## U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) Direct Access Program for Syrian Beneficiaries of Approved I-130 Petitions BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION

## Fact Sheet March 2016

Syrian beneficiaries of approved I-130 Petitions for Alien Relative may apply directly for consideration under the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) without the need for a referral by UNHCR. Beneficiaries may also include their derivatives on their refugee case. Derivatives are defined as spouses and unmarried children who were under 21 years of age on the date the I-130 petition was approved by USCIS.

Refugee processing under this program is currently available in the following locations: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates. We do not anticipate that processing will become available in Syria, Turkey, elsewhere Europe, or in any other regions.

Letters and Expression of Interest (EOI) Forms from the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration are being mailed to qualifying Syrian beneficiaries in care of their I-130 petitioner. If a beneficiary is interested in pursuing refugee resettlement through this program, either the beneficiary or petitioner should complete and return the required forms in accordance with the instructions on the forms.

Beneficiaries must be physically present in their selected location of processing before submitting their EOI forms. Please be aware that if an individual chooses to relocate for refugee processing, the U.S. government will not be in a position to assist him/her with obtaining a visa and will not provide assistance relating to his/her stay.

Regardless of whether an eligible beneficiary elects to be considered for resettlement as a refugee under this program or not, his/her approved immigrant visa petition will continue to be processed by the National Visa Center.

The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program is free of charge to applicants. If you would like additional information about this program, please review the frequently asked questions available at: <u>http://www.wrapsnet.org/SIVIraqiSyrianP2</u>.