

Did You Apply to the Central American Minors (CAM) Program Before 2019? You May Be Eligible for a Refund.

The International Refugee Assistance Project ("IRAP") provides free legal help to refugees and displaced people. IRAP is not part of the U.S. government or IOM. This guide provides general information and is not meant as legal advice for individual applicants.

What is the refund for? All parents who applied to the CAM Program had to pay for DNA testing to prove their relationship to their child/ren on the application. If DNA testing proved your relationship, you should have received a refund for your DNA test fees.

Am I eligible? You are eligible for a refund if you answer "yes" to each of the following:

- 1) You applied to the CAM Program before 2019.
- 2) You and your child/ren completed the DNA testing required by the Program.
- 3) The DNA testing confirmed your parental relationship to your child/ren.
- 4) You did not receive a refund for your DNA testing fees OR you were unable to cash or deposit the refund check you received.

What if my CAM application was denied? You are eligible for a refund even if your CAM application was denied or you did not receive a decision on your CAM application before the CAM Program ended.

What if I took the DNA test years ago? There is currently no deadline to request a refund.

How do I get my refund? You have two options:

- 1) Email the Department of State directly with the following information:
 - a. Full name of parent in the U.S. and current mailing address
 - b. Full name and date of birth of each child who took the DNA test
 - c. *If available*, CAM application number (e.g., ES-123456). If you need help finding your CAM number, watch this [video](#) (starting at minute 4:56).

Keep reading for an example email you can use. Send your email to Sumitra Siram at SiramS@state.gov.

- 2) Contact your local resettlement agency and ask for help obtaining your CAM DNA refund. When you first applied to the CAM program, a resettlement agency helped you fill out and submit your application. For an updated list of resettlement agencies in your area, see this [website](#) and click the most up-to-date "R&P Affiliate Directory."

What happens after I request a refund? If you are eligible, you should receive a check from the government to the mailing address you provided. Please try to cash it as soon as you receive it because checks expire within 6 months.

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I'm concerned about sharing my personal information. The government says it will not use your information for any reason other than to check your eligibility for a CAM DNA refund.

Example Email: Here is an example email to the government from a parent who applied for the CAM Program and did not receive a refund for the DNA testing fees:

Email subject line: CAM DNA Testing Refund

Email body: Dear Ms. Siram,

I previously applied to the CAM program. I was not refunded my DNA test fees, and I understand that I may be eligible for a refund.

Here is my information:

1. My name: *[your first, middle, and last names]*
2. My current mailing address: *[your current mailing address]*
3. My child(ren) on the CAM application: *[for each of your children who completed CAM DNA testing, provide the child's first, middle, and last names and the child's date of birth]*
4. CAM case number(s): *[If available, provide the CAM application number for each child who completed CAM DNA testing (e.g., ES-123456)]*

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

[Your name]

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