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Biometrics

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How to give your fingerprints and photo

If you need to give biometrics as part of your application, follow the steps below.

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Step 1: Pay the biometrics fee

You must pay the biometrics fee **when you apply**, or you may experience delays.

Biometrics fees

The fee you pay depends on your situation:

- **Individual applicant:** CAN\$85
- **Families applying at the same time (2 or more members of a family):** maximum total fee of CAN\$170
 - Family members eligible for this fee include
 - your [spouse](#) and [common-law partner](#)
 - your [dependent children](#) or their dependent children

- Check if your child is a dependant.
- **Groups of 3 or more performing artists and their staff** applying for work permits at the same time: maximum total fee of CAN\$255
- **Transit visa applications:** There is **no fee** to give biometrics for a transit visa.

Pay your biometrics fee

▼ How to pay the biometrics fee after you've applied

To pay for your biometrics fee after you already applied:

If you applied **online**, you should

- pay online
- upload your receipt in your IRCC secure account or by using our web form

If you applied **on paper**, you should

- pay online
- upload your receipt using our web form

Step 2: Get the biometric instruction

letter

After you pay the biometric fee, you'll get a biometric instruction letter (BIL) that

- confirms that you need to give your biometrics
- tells you how to book a biometrics appointment

When you go to your biometrics appointment, you must bring **both of the following** documents:

- your BIL
- your valid passport

▼ Asylum claimants and protected persons with no passport

If you've been issued a biometric instruction letter but you don't have a passport, you must bring one of the following documents to your appointment:

- your refugee protection identity document (or refugee protection claimant document) (valid or expired) **with your photo attached**
- a certified copy of your passport

This exception applies to you if you're

- an asylum claimant, and your claim
 - is in process

- has been found ineligible
 - has been rejected by the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB)
- a protected person, including people
 - whose asylum claims have been accepted by the IRB
 - who have been successful in a Pre-Removal Risk Assessment application

Use the BIL you received as part of your current application

If you try to give your biometrics with a BIL from a previous application

- there may be delays in the processing of your current application **or**
- your current application may be refused

Step 3: Go to an official biometric collection site

There are 4 things you need to know before you give your biometrics:

1. You must give your biometrics in person.
2. You need to make an appointment to give your biometrics.

- a. If you're visiting a visa application centre, booking ahead is best. However, some walk-in or emergency appointments may be accommodated.
 - b. For biometric collection at a designated Service Canada office or a U.S. application support centre, **an appointment is required**.
 - c. Booking an appointment is **free**.
3. Book your appointment as soon as you get your BIL.
 4. To avoid fraud, use our official website to find your local visa application centre, Service Canada (Canada only) or a United States (U.S.) Application Support Center (U.S. only) location.

Find a collection site close to you

Tips to get the best photos and fingerprints during your biometrics appointment

✓ What can be included

- glasses
 - Your eyes must be clearly visible.
 - There must be no glare on the lenses.
- hair down or up

- Your hair must be off your face so that the edges of your face are visible.
- hats and head coverings worn daily for religious beliefs or medical reasons
 - Your full face must be clearly visible.
 - The head covering must not create shadows on your face.
- a wheelchair, if you place a white blanket behind your head
 - Your facial features and the edges of your face must both be clearly visible.

✘ What can't be included

- sunglasses or tinted eye glasses
 - This includes prescription lenses, even when your eyes are clearly visible.
- hats and head coverings **not** worn daily for religious beliefs or medical reasons
- hands must be henna-free
 - Temporary hand injuries such as cuts, cracks on your fingers must be healed before giving your biometrics.

Note: If we can't get high-quality fingerprints during your appointment, you may need to give your biometrics again at a later date.

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