly Resettled Refugee Populations](#)

IOM Refugee Health Assessment

(3 to 6 months prior to departure)

- [COVID-19: How to Protect Yourself and Stop the Spread of the Virus Video](#)
- [CDC: COVID-19 in Newly Resettled Refugee Populations](#)
- [CDC: COVID-19 Symptoms](#)
- [CDC: What You Can Do If You Are At Higher Risk](#)

IOM Pre-Departure Medical Check and Testing

(24-72 hours prior to departure)

- As of December 7, 2020 IOM started providing pre-departure COVID-19 testing for all refugees within 72 hours prior to departure.
- [CDC Welcome Booklet](#), which communicates key messages about post-arrival testing and voluntary stay-at-home guidance.
- Travel Hygiene Kit with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for travel (3-4 masks per person, hand sanitizer, tissues)
- 12 weeks of medical supply for refugees with severe medical conditions.

IOM Port of Entry

(upon entry to the United States)

- [CDC Welcome Booklet](#) for those who did not get the booklet at pre-departure with 20 alcohol wipes, replenished PPE, and one thermometer per case.
- Replenish PPE.

Domestic Cultural Orientation

(30-90 days after arrival in U.S.)

- [NRC-RIM Vaccine Central Page](#)
- [NRC-RIM Common Questions, Helpful Responses: How Client-Facing Staff Can Help Answer COVID-19 Vaccine Questions](#)
- [CORE COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Refugee-Facing COVID-19 Resources with translated materials for refugee audiences](#)
- [Switchboard: Round-Up of Multilingual Resources on COVID-19](#)
- [CDC Communications Toolkit for Migrant, Refugees, and other Limited-English-Proficient Populations](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Resources for Refugee Resettlement Service Providers](#)

Ongoing Care

(beyond the Reception & Placement Period)

- [Switchboard: Round-Up of Multilingual Resources on COVID-19](#)
- [Communications Toolkit for Migrant, Refugees, and other Limited-English-Proficient Populations](#)
- [CDC: Resources for Newly Resettled Refugee Populations](#)
- [NRC-RIM Vaccine Central Page](#)
- [NRC-RIM COVID-19 Videos](#)