



The Interim Federal Health Benefits Program is designed to act as a funding bridge for refugees until provincial health plans can be accessed. The Interim Federal Health Program provides limited temporary coverage of health-care costs to protected persons who are not eligible for provincial or territorial health insurance plans and where claims cannot be made under private health insurance. (www.servicecanadagc.ca)

The Immigration Partnership Waterloo Region through a collaborative community initiative developed the enclosed Interim Federal Health Benefits program chart that explains the recent changes, terms and definitions of refugees that relate to the Interim Federal Health program, along with several community resources available to clarify your patient's particular needs.

The Access to Primary Care committee consists of local agencies (Reception House, Kitchener Downtown Community Health Centre, KW Multicultural Centre, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Woolwich Community Health Centre, ACCKWA, Region of Waterloo Public Health and Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support) and was formed to address issues related to access to primary care for newcomers.

We are continuing to explore a community response to the changes of the Interim Federal Health Benefits program and issues surrounding Immigrants and Refugees navigating and accessing medical care within Waterloo Region. We recognize that there are likely no simple solutions to this issue but believe that by bringing people together we may be able to generate some potential solutions and options. If you have any suggestions or would like to participate in this project, please feel free to contact Daniella McIntosh, Community Engagement Coordinator (dmcintosh@regionofwaterloo.ca 519-575-4757 ext. 1233)

INTERIM FEDERAL HEALTH PROGRAM – SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

IFHP STATUS GROUP CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	PAGE NUMBER
Government-Assisted Refugees (GARs)	Convention refugees supported by the Government of Canada during first year in Canada; Permanent Residents upon arrival in Canada	2
Visa Office Referred Refugees (VORs)	These refugees have already been interviewed by a visa officer and are determined to be eligible to resettlement in Canada	3
Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSRs)	Canadian citizens or permanent residents over the age of 18 can sponsor one or more refugees to come to Canada and settle in the area	4
Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JASPs)	Community organizations can work as partners with Citizenship and Immigration Canada to resettle refugees	6
Blended Visa Office Referred Refugees (Blended VORs)	Sponsorship involving both citizenship and immigration Canada and a sponsorship agreement holder to provide 12 month settlement support	7
Victims of Trafficking in Persons (who have been issued Temporary Resident Permit (TRP))	A temporary resident permit is a document authorizing a person to Canada. TRP are only issued in exceptional circumstances	8
Refugee Claimants (NON-Designated Country of Origin -DCO)	A person who has made a claim for protection as a refugee.	9
Refugee Claimants (DCO)	A person who has made a claim for protection as a refugee and is from a country the CIC has designated as safe	10
Refused / Rejected claimants	A person who has made a claim for protection as a refugee, but has been refused refugee status	10

IFHP STATUS: GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED REFUGEES (GARS)

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>Resettled refugees who are receiving federal government resettlement assistance in the form of income support.</p> <p>Valid for 1 year (or as long as receiving income support from CIC) from date of landing in Canada BUT CIC issues and this could take up to a few weeks depending on processing times.</p> <p>Once your coverage is issued by CIC, it takes at least two business days to become active in Medavie Blue Cross' system.</p> <p>Medical coverage for 90 days post landing in Canada</p> <p>IFH will not cover expenses if same treatment/service is covered by OHIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hospital services •Services of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals licensed in Canada •Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services <p>Medical care benefit grid: Integrated Federal Health Program - Health Care Coverage</p>	<p><u>Supplemental Benefits:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦prescribed medications and other pharmacy products; ◦limited dental and vision care; ◦prosthetics and devices to assist mobility; and ◦home care and long-term care; ◦psychological counselling provided by a registered clinical psychologist; ◦post-arrival health assessments. <p>Supplemental coverage benefit grid: Integrated Federal Health Program - Extended Coverage</p> <p>Expanded drug benefit list: Integrated Federal Health Program - Expanded Drug Benefits</p> <p>Public health/public safety drug benefit list: Integrated Federal Health Program - Public Health and Public Safety Drug Benefits List</p>	<p>Can apply immediately upon arrival with appropriate documentation/proof of residency.</p> <p>OHIP eligible expenses covered.</p> <p>IFH will not cover any expenses that OHIP covers.</p> <p>OHIP covers portion of ambulance person must pay \$45.00</p> <p>OHIP information: Eligibility for OHIP</p>	<p>Reception House Waterloo Region Lynne@kwrcentre.ca 519-743-0445</p> <p>To report a lost, stolen, or destroyed certificate as soon as possible by calling the CIC Call Centre at 1-888-242-2100.</p> <p>Blue Cross Medavie Integrated Federal Health Medavie Blue Cross Provider Portal</p> <p>CIC IFHP website outline of services: List of Services IFH Covers</p> <p>Application for Interim Federal Health Program Coverage (IFHP) http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/guides/5568ETOC.asp#ontario</p>

