

2/24/17 MAFSA

10:00 - Transcript evaluations Cardice Lenet

Honduras - Karen Folk - Wash

China - Anne Dillon - Henrico

French-speaking - Don Shea - MCPS

Guinea-Bissau - Taina <sup>Commissariat</sup> AACPS

- Juana has updated grading scale for Honduras
  - China - scales of 100 + 120 (use %)
  - French-speaking (Cameroon) credits or confirmed BAC need documentation of not having a diploma.
  - Use exams or report cards?
  - School years that are different than ours?  
Continues in past grade. / chronological.  
Anything in writing - manual / best practices
  - Guinea-Bissau - Add to country scale
    - online guide to educational systems around the world - Guinea Bissau + scale

AIE	16-20	A
	13-15	B
	10-12	C
	1-9	F
- Transfer grades - some districts have audit, others give no credit, some leave grades blank

Add to website?  
+ charts  
email to Juana

(!) AACPS - suspended their Int Office registrations for a month due to backlog - ESSC had to go out + test

- Add to charts
- Costa Rica - student who completed grade 11 and failed Math exam.  
Need to add exit exams to chart

- 11:00
- Review of membership terms
  - Website - updated after meeting
  - Next meeting - May - Alexandria City  
October - Anne Arundel
  - Charts training in May
  - Change password / collect 81

- Add to website + charts
- Haiti - Bev (Haiti School System)  
Collier County Public Schools  
[www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com)  
Chart provided for Haiti

- change to charts
- Chile - Juana  
Minimum pass = 4      Scale 1-7  
HS grades called 1, 2, 3, 4

- " - Honduras - grading scale, also add words
- " - Bolivia
- " - Eritrea - add to grading scale

( - UK (Ecuador, Spain) Year 10 = 9<sup>th</sup>

\* Add to FAQ ? about registering young students (16) who have already graduated (different in VA + MD) @ WD to foreign country instead of dropout

Candice Edwards - MORA

Public/Private partnership

(cash assistance, work, youth, health, older)

States have no control over # of refugees they can accept.

Every year presidential determination done for quotas

was 110,000 nationally. (Oct-Sept) ED was limited to

50,000 (30,000 were already admitted)

SIV not a part (15,000 more expected)

2,975 projected to MD (refugees, SIV, parolees)

At 85% capacity

Some families move after resettlement - now to Charles,  
Wiconico, etc.

- Issue of names (FNU) John Oliver segment
- Students with disabilities - need to follow IEP process.  
IRC has intensive case management for severe medical needs.
- Mental health - initial screening (RHS-15) and referrals to psychiatrist or mental health specialist  
DHMH responsible for mental health  
Need to be cognizant of interpreter + family's reluctance to seek out mental health supports.  
When families move, documentation will determine the services new

## IRC - working w/ youths

- vaccinations
- case management for 6 months
- high enrollment last summer was high
- families coming in now are larger
- there's been a slow-down recently
- grade placement based on age / oral declaration in some districts.
- after-school programs in:  
Balto. City, PG, MCPS

## EO's impact

110,000 cap lowered to 50,000

refugees set to arrive through Monday

SIV's not impacted (Iraq + Afghanistan)

600 asylees in MD - <sup>+trafficking</sup> don't know if they're impacted

Rights document - translated into other languages

## I-94 expiration dates?

On travel document, it's an arrival date, not expiration

DSS - refugees are eligible for services and ~~are~~ <sup>do</sup> not have to do 5 year bar

## **Guidance for Refugees and Asylees on Maintaining Lawful Status**

The refugee resettlement agencies in Maryland are committed to serving refugees and asylees, and we are providing guidance to ensure that our clients retain the protections they have been granted under US law.

Regardless of changes in enforcement priorities, anyone who has already been granted refugee status or political asylum cannot lose their status except under circumstances outlined in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Refugee status cannot be terminated unless the U.S. government can establish that an individual did not meet the definition of a refugee at the time of admission to the U.S. (e.g. due to fraud in the initial claim). Asylee status can only be terminated where an individual did not meet the definition of a refugee at the time asylum was granted or subsequently ceased to meet the definition of refugee (e.g. due to changed country conditions) prior to adjusting to LPR status.

For derivative asylees and refugees, the provisions of law which accord derivative status to spouses and unmarried children under 21 of principal refugees and asylees will remain in effect unless changed by legislation. Even if changes were made to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program and its associated family reunification process, (i.e. P-3 Family Reunification AOR, P-2 CAM-AOR and P-2 Direct Access), refugees and asylees already in the U.S. will still be able to petition for their derivative relatives through the I-730 Asylee/Refugee Relative Petition ("Visa-92/93") process.

Refugees and asylees have legal obligations associated with their status and should do the following in order to ensure compliance with the law and avoid any consequences for failing to meet these obligations.

### **1) Apply for Adjustment of Status After One Year of Physical Presence in the U.S.**

Refugees must timely file their adjustment application as those who fail to do so at the one-year mark risk enforcement measures, including detention.

### **2) Register All Changes of Address Within Ten Days**

Immigration law requires all non-U.S. citizens in the U.S. for 30 days or more to register their address with the Department of Homeland Security by filing Form AR-11 Alien's Change of Address Card with USCIS within 10 days of the change. Failure to do so may result in a fine or even prison, and may be grounds for removal from the U.S. unless the individual can demonstrate that such failure was not knowing or willful.

### **3) Do not return to country of nationality/persecution**

Although U.S. immigration law does not prohibit refugees or asylees from returning to the country from which they claimed persecution, it is important to be aware of the risks of doing so. Voluntarily returning to the country of persecution, even for a short visit or even for urgent reasons, may be construed as contradicting the refugee's or asylee's claim that s/he was unable or unwilling to return to their country of nationality on account of their government's inability or unwillingness to protect them from harm. Return to the country of persecution, regardless of whether or not the individual has obtained a Refugee Travel Document and/or adjusted to LPR status, could be interpreted as evidence of fraud or misrepresentation in the initial refugee claim. This could result in either a refusal to readmit the individual to the U.S., or termination of their refugee or asylum status at a later date. Similarly, travelling on a passport issued by the country of