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*Education schemes for displaced people (including refugees) can provide qualified students an additional and complementary way to safely enter or stay in another country.*

### What are education pathways for refugees?

With only a limited number of resettlement places worldwide, many refugees spend years, even decades, living lives in limbo, unable to return home yet unable to rebuild their lives where they are. This has a particularly devastating impact on \_\_\_\_\_ 3.7 million children are currently not in school, and only 3% of refugees currently have access to higher education.

Education pathways can address this problem by enabling refugees residing in countries where they have sought protection usually neighbouring or nearby their country of origin to safely move to third countries for the purpose of resuming their education. These pathways can offer an additional way for displaced people to safely cross international borders, alongside national asylum procedures and humanitarian resettlement programs.

Education pathways are usually facilitated by third-country universities, NGOs, governments and/or the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR. While some education pathways provide refugees with permanent residence in the third country, thus ensuring a durable solution to their displacement, others are temporary.

\_\_\_\_\_ solutions for refugees and promoting international responsibility-sharing among States in refugee protection.

### Who can access refugee education pathways?

Each education pathway has its own set of criteria to determine who can access the program, but generally refugees are required to meet:

1. Eligibility criteria set by the organisation facilitating the program;
2. Academic selection criteria set by the host university or other education institution;  
and
3. Eligibility criteria set by the host government for a relevant visa.

Many current education pathways have been set up in response to large-scale displacement from the Syrian crisis. These pathways have differing annual intakes (between two and 50

they have dependents, their proficiency in the chosen area of study, and relevant language skills. Some education pathways require applicants to be formally recognised as refugees by UNHCR, while others do not.

## **Types of education pathways**

channels already in place in the destination country. For example, the Japan International Syrian Scholars Initiative supports refugees to enter Japan using regular student visas. Other education pathways are established spec

- JICUF Syrian Students Initiative, Japan