IFHP Status: Visa Office Referred Refugees (VORs)

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>Resettled refugees who are receiving Federal Government Resettlement Assistance in the form of income support.</p> <p>Valid as long as receiving income support from CIC from date of landing in Canada BUT CIC issues and this could take up to a few weeks depending on processing times.</p> <p>Once your coverage is issued by CIC, it takes at least two business days to become active in Medavie Blue Cross' system.</p> <p>Medical coverage only until person is in receipt of OHIP coverage.</p> <p>IFH will not cover expenses if same treatment/service is covered by OHIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hospital services •Services of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals licensed in Canada •Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services <p>Medical Care Benefit Grid: https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca/</p>	<p>Supplemental Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦prescribed medications and other pharmacy products; ◦limited dental and vision care; ◦prosthetics and devices to assist mobility; and ◦home care and long-term care; ◦psychological counselling provided by a registered clinical psychologist; ◦post-arrival health assessments. <p>SUPPLEMENTAL COVERAGE BENEFIT GRID: https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca/</p> <p>EXPANDED DRUG BENEFIT LIST: https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca/</p> <p>PUBLIC HEALTH/PUBLIC SAFETY DRUG BENEFIT LIST: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/laws-policy/ifhp.asp</p>	<p>Can apply immediately upon arrival with appropriate documentation/proof of residency.</p> <p>OHIP eligible expenses covered.</p> <p>IFH will not cover any expenses that OHIP covers.</p> <p>OHIP covers portion of ambulance person must pay \$45.00</p> <p>OHIP information: Eligibility for OHIP</p>	<p>Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support 519-571-1912 refugee@mcrs.ca</p> <p>Reception House Waterloo Region Lynne@kwrcentre.ca 519-743-0445</p> <p>Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) Jennifer Ardon 519-725-8777 Clwr.on@gmail.com</p> <p>To report a lost, stolen, or destroyed certificate as soon as possible by calling the CIC Call Centre at 1-888-242-2100.</p> <p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p> <p>List of service providers – scroll down to find Cambridge, Kitchener or Waterloo: List of Service Providers in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo who accept IFH</p> <p>CIC IFHP website outline of services: List of Services IFH Covers</p>

IFHP Status: **PRIVATELY SPONSORED REFUGEES (PSRs)**

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage <u>Eligibility</u>	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>Resettled refugees who are receiving financial and settlement assistance from groups (churches, group of 5 people, community groups, etc.) <u>for 1 year.</u></p> <p>Valid for 1 year from date of landing in Canada BUT CIC issues and this could take up to a few weeks depending on processing times.</p> <p>Once your coverage is issued by CIC, it takes at least two business days to become active in Medavie Blue Cross' system.</p> <p>Medical coverage only until person is in receipt of OHIP coverage</p> <p>IFH will not cover expenses if same treatment/service is covered by OHIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hospital services •Services of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals licensed in Canada •Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services <p>Medical Care Benefit Grid: Medical Care Benefit Grid</p> <p>Public Health and Public Safety Drug Benefit List: Public Health/Public Safety Drug Benefit Grid</p>	<p>OHIP information: Eligibility for OHIP</p>	<p>Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) Jennifer Ardon 519-725-8777 Clwr.on@gmail.com</p> <p>To report a lost, stolen, or destroyed certificate as soon as possible by calling the CIC Call Centre at 1-888-242-2100.</p>	<p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p> <p>List of service providers – scroll down to find Cambridge, Kitchener or Waterloo: List of Service Providers in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo who accept IFH</p> <p>CIC IFHP website outline of services: List of Services IFH Covers</p>

IFHP Status: JOINT ASSISTANCE SPONSORSHIP (JASs)

