Pathways to Permanent Residence for International Students

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International Students and Permanent Residence

• International students have the education, skills and experience that Canada is looking for.

• After graduating you might be able to make Canada your permanent home through Express Entry.
This presentation will cover:

• Important Definitions

• Overview of Pathways to Permanent Residence for International Students:
  ✓ Working in Canada during studies & after graduation
  ✓ Applying for Permanent Residence through Express Entry

• Questions & Answers
Important Definitions: National Occupational Classification (NOC)

- The **National Occupation Classification (NOC)** is a classification system used by the Government of Canada to classify occupations (jobs).
- **NOC codes** are used to classify jobs by occupational area and skill level.
- Work experience for **Express Entry: NOC 0, A and B**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOC</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Management Jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Professional Jobs (usually require university education)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Technical Jobs and Skilled Trades (usually require college education or apprenticeship training)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Semi-skilled jobs (usually require secondary school or vocational training)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Entry level jobs (on-the-job training)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Don’t rely on job title alone. Duties in the NOC description should also match your actual work experience – Refer to the “Find your NOC” page on the Canada.ca website
NOC Skill Type or Level

- Skill Type or Level is Referenced in each NOC Code:

**Skill Type 0** – 1\textsuperscript{st} digit of code is 0

- NOC \textbf{0015} – CEO of Manufacturing Company
- NOC \textbf{0112} – Human Resources Manager

**Skill Level A** – 2\textsuperscript{nd} digit of code is 0 or 1

- NOC \textbf{4021} – College Instructor
- NOC \textbf{1111} – Accountant

**Skill Level B** – 2\textsuperscript{nd} digit of code is 2 or 3

- NOC \textbf{1241} – Administrative Assistant
- NOC \textbf{6322} – Cook

**Skill Level C** – 2\textsuperscript{nd} digit of code is 4 or 5

- NOC \textbf{1414} – Receptionist
- NOC \textbf{6513} – Food and Beverage Server

**Skill Level D** – 2\textsuperscript{nd} digit of code is 6 or 7

- NOC \textbf{6611} – Cashier
- NOC \textbf{6711} – Food Counter Attendant
Important Definitions:
Language Tests & Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB)

• **Language Tests** are used to determine speaking, listening, reading, and writing ability in Canada’s official languages: English & French.

• Language Test Scores are equated to the **Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB)** - language test **equivalency charts** are available on the IRCC website.

• **Everyone** must prove their language ability by taking an approved language test:
  - English: **CELPIP General**
  - English: **IELTS General Training**
  - French: **TEF**
  - French: **TCF Canada**

• Test results must be **less than two years old** when the candidate completes their Express Entry profile, and when they apply for permanent residence.
Important Definitions: Educational Credential Assessment (ECA)

• An **Educational Credential Assessment** (ECA) is used to verify a foreign degree, diploma, certificate (or other proof of your credential) is valid and equal to a Canadian one.

• A list of **designated organizations that offer ECAs** is on the IRCC website.

• Education points are awarded for the **highest educational credential completed** – for candidates with a masters, professional, or doctoral degree, ECAs are not needed for lower-level credentials.

• Additional points are awarded for **two or more credentials** only if if one program was **three or more years in length** – ECAs are needed only for the three or more year credential and the next-highest credential.
# Student Immigration Journey: Work Options

## Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studying</th>
<th>Post Graduation</th>
<th>Permanent Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• On-Campus Work</td>
<td>• Post Graduation Work Permit: Open work permit for up to 3 years</td>
<td>Express Entry:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Off-Campus Work</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Federal Skilled Worker (FSW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Co-op / Internship</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Federal Skilled Trades (FST)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## How to Qualify

| | | |
|• Full-time studies | • Graduation from an full-time study program at an eligible Designated Learning Institution | • Work experience (requirement varies by program) |
|• Minimum 6-month study program* | • Minimum 8-month study program | • Language proficiency |
| | | • Educational qualification |

*Minimum duration of study does not apply to On-Campus Work
Transitioning to Work After Graduation

• International students who are eligible to work off-campus can continue to work off-campus until they get a notification of completion of studies from their institution.

