



Guide to Immigration Processes for Newcomers to Canada

Introduction

Canada is a beautiful country, celebrated for its diversity, natural landscapes, welcoming communities and inclusive culture, one to embrace and respect. Labour market has its challenges, but also strong career opportunities for the rightly skilled. As a newcomer, understanding pathways to permanent residence is a crucial step toward ensuring a seamless transition.



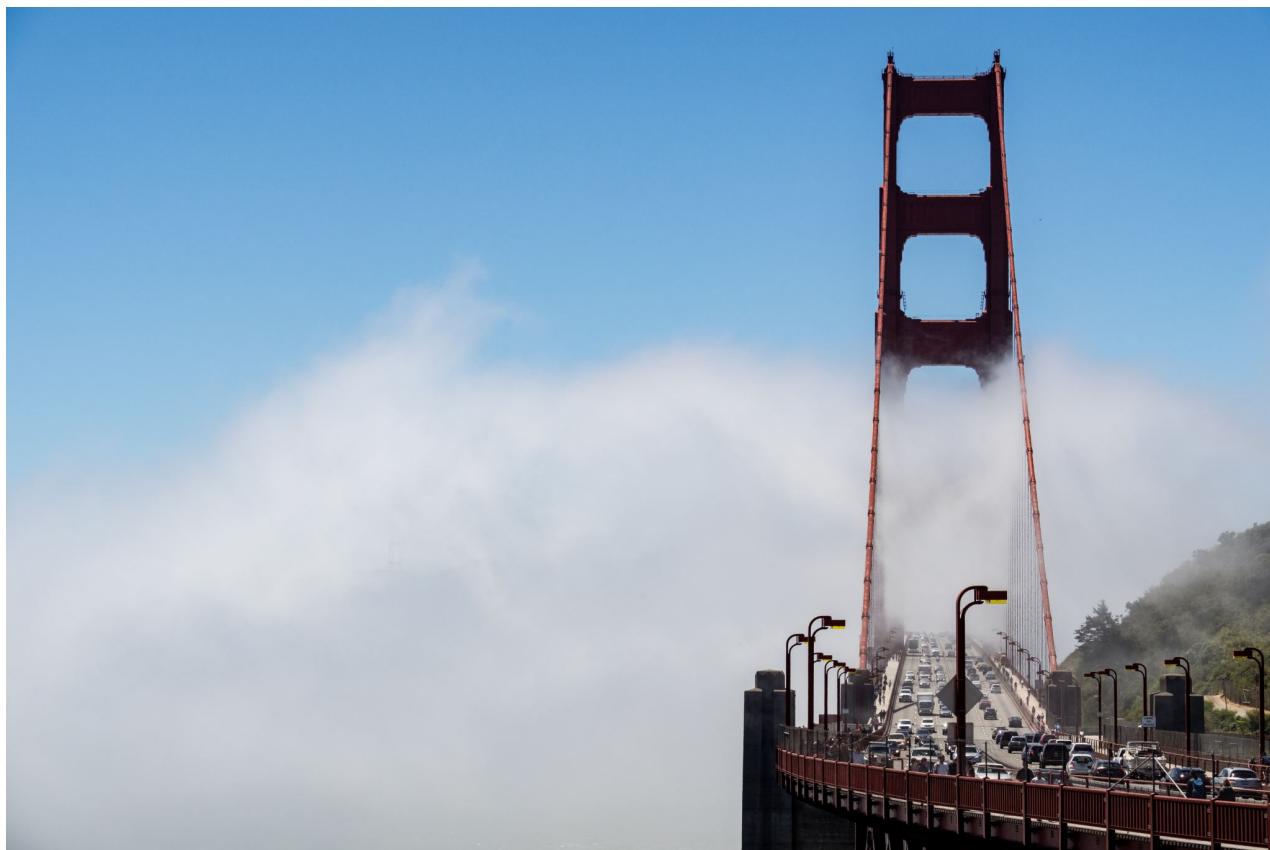
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Main Immigration Programs for Permanent Residence

