



Waterloo Region  
Community Legal Services

# LEGAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES

IMTENAN ABD-EL-RAZIK

IMMIGRATION STAFF LAWYER

JUNE 26, 2024

# TODAY'S PRESENTATION

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1. Introduction to our clinic, the services we offer in all different areas of law and how to qualify for them
2. Immigration services for those with precarious status

# I. WRCLS SERVICES

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- Income maintenance (ODSP, CPP, etc)
- Employment
- Housing
- Immigration
- Notary and commissioning services

# QUALIFYING FOR LEGAL AID

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- For any service at WRCLS, you do not need to have immigration status in Canada to speak to a lawyer or paralegal.
- If your status is relevant to a non-immigration legal problem, counsel will advise you during the consultation process
- Criteria are geographical (we serve Kitchener, Waterloo, and Cambridge) and financial

# FINANCIAL THRESHOLDS

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## Income

Family unit size for entity services	Gross annual income
1	\$22,720
2	\$32,131
3	\$39,352
4	\$45,440
5 or more	\$50,803

## Assets

Family unit size for entity services	Liquid asset value limit for entity services
Individual	\$ 8,933
Family unit of 2 or more	\$11,910

# SERVICES AND CONFIDENTIALITY

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- For those who do qualify, clinic can help with summary advice or representation
- Your information is confidential. We will never “report” immigration issues to anyone

# HOW TO CONTACT US

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- Phone: 519-743-0254
- Webform through our website: <https://www.wrcls.ca/>
- Main office: 450 Frederick Street, Kitchener ON, Unit 101
- Cambridge office: 1145 Concession Road, Cambridge ON, Room N206

# II. IMMIGRATION SERVICES - I

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## **REFUGEE CLAIMANTS:**

- Refugee claims are generally covered by legal aid certificates, not clinics
- We can provide advice for those contemplating making a refugee claim

# IMMIGRATION SERVICES - 2

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- **TEMPORARY RESIDENTS**

- Workers: we have helped migrant workers in abusive situations to obtain open work permits
- Students: we can provide advice or representation on maintaining student status, transitioning to a post-graduate work permit, or obtaining permanent residence through express entry

# IMMIGRATION SERVICES - 3

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- **PEOPLE WITHOUT STATUS**

- Humanitarian applications can be a good option for those who have lived in Canada without status for long periods and established themselves, especially (but not necessarily) if there are children involved
- Temporary Resident Permits: those out of status can apply for a temporary status in Canada to allow them to sort out affairs in Canada or to maintain status while applying for permanent residence
- Spousal sponsorship: Canadian citizens or PRs can apply to sponsor spouses that are out of status from within Canada

# IMMIGRATION SERVICES - 4

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- We can also help permanent residents maintain status when it is threatened
- E.g. if a client has a criminal charge or conviction, we can try to help them hold on to their PR

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THANK YOU