• Once international students have received notification that they have completed their studies they can continue to work in Canada full-time only if they have applied for a work permit (e.g. Post Graduation Work Permit Program, Temporary Foreign Worker Program).

• Students must stop working if their work permit application is refused.

• Former international students who have not applied for a work permit are not authorized to work in Canada.
Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) Program

- Allows students who have graduated from a participating Canadian post-secondary institution to gain valuable Canadian work experience.

- You may be eligible if you have completed a study program in Canada of at least 8 months (full-time) and your study permit is still valid.

- PGWP validity depends on the length of the program of study completed in Canada.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration of study program (determined by DLI)</th>
<th>Duration of PGWP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>at least 8 months but less than 2 years</td>
<td>same as study program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years or longer</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Apply within 90 days of receiving written notification of completion of studies.

- PGWP is an open work permit – You can only apply for PGWP once.
PGWP eligibility

- You may be eligible for a Post-Graduation Work Permit if:
  - You have completed and passed a post-secondary academic, vocational, or professional training program in Canada
  - The program was at least 8 months in length
  - You studied at an eligible Designated Learning Institution (DLI)
  - You studied full time
  - You did not take unscheduled breaks
  - You did not exceed the allowable hours of off-campus work
  - Your study permit is still valid
  - You apply within 90 days of receiving written confirmation from the educational institution indicating that you are eligible to obtain a degree, diploma, or certificate
After applying for a PGWP

• You may work **full-time on or off campus** while you are awaiting for a decision on your PGWP application if:
  
  ✓ You were a full-time student enrolled continuously at a DLI
  ✓ You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  ✓ You did not exceed the allowable hours of off-campus work
  ✓ Your study permit is still valid

• You can leave Canada and return, but make sure you have a valid visa or eTA
Student Pathway to Permanent Residence: **Express Entry**

- Immigrating Permanently to Canada is a Multi-Step Process:

  - Apply for a study permit
  - Complete studies in an eligible program
  - Apply for a post-graduation work permit
  - Gain one year of Canadian work experience at the NOC 0, A, or B level
  - Pass an approved language test
Express Entry: Background

- **Express Entry** is the first step to immigrate to Canada permanently as a skilled worker under the:
  - Federal Skilled Worker Program (**FSW**)
  - Federal Skilled Trades Program (**FST**)
  - Canadian Experience Class (**CEC**)
  - A portion of the Provincial Nominee Program (**PNP**)
Federal Skilled Worker Program

**Key Criteria:**

- At least **one year of continuous work experience within the last 10 years** (in a NOC 0, A or B job), in Canada or in another country.

- Language skills (**CLB 7 in all 4 abilities**).

- Education (**Canadian secondary or post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree, or the foreign equivalent**).

- And a score of **67 or higher out of 100** on the Federal Skilled Worker points grid (which assesses six selection factors: language skills, education, work experience, age, arranged employment, adaptability).
Federal Skilled Trades Program

Key Criteria:

• At least **24 months of work experience** in an eligible skilled trade within the last five years.

• **Meet job requirements of the skilled trade** as set by the NOC (except the requirement related to certification).

• Language skills (**CLB 5**, speaking and listening; **CLB 4**, reading and writing).

• Have a **valid job offer** in the skilled trade for at least one year, or a **Canadian certificate of qualification** in the skilled trades.

• *All work experience in this program falls under NOC B.*
Canadian Experience Class

Key Criteria:

• At least 12 months of skilled **Canadian work experience** (in a NOC 0, A or B job) within the last three years.

  ✓ *Full-Time*: 30 hours/week for 12 months (at same job or at more than one job)
    = 1 year full time (**1,560 hours**).

  ✓ *Part-Time*: 15 hours/week for 24 months = 1 year full time (**1,560 hours**).