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility		Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>Resettled refugees who are receiving federal government resettlement assistance in the form of income support.</p> <p>Valid for 2 years (or as long as receiving income support from CIC) from date of landing in Canada BUT CIC issues and this could take up to a few weeks depending on processing times.</p> <p>Once your coverage is issued by CIC, it takes at least two business days to become active in Medavie Blue Cross' system.</p> <p>.Medical coverage only until person is in receipt of OHIP coverage</p> <p>IFH will not cover expenses if same treatment/service is covered by OHIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hospital services •Services of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals licensed in Canada •Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services <p>Medical Care Benefit Grid: Integrated Federal Health Program - Health Care Coverage</p>	<p><u>Supplemental Benefits:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦prescribed medications and other pharmacy products; ◦limited dental and vision care; ◦prosthetics and devices to assist mobility; and ◦home care and long-term care; ◦psychological counselling provided by a registered clinical psychologist; ◦post-arrival health assessments. <p><u>Supplemental Coverage Benefit Grid:</u> Integrated Federal Health Program - Expanded Health Care Coverage</p> <p><u>Expanded Drug Benefit List:</u> Integrated Federal Health - Expanded Drug Benefit List</p> <p><u>Public Health and Public Safety Drug Benefit List:</u> Integrated Federal Health Program - Public Health and Public Safety Drug Benefit List</p>	<p>Can apply immediately upon arrival with appropriate documentation/proof of residency.</p> <p>OHIP eligible expenses covered.</p> <p>IFH will not cover any expenses that OHIP covers.</p> <p>OHIP covers portion of ambulance person must pay \$45.00</p> <p>OHIP information: Eligibility for OHIP</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Reception House Waterloo Region Lynne@kwrcentre.ca 519-743-0445</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) Jennifer Ardon 519-725-8777 Clwr.on@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To report a lost, stolen, or destroyed certificate as soon as possible by calling the CIC Call Centre at 1-888-242-2100.</p>	<p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugee/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p> <p>List of service providers – scroll down to find Cambridge, Kitchener or Waterloo: List of Service Providers in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo who accept IFH</p> <p>CIC IFHP website outline of services: List of Services IFH Covers</p>

IFHP Status: **BLENDED VISA OFFICE REFERRED REFUGEES (BLENDED VORs)**

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>Resettled refugees who are receiving half of their resettlement assistance federal government in the form of income support and half from private sponsorship groups.</p> <p>Valid for 1 year from date of landing in Canada BUT CIC issues and this could take up to a few weeks depending on processing times.</p> <p>Once your coverage is issued by CIC, it takes at least two business days to become active in Medavie Blue Cross' system.</p> <p>. Medical coverage only until person is in receipt of OHIP coverage</p> <p>IFH will not cover expenses if same treatment/service is covered by OHIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hospital services •Services of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals licensed in Canada •Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services <p>Medical Care Benefit Grid: Medical Care Benefit Grid</p>	<p>Supplemental Benefits: ◦prescribed medications and other pharmacy products; ◦limited dental and vision care; ◦prosthetics and devices to assist mobility; and ◦home care and long-term care; ◦psychological counselling provided by a registered clinical psychologist; ◦post-arrival health assessments.</p> <p>Supplemental Coverage Benefit Grid: Supplemental Coverage Benefit Grid</p> <p>Expanded Drug Benefit List: Expanded Drug Benefit Grid</p> <p>Public Health and Public Safety Drug Benefit List: Public Health/Public Safety Drug Benefit Grid</p>	<p>Can apply immediately upon arrival with appropriate documentation/proof of residency.</p> <p>OHIP eligible expenses covered.</p> <p>IFH will not cover any expenses that OHIP covers.</p> <p>OHIP covers portion of ambulance person must pay \$45.00</p> <p>OHIP information: OHIP Information</p>	<p>Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) Jennifer Ardon 519-725-8777 Clwr.on@gmail.com</p> <p>Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support 519-571-1912 refugee@mcrs.ca supportworker@mcrs.ca www.mcrs.ca</p> <p>To report a lost, stolen, or destroyed certificate as soon as possible by calling the CIC Call Centre at 1-888-242-2100.</p> <p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p> <p>List of service providers – scroll down to find Cambridge, Kitchener or Waterloo: List of Service Providers in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo who accept IFH</p> <p>CIC IFHP website outline of services: List of Services IFH Covers</p>

IFHP Status: VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (issued temporary resident permit TRP)

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>Full Coverage of all medical, diagnostic and hospital services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital services • Services of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals licensed in Canada • Laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services • Psychotherapy, dental, vision and other supplemental services • Medication and medical devices 	<p>The level of coverage provided through the IFHP for these benefits is similar to the level of coverage which may be provided by Provincial and Territorial Governments to Canadians receiving social assistance.</p>	<p>Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support 519-571-1912 refugee@mcrs.ca supportworker@mcrs.ca www.mcrs.ca</p> <p>K-W Multicultural Centre Ana Luz Martinez Settlement Programs Coordinator 519-745 2531 ext. 130 analuz@kwmc-on.com</p>	<p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p>

