UNHCR Pakistan Cash Assistance Program for Most Vulnerable Registered Refugees

In response to the COVID-19 situation, UNHCR and the Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CCAR), Ministry of SAFRON have launched a cash program for the most vulnerable registered refugee families who are greatly impacted by the pandemic. Launched in May 2020, UNHCR will provide a one-time cash assistance for the selected eligible refugee family.

Eligibility
Registration with the Government of Pakistan or UNHCR, refugees must have one of the following documents:

- **Proof of Registration (PoR) card** with an expiry date of 31 December 2015 (or a valid token from the Proof of Registration Card Modification Centre)
- **UNHCR Refugee Card or UNHCR Asylum-Seeker Certificate** (valid until at least 31 December 2019)

Eligible refugees must have met the vulnerability criteria that includes those with severe physical or mental disability and older persons without a family.

Receive SMS
- The eligible refugee will receive an SMS from Pakistan Post.
- The SMS will come directly from the “PAKISTAN POST OFFICE”.
- The SMS will contain a reference number and the Post Office address.
- The SMS will also include the UNHCR Helpline number.
- The cash must be collected at the Post Office indicated in the SMS.
- The eligible refugee must pick up their cash assistance within 30 days.

Collect Cash at the Pakistan Post
- Go in person to the Pakistan Post Office indicated in the SMS.
- At the Post Office, show your SMS and unique identity document (POR card/token or UNHCR document) to confirm your identity.
- Original documents only. No photocopies will be accepted.
- After confirming your identity, the cash assistance will be given.
- The one-time cash payment is 12,000 Pakistani rupees per household.
- When at the Pakistan Post Office, refugees must obey all Government rules on physical distancing for health and safety reasons.
- Post Office hours are Monday to Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Ramadan timings).

Other information
- In exceptional cases only, if the concerned refugee is unable to collect the cash assistance at the Pakistan Post Office, they must immediately contact the UNHCR Helpline in advance.
- The Pakistan Post Office will only contact eligible refugees through SMS and not through any other means of communication.
- All services are provided free of cost by UNHCR and CCAR. Pakistan Post will not charge any fees from refugees for their service.
- In case of complaints, please contact the UNHCR Helpline from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

UNHCR Helpline numbers
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: 0300 054 4491; 0300 054 4496; 0300 858 5600
Balochistan: 0333 781 9601 and 0333 151 1630
Sindh: 0342 270 4888
Islamabad/Punjab/Pakistan-Administered Kashmir: 0301 114 2199

UNHCR Protection Service: pakisp@unhcr.org
For more information, please visit www.unhcrpk.org
Facebook: UNHCR Pakistan