• Language skills:

  **NOC 0 and A jobs** (CLB 7 in all 4 abilities)
  **NOC B jobs** (CLB 5 in all 4 abilities)
Canadian Experience Class: **Work Experience**

**What DOES count:**

- Full-time (or part-time equivalent) work experience in Canada at NOC 0/A/B level in the past 3 years
- Work experience gained while legally authorized to work in Canada, (e.g. on a Post Graduate or other work permit)

**What DOESN’T count:**

- Any employment in Canada during full-time study (e.g. while on a co-op work permit or off-campus work, while a full-time student)
- Self-employment, even if skilled
- Unauthorized work
Express Entry Highlights for International Students

✓ User friendly, **online system** from profile creation to application for permanent residence;
✓ Creating an Express Entry profile is **free** and a profile stays active for up to one year;
✓ When a candidate is accepted into the pool, they are given a Comprehensive Ranking System (**CRS**) score;
✓ The top scoring candidates in the pool are invited to apply for permanent residence in regular invitation rounds;
✓ Fast processing of permanent residence applications – within 6 months in most cases.
Express Entry Process

STEP 1
Create your profile

Express Entry Pool

STEP 2
Job Bank registration and self-promotion to employers

Express Entry Pool

Apply for permanent residence online

ITC Invitation to Apply
Step 1: Create an Express Entry Profile

• Complete your language test(s) and educational credential assessments *before* creating an Express Entry profile.

• Creating a profile *online* is **free** and **easy** and does not require an immigration lawyer or consultant.

• Answer questions about your skills, work experience, language ability, education, and other details.

• Candidates must meet the criteria of *at least one* of the federal economic immigration programs managed by Express Entry in order to get into the pool.
Step 1 Continued: Key Notes to Remember

✔ Keep your profile up to date (e.g. new job offer, new language test results, education completed, changes in family composition, etc.).

✔ Completing a profile does not guarantee an invitation to apply and; completing an application for permanent residence does not guarantee permanent residence.

✔ Be truthful. Anyone who provides false information could be found inadmissible for misrepresentation and could be barred for five years from applying to come to Canada.
Register with Job Bank

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

- Job Match helps connect candidates with job opportunities in Canada based on their skills, knowledge, and experience.

www.jobbank.gc.ca
## Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)

<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>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spouse Factors</th>
<th>40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Official Language</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian work experience</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<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>30 (max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siblings in Canada</td>
<td>15 (max)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total: 1200 points max**

This tool will help you calculate your Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score: [www.cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/skilled/crs-tool.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/skilled/crs-tool.asp)
Provincial/Territorial Nomination (600 pts)

- A total of **600 points** are awarded to candidates with a Provincial/Territorial (P/T) nomination.
- Participating Provinces and Territories can nominate foreign nationals under their Express Entry Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) streams.
- PNP criteria and streams differ across the country; check individual P/T websites to learn more.
- All candidates nominated via an Express Entry PNP stream must meet the minimum entry criteria for Express Entry including meeting the criteria for one of the three federal economic programs.
CRS Additional Points:
Valid Job Offers (200 or 50 pts)

• A total of **200 points** are awarded to candidates with a valid job offer in a NOC 00 occupation.

• A total of **50 points** are awarded to candidates with a valid job offer in a NOC 0, A or B occupation.

• A job offer must be for a minimum of one year once an applicant receives permanent residence.

• Job offers must also be non-seasonal, at the NOC 0, A, or B level, and supported by a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) unless one is not needed.

• Candidates who don’t have a valid job offer can still get points for Canadian work experience.
CRS Additional Points:
Education Completed in Canada (15 or 30 pts)

- A total of **15 points** are awarded for a one- or two-year diploma or certificate.

- A total of **30 points** are awarded for a degree, diploma or certificate of three years or longer, or for a Master’s, entry-to-practice professional degree*, or doctoral degree of at least one academic year.

- To get these points, a candidate must have completed their studies at a designated learning institution (DLI) in Canada.

- Each educational program completed in Canada needs to be entered separately into the Express Entry profile.