IFHP Status: REFUGEE CLAIMANTS (NON-DESIGNATED COUNTRY OF ORIGIN-DCO)

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage <u>Eligibility</u>	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>All medical, hospital and diagnostic services normally covered by provincial health insurance except elective surgery, rehabilitation and long term care No coverage of medication except for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diseases posing a risk to public health, i.e. contagious diseases, and • Conditions posing a risk to public safety, e.g. psychotic aggression 	<p>Not eligible for OHIP</p>	<p>Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support 519-571-1912 refugee@mcrs.ca supportworker@mcrs.ca www.mcrs.ca</p> <p>K-W Multicultural Centre Ana Luz Martinez Settlement Programs Coordinator 519-745 2531 ext. 130 analuz@kwmc-on.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Designated Country of Origin (DCO):</u></p> <p>“Under the <i>Balanced Refugee Reform Act</i> (BRRA), the government has the authority to identify certain countries as “Designated countries of origin,” which means the government has decided they do not normally produce refugees and the government considers them to be safe. A person from one of these countries will have their refugee claim fast tracked through the system and will not have access to certain rights that other people who are not from these countries do “</p> <p>List of service providers – scroll down to find Cambridge, Kitchener or Waterloo: <u>List of Service Providers in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo who accept IFH</u></p> <p>CIC IFHP website outline of services: <u>List of Services IFH Covers</u></p>

IFHP Status: REFUGEE CLAIMANTS (DCO)

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>No coverage for medical services or medication expect for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diseases posing a risk to public health, i.e. contagious diseases, and • Conditions posing a risk to public safety, e.g. psychotic aggression <p>Refugee claimants from DCO's who arrive before December 15, 2012 have been "grandfathered in" and therefore DO have IFH coverage while they are waiting for their hearing</p>	<p>Not eligible for OHIP</p>	<p>Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support 519-571-1912 supportworker@mcrs.ca</p> <p>K-W Multicultural Centre Ana Luz Martinez Settlement Programs Coordinator 519-745 2531 ext. 130 analuz@kwmc-on.com</p>	<p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada-Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugee/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p>

IFHP Status: REFUSED/REJECTED CLAIMANTS

Interim Federal Health Program (IFH) Coverage Eligibility	Ontario Health Insurance Plan	Waterloo Region Agencies and Community Resources	Links to relevant website for information
<p>NO coverage of health care services or medication except for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diseases posing a risk to public health, i.e. contagious diseases, and • Conditions posing a risk to public safety, e.g. psychotic aggression 	<p>Not eligible for OHIP</p>	<p>Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support 519-571-1912 refugee@mcrs.ca supportworker@mcrs.ca www.mcrs.ca</p>	<p>Canadian Council for Refugees http://ccrweb.ca/en/ifh-practical</p> <p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada-Health Care for Refugees http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugee/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp</p>



INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

CANADA
 ** NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL **
 CANADA
 ** DOES NOT CONFER STATUS **

SURNAME, GIVEN NAMES - NOM DE FAMILLE, PRÉNOMS		
BIRTH DATE - DATE DE NAISSANCE		SEX - SEXE MALE
COUNTRY OF BIRTH - PAYS DE NAISSANCE SOMALIA	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP - CITOYEN DE SOMALIA	
OFF. FILE NO. - N° DE RÉF. DU BUREAU	CLIENT ID. - ID DU CLIENT	
DATE SIGNED - SIGNÉ LE 04 DEC 2012	VALID UNTIL - DATE D'EXPIRATION	EXT. NO. - CODE PROROG.

REMARKS:

AS OF 04 DEC 2012, THE ABOVE-NAMED INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL HEALTH CARE. THE INDIVIDUAL MUST VERIFY THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL WITH THE IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS OFFICE. THE INDIVIDUAL MUST VERIFY THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL WITH THE IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS OFFICE.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, STATE THAT I QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE FOR HEALTH CARE, I WILL COOPERATE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY OWN MEDICAL AND PERSONAL EXPENSES. I UNDERSTAND THAT MY MEDICAL AND PERSONAL INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED WITH THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND OTHER AGENCIES AND THAT PERSONAL INFORMATION MAY BE SHARED WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER THIRD-PARTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRIVACY ACT AND THE IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ACT.



SIGNATURE OF HOLDER / OFFICER

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA / LE PRÉSENT DOCUMENT EST LA PROPRIÉTÉ DU GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA

Example of IFH Status Document

