Journey to Permanent Residence in Canada for International Students

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

Important concepts

Pathways to permanent residence – Express Entry

Question and Answer
sli.do and enter code: **StGeorge**

Joining as a participant?

No account needed.

# Enter event code

OR

![QR Code Image]
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 \((\text{visitor, student, worker})\) or permanent resident
  3. The length of your stay in Canada as a temporary resident
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
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
Extending your Stay as a Student and Implied Status

Extend your Study Permit
- Make sure your school is on the Designated Learning Institutions List
- Gather all required documents
- Apply online, ideally 3-4 months in advance

Maintained Status
- If you apply for a new study permit before your old one expires, you can keep studying until a decision is made on your application
- You must remain in Canada
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

- **If you apply when your study permit is still valid,** you can work full-time until a decision is made.
- **If you wait over 90 days after program completion to apply,** you cannot work while your application is in process.
- **You must stop working if your application is refused.**
- **You can travel outside Canada and return with a valid visa or eTA while application 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)
• You can only be issued one PGWP (not renewable, not extendable)
Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

How long is it valid?

- 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
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
- Apply for a new study permit
- Gain more experience on a work permit
  - Temporary Foreign Worker Program
  - International Mobility Program

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)

Apply for PGWP

Complete your studies

Study in eligible program

Apply for study permit
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 work experience requirement

**Federal Skilled Worker Program**

- **1 year** of **continuous** work in **one** skilled occupation
- Experience while studying **can count**
- Experience through self-employment **can count**

**Federal Skilled Trades Program**

- **2 years** of work in an eligible skilled trade
- Experience while studying **can count**
- Experience through self-employment **can count**

**Canadian Experience Class**

- **1 year** of work in Canada in **any** skilled occupation
- Unauthorized work does **not count**
- Experience during full-time study does **not count**
- Experience through self-employment does **not count**

**Full-time:** 30 hours/week for 12 months = 1 year full time (1,560 hours), or
**Part-time:** 15 hours/week for 24 months = 1 year full time (1,560 hours)
**More than 1 job:** 30 hours/week for 12 months at more than 1 job = 1 year full time (1,560 hours)
Express Entry is a step-by-step process

Step 1: Create your Express Entry Profile

Express Entry Pool

Step 2: Receive an Invitation to Apply

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)

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 September 14, 2021: 462
- [Click here for more information on the latest ITAs](#)
- [Click here for a breakdown of CRS points.](#)
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
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
Bonjour!

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
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

Invitation to Apply (ITA)
Apply within 60 days
How much money do I need?

To pay for your application:

- **Application Fee***
  - Principal applicant: $825
  - Spouse/partner: $825
  - Dependent child: $225

- **Right of Permanent Residence Fee**
  - Principal applicant: $500
  - Spouse/partner: $500

*Fee is for processing and is non-refundable

Minimum amount for proof of funds:

- **Proof of Funds (FSW & FST Only)**
  - Family of 1: $13,213
  - Family of 2: $16,449
  - Family of 3: $20,222
  - Family of 4: $24,553

*Exemption if you have a valid job offer
Your Journey through Express Entry is Complete!
To be eligible, you must:

- Hold a valid HKSAR or BNO passport

- Graduated no more than 5 years before you apply with:
  - a degree from a post-secondary DLI in Canada or abroad
  - OR
  - a diploma for a minimum 2 year program from a post-secondary DLI in Canada or abroad

Apply Online
PR Pathways for HK Residents - Aug 31, 2026

To be eligible, you must:

A) In-Canada graduates
   - Physically present in Canada
   - Valid Temp. Resident Status
   - Intend to live outside of QC
   - Graduated from DLI in the 3 years before applying with a diploma (2 yrs), degree, or graduate certificate (1 yr).
   - 50% of studies completed in Canada (online or in person)

B) Canadian Work Experience
   - Physically present in Canada
   - Valid Temp. Resident Status
   - Intend to live outside of QC
   - Graduated from DLI in the 5 years before applying with a diploma (2 yrs), degree, or graduate certificate (1 yr).
   - 50% of studies completed in Canada*
   - 12 months of work experience in the last 3 years

Hold a valid HKSAR or BNO passport

Apply Online

Canada.ca/immigration
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 for accurate, up-to-date information.

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

IRCC Web form:

English: @CitCanada
French: @CitImmCanFR

English: @CitImmCanada
French: @CitImmCanFR

CitImmCanada
Questions? Comments? Feedback?

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