*Entry-to-practice professional degree for an occupation listed in the National Occupational Classification matrix at Skill level A, for which licensing by a provincial regulatory body is required. Eligible occupations: medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, optometry, law, chiropractic medicine, or pharmacy.
CRS Additional Points: 
Canada’s Official Languages (15 or 30 pts)

• Candidates can get more CRS points if they have proficiency in both of Canada’s official languages (English and French), and submit the results of an approved language test for both English and French.

• *Parlez-vous français?* Visit [canada.ca/francoimmigration](http://canada.ca/francoimmigration) to learn about Francophone life across Canada.

Additional CRS Points for French Proficiency:

• **15 additional points** for French test results at NCL 7 in all four abilities (listening, speaking, reading, writing).

• **30 additional points** for French test results of NCL 7 in all four abilities + English test results at CLB 5 or higher.
CRS Additional Points: Sibling in Canada (15 pts)

- **15 points** for having at least one sibling* who is a Canadian permanent resident or citizen, is residing in Canada, and is aged at least 18 years old

- *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
Step 2: Invitation to Apply

- Invitations to Apply (ITAs) are issued to the **highest scoring candidates** in the pool in each round.

- Candidates could be among the top scoring if they:
  - Have a high level of skills, education, language and work experience;
  - Are nominated by a province or territory under an Express Entry stream;
  - Have a valid job offer; or
  - Have studied in Canada
Express Entry Invitation Rounds

• Invitation rounds take place regularly, usually approximately every 2 to 3 weeks.

• Rounds are based on the Government’s annual levels plan for immigration to Canada and IRCC’s ability to process applications.

• IRCC publishes special instructions for each invitation round including:
  • date and time of the round
  • number of candidates that receive an ITA
  • CRS score of the lowest ranked candidate invited in that particular round

• Lowest-ranked candidates invited to apply in recent rounds have been in the CRS range of 430-460 points
After Receiving and Invitation to Apply

• Candidates have **60 days** to complete and submit an application for permanent residence.

• IRCC then determines if the application has all required forms, documents and fees.

• If your application is complete, IRCC will verify all eligibility and admissibility criteria.

• IRCC processes complete applications in **six months or less**, 80% of the time.
How Much Money Do I Need?

- **Application Fee:**
  - $550 for principal applicant
  - $550 for spouse or partner
  - $150 per dependent child

- **Right of Permanent Residence Fee:**
  - $490 for principal applicant
  - $490 for spouse or partner

- **Proof of Funds:**
  - $12,475 for a family of 1
  - $15,531 for a family of 2
  - $19,093 for a family of 3

1 Proof of funds are only required for FSW and FST streams if the candidate does not have a valid job offer. Not required for CEC or PNP.
I Have One Year of Skilled Work Experience, What Now?

• How do I know if I’m eligible for permanent immigration to Canada?

• Which program is right for me?

• **Come to Canada Tool:** [www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/come-canada-tool](http://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/come-canada-tool)
What if I’m Not Eligible for Express Entry?

✓ **Work Permit Options:** Temporary Foreign Worker Program & International Mobility Program
  
  www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada

✓ **Other Immigration Programs:**
  
  www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada

✓ **Provincial Nominee Programs:**
  • May include options for candidates who do not meet EE entry requirements.
  • Visit your Province or Territories’ website to find out more information.
For More Information

English: [Canada.ca/ExpressEntry](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/helpcentre/index-featured-can.asp)
French: [Canada.ca/EntreeExpress](http://www.cic.gc.ca/francais/centre-aide/index-en-vedette-can.asp)

English: [CitCanada](http://www.cic.gc.ca/en)
French: [CitImmCanFR](http://www.cic.gc.ca/fr)

English: [@CitImmCanada](http://www.cic.gc.ca/en)
French: [@CitImmCanFR](http://www.cic.gc.ca/fr)
THANK YOU

Heather Michaud
Outreach Officer
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

IRCC Client Support Centre:
1-888-242-2100

IRCC Web form: