



WHY WE NEED A NEW COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PATHWAY FOR REFUGEES

EXISTING PATHWAYS

Existing pathways for refugee students are insufficient

F-1 VISA

The main type of student visa in the U.S. and current avenue for refugees to enter the U.S. as students.

F-1 VISA BARRIERS:

- Need to show financial support for length of program
- Not a durable solution for protection - student must show intention to return to their home country
- Limited access to permanent residences and work authorization

P1-P3 CATEGORIES

Refugees are admitted to the U.S. through existing refugee definitions, vulnerability-based resettlement criteria and vetting.

Resettled refugees who arrive via these categories may seek to access higher education after they have arrived in the U.S.

- P-1 (Priority 1): Individuals referred by the UNHCR, a U.S. embassy, or certain NGOs
- P-2 (Priority 2): Groups of special humanitarian parole
- P-3 (Priority 3): Family reunification cases

P1-P3 BARRIERS:

- Less than 1% of refugees worldwide are resettled
- No immediate pathway to education - focused on economic self-sufficiency via employment within 90 days of arrival

PROPOSED NEW COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PATHWAY

Refugee students would enter the U.S. through a **UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM.**



Selection criteria would be based on academic qualifications and potential. To be eligible, students would need to meet the refugee definition.

FEWER BARRIERS TO REFUGEE STUDENTS:

- Durable solution - students come in as refugees with a clear pathway to lawful permanent residence and citizenship
- Educational access - students can enroll as full time students and access higher education