Journey to Permanent Residence in Canada for International Students

Sarah Finall
Outreach Officer
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

IMPORTANT: Policies & programs can change. Please consult www.canada.ca/immigration for up-to-date information.
Agenda

- Important concepts
- Working in Canada during studies & after graduation
- Pathways to permanent residence – Express Entry
- Questions & Answers
Important concepts
Coming to Canada

• **Temporary Resident Visa or Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)**
  • Allows you to travel to Canada but does not give you legal status in Canada

• **At the Port of Entry, a Border Services Officer will decide on:**
  1. Your admission
  2. Your legal status – temporary resident (*visitor, student, worker*) or permanent resident
  3. The length of your stay in Canada as a temporary resident
Immigration document vs. legal status

Come to Canada
- Temporary Resident Visa (TRV)
- Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

Stay in Canada Temporarily
- Visitor Record
- Study Permit
- Work Permit

Legal Status in Canada
- Temporary Resident
- Permanent Resident
- Canadian Citizen
National Occupational Classification (NOC)

NOC 0: management jobs
NOC A: professional jobs
NOC B: technical jobs and skilled trades
NOC C: semi-skilled jobs
NOC D: entry-level jobs

IMPORTANT: Work experience in skilled jobs (NOC 0, A, or B) is required before you can apply for PR through Express Entry.
Language testing

Approved Language Tests

- English
  - CELPIP General
  - IELTS General Training

- French
  - TEF Canada
  - TCF Canada

Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB)
Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (NCLC)
Educational Credential Assessment (ECA)

Do I need to have my education assessed?

- My highest level of education was completed in Canada
  - No

- My highest level of education was completed outside Canada
  - Yes
  - Find a designated organization to get an ECA
Your journey so far...

YOU ARE HERE

Study in eligible program

Apply for study permit
Working in Canada during studies & after graduation
Working on-campus while studying

• You can work on-campus without a work permit **only** if:
  • You are a full-time student at an **eligible educational institution**
  • Your Study permit says you can work on- or off-campus
  • You have already started studying
  • You have a Social Insurance Number (SIN)

• You can work full time on campus without a work permit if you meet these conditions
Working off-campus while studying

• You can work off-campus without a work permit only if:
  • You are a full-time student at a designated learning institution (DLI)
  • Your study program is minimum 6 months and leads to a degree, diploma or certificate
  • Your study permit says you can work off-campus
  • You have already started studying and you have a SIN

• During regular school terms/semesters you can work off-campus for up to 20 hours per week.

• If you are on a scheduled break (i.e. winter or summer break) you can work full-time IF you are a full-time student before and after the scheduled break

• Exception: in your final semester you can study part-time if you do not need a full course load to graduate
Co-op or internship programs

• **You can apply for a co-op work permit if:**
  • You have a valid study permit
  • The co-op or internship placement is required to complete your study program
  • You have a letter from your **school** that confirms all students in your program need to complete work placements to graduate
  • The co-op or internship totals **50% or less** of your study program
Options after completing your study program

**WITHIN 90 DAYS** of receiving your completion letter OR final transcript:

**Leave Canada**
- Must stop working immediately
- Must leave within 90 days
  *even if study permit still valid*

**Stay in Canada**
- Be accepted to a new study program
- Apply for a work permit
  *(if you want to keep working)*
- Change to visitor status

**• You can travel outside Canada and return with a valid visa or eTA while application in process**

**• If you apply when your study permit is still valid, you can work full-time until a decision is made**

**• You must stop working if your application is refused**

**• If you wait over 90 days after program completion to apply, you cannot work while your application is in process**
Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

What is it?

- An Open work permit
- Helps you gain Canadian work experience
- Helps support your PR application (if your experience is a NOC 0, A or B)
- Is Not Renewable
Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

• Depends on length of study:
  • Less than 8 months = not eligible
  • 8 months - 2 years = same length as study program
  • 2 years and longer = 3 years

• A work permit cannot be issued for longer than the validity of your passport

How long is it valid?
Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

How do I qualify?

