



# Islamic Relief Canada:



## Sponsorship Guide / Frequently Asked Questions

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### **Who does Islamic Relief support through our Orphan Sponsorship Program?**

Islamic Relief defines an orphan: as a child who is without both parents, or father or whose father has abandoned them for a min of 4 years, regardless of gender, religion or race. In some instances, Islamic Relief will continue to sponsor vulnerable orphans above the age of 18 for either educational or medical purposes.

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### **How much of my sponsorship money will reach the orphans?**

The orphan receives 80% of the donated amount. The remaining amount is spending on administrative expenses that are used to manage the project. This entails the extensive field office work Islamic Relief conducts to ensure best practises are in place for your sponsored orphan. Our field officers also conduct psychosocial home visits on an annual basis.

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### **Does the orphan receive sponsorship money every month?**

The donations are transferred to your orphan's guardian on a quarterly basis. This allows a consistent income not only for your sponsored orphan but for their entire household. Sponsorship funds are used for basic necessities such as food, shelter, education and health care needs.

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### **How long will the sponsorship continue?**

We encourage a minimum sponsorship time of one year but you may sponsor an orphan for as long as you wish until they have graduated from our sponsorship program. If you choose to cancel your sponsorship prior to one year, we request that you provide 3 months notice to ensure Islamic Relief is able to allocate a new sponsor to the orphan.

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### **What information will I receive about the orphan I sponsor?**

When you start your sponsorship, we will send you a photograph and further details of your orphan. In addition to the initial report, we send one annual report within 12-15 months from the date of sponsorship unless there's a delay from the field office due to any political conflict, natural disaster, or any other crisis that requires immediate humanitarian aid. If you choose to cancel your sponsorship after 12 months and you haven't received your annual report yet, you may contact us to receive your report.

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### **Can I contact the orphan?**

A part of the admin costs allows for frequent communication with your sponsored orphans. We encourage donors to send letters and pictures to their orphans annually. You can email any letters and photographs to your orphan via the following email address [orphans@islamicreliefcanada.org](mailto:orphans@islamicreliefcanada.org). We will check if the letters are suitable and remove any contact details from letters. We will then forward it to the relevant field office. Please note that a confirmation or a response can take months due to the workload of the field officers.



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### Can I visit the orphan?

Yes, supervised visits can be organized at the field office after prior arrangement with Islamic Relief Canada. Please note that you would be responsible for your own travel arrangements and you will be travelling at your own expense and risk. Visits cannot be made directly to the orphan's home due to our Child Protection Policy.

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### What are the grounds for an orphan's cancellation from the program?

Sponsorship may be cancelled if the orphan is overage, gets married, has a significant increase in income, moves out of IR working region, or if the family or the orphan does not cooperate. In this case, we immediately redirect your donations towards a new orphan and provide an update. In case of death, sponsorship may be transferred to a sibling if they are eligible for the program.

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### What happens if I wish to cancel my sponsorship?

If possible, we ask that you give us 3 months notice, so that we can find another donor. If this is not possible the orphan will be supported from the Orphan General Fund until another sponsor is found.

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### Can I send a gift to my orphan?

The monthly sponsorship covers the basic necessities for your sponsored orphan and their family. Although we are not able to accommodate physical gifts being sent to the field, we do encourage donors to send monetary gifts to their orphans (for Eid, Qurbani etc.). You will receive an email on a quarterly basis as a reminder. This may be set up as an additional monthly gift or a one-time gift.

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### Do you only sponsor Muslim children?

As an organization, Islamic Relief works with a wide range of communities, both Muslims and non-Muslims. We do not discriminate on the basis of religion, gender, race or ethnicity but give aid to those who are most in need.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT OUR DONOR CARE  
DEPARTMENT FOR ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

PHONE: 1.855.377.4673 EMAIL: [INFO@ISLAMICRELIEFCANADA.ORG](mailto:INFO@ISLAMICRELIEFCANADA.ORG)