Pathways to Permanent Residence for international Students

BCCIE Summer Seminar

20 June 2017
Definitions
Introduction to Express Entry
Transition from SP to PGWP
How Express Entry Works
Annex
National Occupation Classification (NOC)

The NOC is a classification system used by the Government of Canada. NOC codes are used to classify work by occupational area and skill level.

Work experience for Express Entry: **0, A and B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOC 0</th>
<th>Management jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOC A</td>
<td>Professional jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOC B</td>
<td>Technical jobs and skilled trades</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB)

Canadian standard used to describe the official language ability of adult applicants applying for Canadian permanent residence or citizenship.

Language test equivalency charts are available on the IRCC website.

Language testing

Everyone must prove their language skills by taking an approved language test:

- **CELPIP** – General
- **IELTS** – General Training
- **TEF** - compréhension de l’écrit, compréhension de l’orale, expression écrite, et expression orale

Test results must be valid (less than two years old) when you complete your Express Entry profile, and when you apply for permanent residence.
Education Credential Assessment (ECA)

An ECA is used to verify the equivalency of a foreign education credential to a Canadian one.

An ECA is required to get points for education completed outside of Canada.

See IRCC website for list of designated organizations that offer ECAs.

Not required for those who completed studies in Canada.
Express Entry is the first step to immigrate to Canada permanently as a skilled worker under:

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

Quebec has its own immigration programs outside of Express Entry
Federal Skilled Trades Program

Key criteria:
- at least 24 months work experience in an eligible skilled trade within the last 5 years, and
- meet job requirements of that skilled trade as described in NOC (except certification requirement),
- CLB 5 speaking + listening; CLB 4 reading + 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.
- Proof of funds

All work experience in this program is NOC B
Federal Skilled Worker Program

Key criteria:

- at least 1 year of continuous work experience (in a NOC 0, A or B job) within the last 10 years, in Canada or in another country
- CLB 7 in all 4 abilities
- Canadian secondary or post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree, or the foreign equivalent
- Score at least 67 out of 100 on the Federal Skilled Worker points grid (assesses six selection factors: language skills, education, work experience, age, arranged employment, adaptability)
- Proof of funds
Proof of funds

FSTP and FSWP require the principal applicant to demonstrate that they have enough money to support themselves and their family in Canada.

The amount of money required is set by the family size.

Does not apply if you are currently authorized to work in Canada **AND** you have a valid job offer.

No proof of funds requirement for Canadian Experience Class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Family Members</th>
<th>Funds required (CAD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$12,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$15,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$18,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$22,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$25,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$29,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 +</td>
<td>$32,550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numbers are updated every year.
Canadian Experience Class

Key criteria:

- at least 12 months of full-time (or an equal amount in part-time) skilled (NOC 0, A or B) Canadian work experience in the three years before applying

- Language
  - NOC 0 and A jobs = CLB 7 in all 4 abilities
  - NOC B jobs = CLB 5 in all 4 abilities

Full time = 30 hrs/wk
Full time for 12 months = 1,560 hrs
## CEC - Work Experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What <strong>DOESN’T</strong> count:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✗ 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)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Self-employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Unauthorized work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What <strong>DOES</strong> count:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Full-time (or part-time equivalent) work experience in Canada at NOC 0, A or B level in the past 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Work experience gained while legally authorized to work in Canada, (e.g. on a Post Graduate or other work permit)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Can I count my work as a teaching assistant (NOC 4012) toward the work experience requirement?

It depends on the eligibility criteria of the program:

**Canadian Experience Class:**
- cannot count work experience gained while enrolled as a full-time student
- must have acquired the work experience (f/t or equivalent in part-time hours) in the 3 years before submitting your Express Entry profile

**Federal Skilled Worker Program:**
- work experience must have been full-time (or equivalent in part-time hours), paid, and continuous, in the same occupation, for at least 1 year
Pathway to permanent residence via Express Entry

Immigrating permanently to Canada is a multi-step process...

1. **study permit**
2. **complete studies in eligible program**
3. **apply for post graduation work permit**
4. **gain 1 year of Canadian work experience at NOC 0/A/B level**
5. **pass approved language test**

Create Express Entry Profile
Work Experience - international students

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

- Once an international student has received notification that they have completed their studies, they can continue to work in Canada only if they have applied for a work permit (e.g. Post Graduation Work Permit).

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

- Former international students who have not applied for a work permit (e.g., Post Graduation Work Permit Program or under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program) are not authorized to work in Canada.
Post Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

• You may be eligible to apply for a PGWP if you are completing a study program in Canada of **at least 8 months** (full time) and your study permit is valid.

• Must apply within 90 days of receiving written notification of completion of studies.