• Successfully complete an **eligible program**
• Study full-time at an eligible **Designated Learning Institution**
• Do not take unscheduled breaks or unauthorized leave
• Do not exceed the allowable hours of off-campus work
• Apply within **180 days** of **receiving letter of completion** or **final transcript** from your school
When your PGWP Expires...

- **Temporary Residence**
  - Change status to visitor
  - Gain more experience on a work permit
    - Temporary Foreign Worker Program
    - International Mobility Program
  - Apply for a new study permit

- **Permanent Residence**
  - Federal programs via Express Entry
  - Other federal immigration programs
  - Provincial & territorial nominee programs
Your journey continues…

1 year of work experience (NOC 0, A, or B)

Study in eligible program

Complete your studies

Apply for study permit

Apply for PGWP
Pathway to PR through Express Entry
• Online system that manages expressions of interest in becoming a permanent resident of Canada
• Must meet minimum requirements to create a profile
• Your profile will be given a score and ranked against other candidates
• Creating a profile is free
Pathway to permanent residence through Express Entry

Express Entry is your first step to immigrate permanently as a skilled worker under:

- Federal Skilled Worker Program (FSW)
- Federal Skilled Trades Program (FST)
- Canadian Experience Class (CEC)
- A portion of the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)

- Only skilled work experience (NOC 0, A, B) qualifies for Express Entry
- Pass an approved language test — results must be **less than two years old** when you
  - complete your Express Entry profile, and
  - apply for permanent residence
Minimum eligibility criteria for Express Entry

**Federal Skilled Worker Program**
- At least 1 year continuous skilled work experience (in Canada or elsewhere)
- Official Language Proficiency (CLB 7)
- Secondary education or above (supported by ECA)
- At least 67 points in the Federal Skilled Worker points grid

**Federal Skilled Trades Program**
- At least 2 years work experience in a skilled trade
- Official Language Proficiency (CLB 4-5)
- Meet the job requirements of that trade described in the NOC
- Full-time employment offer or trade certification from a Canadian province or territory

**Canadian Experience Class**
- At least 12 months skilled work experience (in Canada)
- Official Language Proficiency (CLB 7 for NOC 0, A; CLB 5 for NOC B)
- Secondary education or above (supported by an ECA)

- Provincial / Territorial Nominee Programs
  - AB
    - [https://www.alberta.ca/ainp.aspx](https://www.alberta.ca/ainp.aspx)
Express Entry is a step-by-step process

Step 1: **Create your Express Entry Profile**

Step 2: **Receive an Invitation to Apply**

Express Entry Pool

Apply for Permanent Residence Online
Express Entry profile

IMPORTANT

- Profile is valid for one year
- Keep it up-to-date
- There are no guarantees
- Be truthful
Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)

Comprehensive Ranking System Calculator Tool

Core set of points /600 + Additional points /600 = Total score /1200

Invitation to Apply (ITA):

• Issued to the highest scoring candidates in the Express Entry pool in each invitation round
• Minimum CRS score for ITA on December 23, 2020: 468
## CRS: Maximum points for each factor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Human Capital Factors</th>
<th>Single 500</th>
<th>Spouse 460</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Official Language</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Official Language</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian work experience</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Spouse Factors                      | 40         |
| Education                           | 10         |
| 1<sup>st</sup> Official Language    | 20         |
| Canadian work experience            | 10         |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill Transferability</th>
<th>100 points max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education (with OL or CDN exp)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign work experience (with OL or CDN exp)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualification cert (with OL)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Points</th>
<th>600 points max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Nomination</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid job offer</td>
<td>200 (max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Education</td>
<td>30 (max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French proficiency</td>
<td>50 (max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siblings in Canada</td>
<td>15 (max)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total: 1200 points max**
CRS additional points: Valid job offer

🌟 Valid job offer (NOC 00 executive): 200 points

🌟 Valid job offer (NOC 0, A or B): 50 points

- Job offer must be:
  - minimum 1 year once you receive PR;
  - non-seasonal;
  - NOC 0, A, or B; and
  - supported by a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) unless one is not needed

⚠️ You can still get points for Canadian work experience without a valid job offer
Register with Job Bank

- If you do not already have a valid job offer or provincial/territorial nomination, you are encouraged to register with **Job Match** after creating an Express Entry profile.

