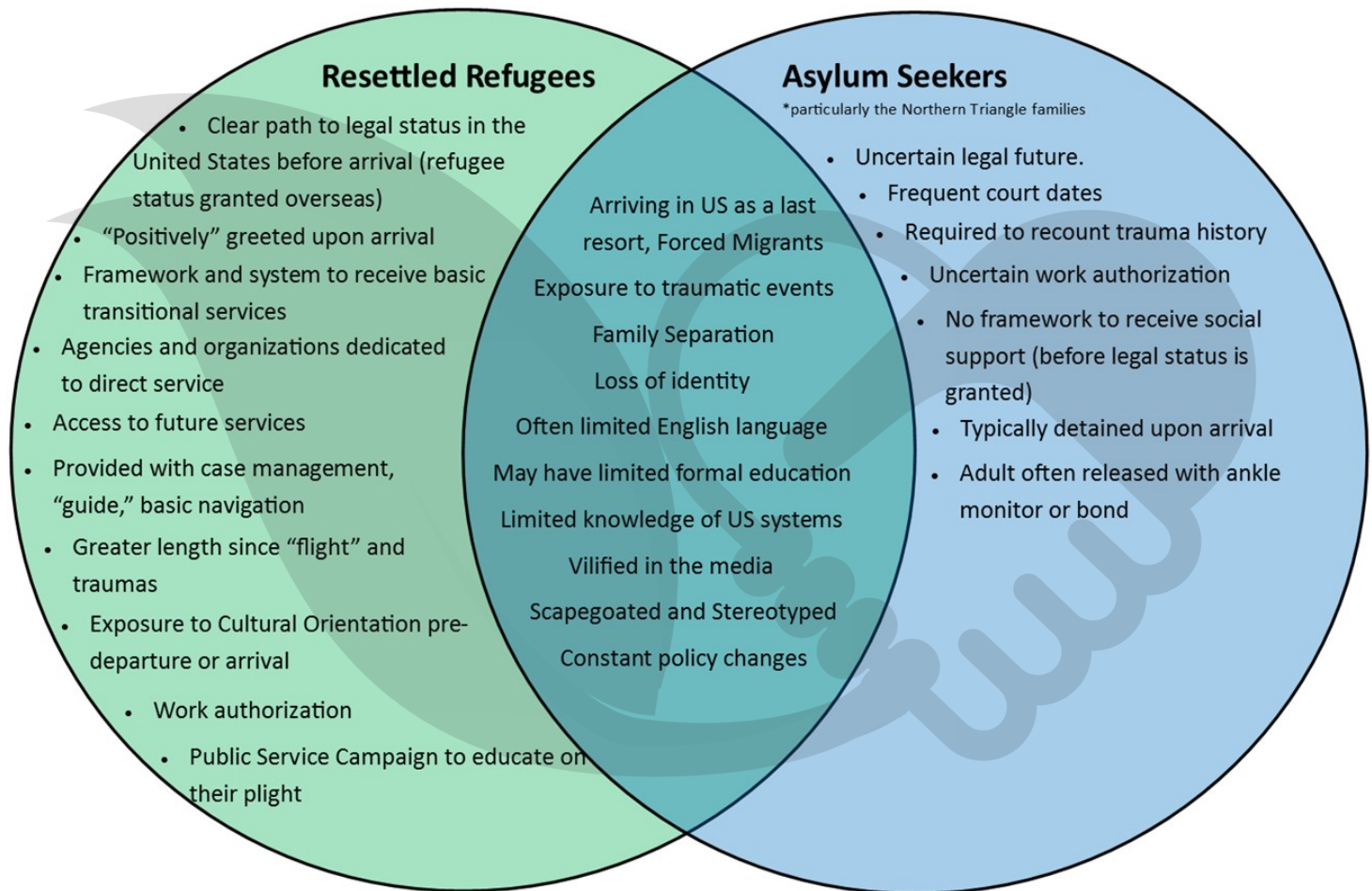


Resettled Refugees vs Asylum Seekers



Immigration Resources and Sites

HILSC Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative

Calendar, hotline, updates <https://www.houstonimmigration.org/>

CILA Childrens Immigration Law Academy <https://cilacademy.org/>

ILRC Immigrant Legal Resource Center <https://www.ilrc.org/>

CAM Central American Minors Working Group, STAR & STAR Support

<https://starcounselingconsultation.com/cam-working-group>



STAR Counseling & Consultation, PLLC



STAR Support, 501c3

Immigration Overview & Notes

Immigration designation

Immigrant	Asylum Seeker	Refugee	SIV	Parolee
Someone who makes a conscious decision to leave his or her home and move to a foreign country with the intention of settling there.	Someone seeking international protection from dangers in their home country, but who's claim for refugee status hasn't been determined legally.	Someone that has been forced to flee his or her home because of war, violence or persecution Unable to return home unless/until conditions are safe again. Official government entity or UNHCR determines whether person meets the definition	Special immigrant visa, Afghan or Iraqi national, worked as translator or interpreter for the US govt or employed by US govt, minimum of a year. Also, Priority 2, Priority 3.	Humanitarian parole, parole granted for "urgent humanitarian reasons" for an individual to enter the US. Rapid, enter while processing SIV or visas. *eligible for work authorization but not resettlement or fed benefits
Examples: Mexico, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa, Saudi Arabia	Examples: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua	Examples: DR Congo, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Burma, Bhutan		

The correct terminology is important because it reflects the experience and the access to services. (IRC, 2020)

Benefits & Services available

Benefit	Description	Refugee	Asylum Seeker	SIV	Parolee
Refugee Support Services	Employment services, English Language Classes, Transportation, Childcare	✓	✗	✓	✗
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Financial assistance for individuals	✓	✗	✓	✗
TANF	Financial assistance for families	✓	✗	✓	?
Medicaid	Food assistance for families	✓	✗	✓	?
Refugee Cash Assistance	Financial assistance if ineligible for SSI/TANF	✓	✗	✓	✗
Refugee Medical Assistance	Healthcare if ineligible for Medicaid	✓	✗	✓	✗
Matching Grant Program	Case management, cash assistance	✓	✗	✓	✗
Employment Authorization	Permission to work in the US	✓	✗*	✓	✓
Barriers: ID, license All have access to *free public school education K-12, *Harris Health System					
✗* Asylum seekers can receive employment authorization (EAD) ~1 year after filing complete asylum application					