Canada's immigration system is managed by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The primary categories include economic immigration, family reunification, and humanitarian programs. Here's a breakdown:

Program	Description	Target Admissions (2025-2027 Levels Plan)
Express Entry	Points-based system for skilled workers. Includes Federal Skilled Worker (FSW), Canadian Experience Class (CEC), and Federal Skilled Trades (FST).	Around 110,000-115,000 annually (part of economic class).
Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)	Provinces nominate candidates based on local needs. Can be Express Entry-aligned or direct streams.	Approximately 110,000 in 2025, decreasing to 100,000 by 2027.
Family Sponsorship	For spouses, partners, children, parents, and grandparents.	About 114,000 in 2025 (22% of total admissions).
Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP)	For skilled workers and graduates in Atlantic provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island).	Integrated into economic targets; around 6,500 spots.
Start-up Visa	For entrepreneurs with innovative business ideas supported by designated organizations.	Small portion of business class.
Humanitarian & Refugee	For resettled refugees and those applying on compassionate grounds.	15% of admissions (around 75,000 in 2025).

Overall, Canada plans to admit 395,000 permanent residents in 2025, down from previous years to address housing and infrastructure pressures.



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Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility varies by program:

- **Express Entry:** Minimum 67 points out of 100 for FSW (based on age, education, work experience, language proficiency in English/French). CEC requires at least 1 year of Canadian work experience. Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score needed for invitations (typically 470+).
- **PNP:** Varies by province; often requires job offer, work experience in in-demand occupations, or ties to the province.
- **Family Sponsorship:** Sponsor must be a Canadian citizen/PR over 18, meet income requirements (e.g., Low-Income Cut-Off +30% for parents/grandparents).
- **AIP:** Job offer from designated employer, language level CLB 5, education (high school+), and settlement funds.
- **Humanitarian:** Demonstrated compelling reasons, such as family ties or hardships; no fees for refugees.

Check your eligibility using [IRCC's online tool](#) before applying.

Application Steps

1. **Assess Eligibility:** Use IRCC's Come to Canada tool.
2. **Gather Documents:** Prepare proofs (see below).
3. **Create Profile/Apply:** For Express Entry, submit online profile. For others, apply via IRCC portal or paper if required.
4. **Receive Invitation to Apply (ITA):** If in pool, wait for draw.
5. **Submit Full Application:** Pay fees, upload docs within 60 days.
6. **Biometrics and Medical:** Attend appointments.
7. **Decision:** If approved, get Confirmation of Permanent Residence (COPR).

For family/humanitarian, sponsors apply first.



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Required Documents

Common documents include:

- Passport or travel document.
- Language test results (IELTS, CELPIP, TEF).
- Educational Credential Assessment (ECA) for foreign degrees.
- Proof of funds (e.g., bank statements; \$13,757 for single applicant in 2025).
- Police certificates from countries lived in for 6+ months.
- Medical exam results from panel physician.
- Job offer letter (if applicable).
- Birth/marriage certificates for family.

Ensure all are translated to English/French if needed.

Processing Times (as of October 2025)

Processing starts upon complete application receipt. Averages:

- Express Entry (CEC/FSW): 6-8 months.
- PNP (Express Entry): 6 months; Non-Express: 11-20 months.
- Family Sponsorship (Spouse outside Canada): 12 months; Inside: Varies.
- AIP: 11 months.
- Start-up Visa: 37 months.
- Humanitarian: Up to 50 years in extreme backlogs (e.g., 12-600 months for some).

Use IRCC's personalized tool for your submission date. Backlogs affect some streams heavily.

Tips for Success

- Submit complete, accurate applications to avoid delays.
- Monitor IRCC account for updates.
- Prepare for potential interviews.
- Use settlement services upon arrival for support.
- If eligible, apply from within Canada for faster processing in some cases.
- Stay informed via official IRCC website; avoid scams.

Please note this is general information.

For personalized advice, please visit our website <http://www.cisvisa.ca/>
or call us: +1 (780) 760 7770.