- Connect with job opportunities in Canada based on your skills, knowledge, and experience:  [www.jobbank.gc.ca](http://www.jobbank.gc.ca)
Provincial/Territorial Nomination (PNP): **600 points**

- Candidates nominated under the Express Entry stream of a provincial or territorial nominee program
- **Criteria and streams** differ across the country

To go through an Express Entry stream of a PNP you must first meet minimum criteria for 1 of the 3 Federal programs (FSW, FST, CEC)
CRS additional points: Education completed in Canada

⭐ Diploma or certificate (1 or 2 years): 15 points

⭐ Degree, diploma or certificate (3 years or longer), Master’s, entry-to-practice professional degree, or doctoral degree (minimum one academic year): 30 points

⚠ You must have completed the studies at a Designated Learning Institution (DLI)

⚠ Each educational program needs to be entered separately into the Express Entry profile
CRS additional points: Canada’s official languages

- French test results at NCL 7 in all four abilities: **25 additional points**

- French test results of NCL 7 in all four abilities + English test results at CLB 5 or higher: **50 additional points**

*Parlez-vous français?*

Visit [canada.ca/francoimmigration](http://canada.ca/francoimmigration) to learn about Francophone life across Canada.
A sibling who is a Canadian permanent resident or citizen, is residing in Canada, and is at least 18 years old: **15 points**

- **Sibling** = the biological or adoptive children of candidate or accompanying spouse’s
  - father or mother
  - father or mother’s spouse
  - father or mother’s common-law partner
Apply for Permanent Residence Online after Receiving an ITA

A Complete Application Requires:
- Electronic application for permanent residence (e-APR)
- Cost recovery fees
- Supporting documentation

Personalized Document Checklist
- Medical examination confirmation
- Police certificates
- Biometrics
- Copy of the biographical data page of a passport or travel document
- Proof of work experience
- Other documents as required

For Complete Applications:
We verify all eligibility and admissibility criteria
We process them in six months or less, 80% of the time
## How much money do I need?

### To pay for your application:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee*</td>
<td>$825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal applicant</td>
<td>$825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse/partner</td>
<td>$825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependent child</td>
<td>$225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Right of Permanent Residence Fee

- $500 for Principal applicant
- $500 for Spouse/partner

### Minimum amount for proof of funds (FSW & FST Only)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Proof of Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family of 1</td>
<td>$12,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family of 2</td>
<td>$16,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family of 3</td>
<td>$19,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family of 4</td>
<td>$24,083</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Fee is for processing and is non-refundable

*Exemption if you have a valid job offer
Your Journey through Express Entry is Complete!
If you are not eligible for Express Entry ...

Other Pathways

Gain more Experience on a Work Permit
- Temporary Foreign Worker Program
- International Mobility Program

Other Federal Immigration Programs
- Start-Up Visa
- Atlantic Immigration Pilot
- Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot

Visit the IRCC website for info on more immigration programs

Provincial and Territorial Nominee Programs
May include options for candidates who do not meet Express Entry requirements
Visit your province or territory’s immigration website to learn more
For More Information

**REMINDER:** Policies and programs can change. Please consult [www.canada.ca/immigration](http://www.canada.ca/immigration) for accurate, up-to-date information.

**IRCC Covid 19 Special Measures:**

**IRCC Web form:**