• PGWP is an **open work permit**. Validity length depends on the length of the program of study you 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>

**Transition from off-campus work to PGWP:**
R **186(w)**: Students who have completed their program of study may work while they are waiting for a decision on their PGWP application, as long as they were a **full-time** student enrolled in a post-secondary academic, vocational or professional training program at a DLI, their study permit is still valid, and they did not exceed the allowable hours of work.
Express Entry process

**STEP 1**
Create your profile
- EXPRESS ENTRY ENTRÉE EXPRESS
- Job Bank
  - registration and self-promotion to employers

**STEP 2**
Express Entry Pool
Invitation to Apply
Apply for permanent residence online
Submit an Express Entry profile

• Completing an Express Entry profile is free and does not require an immigration representative.

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

• You must meet the criteria of at least one of the federal economic programs of Express Entry (FSWP, FSTP or CEC).
You can register with Job Match if you do not already have a valid job offer or provincial/territorial nomination. Job Match can help connect you with job opportunities in Canada based on your skills, knowledge and experience.

When opening your Job Match account, you will need to provide your Express Entry profile number and Job Seeker Validation Code.
Express Entry pool

When you are accepted into the pool, you will be given a **Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)** score.

- Points based on profile information
- Candidates are ranked top down according to CRS score
- Top-ranking candidates receive an **Invitation to Apply** for permanent residency
- Profiles can remain active for up to 12 months
Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)

1. **Core factors**
   - Age
   - Education
   - Official language proficiency
   - Canadian work experience

2. **Spouse or Common-Law Partner factors** (if applicable)

3. **Skills transferability factors**
   - Education + language proficiency
   - Education + Canadian work experience
   - Canadian + foreign work experience
   - Foreign work exp. + Language proficiency
   - Cert. of qualification + Language proficiency

4. **Additional points***
   - P/T Nomination
   - Job Offer - NOC 00
   - Job Offer - NOC 0, A or B
   - Edu in Cda- 1- or 2-year program
   - Edu in Cda - 3-year program, Master’s, PhD
   - French NLC 7
   - French NLC 7 + English CLB 5
   - Siblings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spouse / partner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Core factors</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Spouse or common-law partner factors</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Transferability factors</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Additional points*</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisonal nomination</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid job offer</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education in Canada above high school</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong proficiency in French</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siblings in Canada</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Candidates can only receive a maximum total of 600 additional points.
CRS additional points:
Provincial / Territorial nomination (600)

- 600 points for a provincial or territorial nomination

- Participating provinces and territories can nominate foreign nationals under their Express Entry Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) streams.

- PNP criteria and streams are different across the country, so check individual provincial and territorial websites.

  - 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 offer (200 or 50)

200 points for a valid job offer in NOC 00

50 points for a valid job offer in NOC 0, A, or B

Generally, the job offer must be:
• Valid for at least 1 year from the date permanent residence is granted
• NOC 0, A, B
• full-time and non-seasonal*

A job offer must be in writing and include details about the job such as pay and deductions, job duties, and conditions of employment (such as hours of work).

In most cases, a valid job offer must be supported by a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA). In some cases, an LMIA is not required.
Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA)

No LMIA required if you:

- Have been **working full-time for the employer on the work permit for at least one year** (or an equal amount of part-time work)
- Have a valid job offer, and
- Have a valid work permit that is exempt from an LMIA under
  - an international agreement
  - a federal-provincial agreement or
  - the “Canadian interests” category [R204(a) or (c), or R205].

CRS additional points: Education completed in Canada (15 or 30)

15 points for a one- or two-year diploma or certificate.

30 points 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.

- Studies must have been completed while physically in Canada, at a designated learning institution (DLI) in Canada.
- Each education program completed in Canada must be entered separately into the Express Entry profile.

* Entry-to-practice professional degree = an occupation listed in NOC A for which licensing by a provincial regulatory body is required. Eligible occupations: medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, optometry, law, chiropractic medicine, pharmacy.
 CRS points for two official languages

You can get more CRS points if you have proficiency in both of Canada's official languages (English and French) and submit the results of an approved language test for each language.

*Parlez-vous français?*

Visit [canada.ca/francoimmigration](http://canada.ca/francoimmigration) to learn about Francophone life across Canada
CRS additional points: Proficiency in French (15 or 30)

15 points
French language test results at NLC level 7 in all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing)

30 points
French language test results of the NLC at level 7 in all four skills in French + English test results at CLB 5 or higher.
CRS additional points: Siblings in Canada (15)

- 15 points awarded to candidates who have an adult sibling residing in Canada who is a Canadian permanent resident or citizen.

- 15 points maximum (even if you have more than one adult sibling in Canada)
Invitation to Apply (ITA)

• ITAs are issued to the **highest scoring candidates** in the pool in each round

• You may be eligible for more than one program and so could be invited to apply for a different program than you expected.

• If, after 12 months, you do not get an invitation to apply, your profile will expire and you will create a new one.
Invitation rounds

• Roughly every 2-3 weeks
• Size of rounds based on annual immigration levels and IRCC’s ability to process
• Results for each round are published
  • date and time of round
  • number of candidates issued an ITA
  • CRS score of the lowest ranked candidate invited in that round

www.cic.gc.ca/english/express-entry/rounds.asp

Most recent round:

31 May 2017
3,877 candidates invited to apply
Lowest ranked candidate scored 413
After receiving an invitation to apply...

- **90 days** to complete and submit your application for permanent residence.
- IRCC determines if the application is complete (has all required forms, documents and fees).
- If the application is complete IRCC will verify all eligibility and admissibility criteria.
- Complete applications are finalized in **six months or less**, 80% of the time.
Police Certificates

- Required for the Principal Applicant and any family member over the age of 18.
- You must get one from each country or territory where you have spent six or more months *cumulatively* since the age of 18.
- For countries in which you have spent six or more months, the police certificate must be issued after the last time you spent time in that country.
- If you received the police certificate before leaving that country, the certificate must have been issued within six months before you apply for permanent residence.
Language tests and Educational Credential Assessments must be obtained before completing an Express Entry profile.

Language tests and ECAs are done by third parties, which charge fees.

Creating an Express Entry profile is free.

Keep your profile up to date! (e.g. new job offer, test results, changes in family composition)

Creating an Express Entry profile does not guarantee that you will receive an invitation to apply.

Submitting an application for permanent residence does not guarantee that you will get 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.
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)

Help Centre

**What do you need help with?**

http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/helpcentre/index-featured-can.asp

Centre d’aide

**Comment pouvons-nous vous aider?**

English: [CitCanada](http://www.cic.gc.ca/francais/centre-aide/index-en-vedette-can.asp)
French: [CitImmCanFR](http://www.cic.gc.ca/francais/centre-aide/index-en-vedette-can.asp)

English: [@CitImmCanada](http://www.cic.gc.ca/francais/centre-aide/index-en-vedette-can.asp)
French: [@CitImmCanFR](http://www.cic.gc.ca/francais/centre-aide/index-en-vedette-can.asp)

CitImmCanada
Annex
Profile: former international student

Samera – Former international student
- Received her Masters degree in Canada
- Is in her 2\textsuperscript{nd} year of a two-year Post Graduate Work Permit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile information (no spouse)</th>
<th>Before Nov. 19, 2016</th>
<th>After Nov. 19, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>24 years old</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Master of Arts Degree</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>High (CLB 8-9)</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Experience</td>
<td>One year</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Study Experience</td>
<td>2 year M.A.</td>
<td>0 (criteria did not exist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job offer or Provincial nomination</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total*</td>
<td></td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not shown: Samera gets 50 points for her combinations of language & education and Canadian work experience & education.
Profile: Professor (LMIA exempt) with job offer

Mario - Tenure-track professor
- Working in Canada on an LMIA exempt work permit
- Employment contract is for more than one year but is not permanent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile information</th>
<th>Before Nov. 19, 2016</th>
<th>After Nov. 19, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Mod-high (CLB 7-8)</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Experience</td>
<td>Yes 2 years</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Study Experience</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job offer or Provincial nomination</td>
<td>Yes – LMIA exempt (Significant Benefit to Canada)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total*</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not shown: Mario gets 50 points for his combinations of language & education and Canadian work experience & education.
Profile: retail sales supervisor with job offer

Junko - Retail sales supervisor
• Currently in Canada as a temporary foreign worker
• Has a job offer supported by an LMIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile information (no spouse)</th>
<th>Before Nov. 19, 2016</th>
<th>After Nov. 19, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>4 year Bachelors degree</td>
<td>0 *Unclaimed points due to lack of ECA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Moderate (CLB 6-7)</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Experience</td>
<td>Yes 2 years</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Study Experience</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job offer or Provincial nomination</td>
<td>Yes – LMIA</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total*</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not shown: Junko gets 25 points for Canadian work experience & education now that she’s submitting her ECA.
### Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)

**Core human capital factors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</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(^{st}) Official Language</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2(^{nd}) Official Language</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cdn work experience</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Spouse factors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1(^{st}) Official Language</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Cdn work experience</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Skill transferability**

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

**Additional points**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional</th>
<th>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**
Useful links

Program Delivery Instructions (guidelines used by IRCC staff):
  * Students (study permits, working while studying, post graduate work permits, etc) [http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/tools/temp/students/index.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/tools/temp/students/index.asp)
IRCC Web Form (case-specific enquiries) [https://secure.cic.gc.ca/enquiries-renseignements/canada-case-cas-eng.aspx](https://secure.cic.gc.ca/enquiries-renseignements/canada-case-cas-eng.aspx)

National Occupation Classification (NOC) [http://noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/home.aspx](http://noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/home.aspx)