



EXPRESS ENTRY

International students

How to apply for permanent residence in Canada

Ways to improve your score:

- at least 12 months of skilled work experience in managerial (TEER 0), professional (TEER 1), technical occupations or skilled trades (TEER 2 and 3) in Canada
- strong language skills, supported by an approved language test
- Canadian secondary or post-secondary diploma/certificate/degree, or the foreign equivalent

If you obtained educational credentials in Canada, you may receive up to 30 additional points.

It is not mandatory to have a job offer or a provincial nomination to complete an Express Entry profile or to obtain an invitation to apply.

However, a qualifying job offer or a provincial nomination will give you additional points in the CRS. This increases your chances of being invited to apply.

Visit [Canada.ca/ExpressEntry](https://www.canada.ca/ExpressEntry).

Provinces and territories can also nominate you

Most provinces and territories in Canada can nominate immigrants who want to settle there through the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP). Some can nominate you through Express Entry.

International students with recent Canadian education and/or work experience may be eligible for the PNP. Criteria vary between each province and territory.

You must apply directly to a province or territory to be considered under their PNP. Check the website of the province or territory you are interested in to learn more about being nominated.

Other pathways to permanent residence

There are other options for international students who want to stay in Canada.

Visit [Canada.ca/come-to-Canada](https://www.canada.ca/come-to-Canada) to learn what other programs you might be eligible for.

CANADA.CA/EXPRESSENTRY

International students have the education, skills and experience that Canada is looking for. Express Entry has program options for graduates with eligible work experience. To learn more about studying, working and living in Canada after you graduate, visit [Canada.ca/international-students](https://www.canada.ca/international-students).

Pathway for students to stay in Canada permanently after graduation

Immigration is a multi-step process and takes time. The following diagram outlines the general steps to becoming a permanent resident through the programs managed under the Express Entry system. To learn more, visit [Canada.ca/ExpressEntry](https://www.canada.ca/ExpressEntry).

Prepare for Express Entry

Step 1

- Apply for a study permit.
- Complete your studies in a post-graduation work permit-eligible program. Check the designated learning institutions list to confirm program eligibility.

Step 2

- Apply for a post-graduation work permit or another type of work permit (Temporary Foreign Worker Program, Francophone Mobility, etc.).
- Gain one year of full-time paid skilled Canadian work experience (for instance, in managerial, professional or technical occupations, or skilled trades). Refer to the National Occupational Classification codes for more information on the experience, language skills, job offer and education level required.
- You can learn about the Canadian labour market with Canada's Job Bank and register to look for jobs in Canada.
- Take a language test in English and/or French. If you do have any education outside of Canada, you may also need to have it assessed for equivalency in Canada.

Apply for Express Entry

Step 3

- Create your Express Entry profile and provide all required documents.
- Get accepted into the Express Entry pool. If you meet the criteria of one of the programs under Express Entry, you will be placed in a pool of pre-screened candidates.

Step 4

You may be invited to apply if you are eligible for one of the programs in Express Entry and among the top ranked in the round.

The Comprehensive Ranking System

To support the economic goals we identified, we're introducing rounds of invitations for specific categories of Express Entry candidates.

We rank candidates in the pool using a points-based system called the Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS).

The candidates with the highest score in the pool based on the CRS will then be invited to apply for permanent residence during a round of invitations. Invitation rounds happen regularly throughout the year.

What are National Occupational Classification codes?

A National Occupational Classification code is a 5-digit number used to classify Canadian jobs. These codes are categorized by Training, Education, Experience, and Responsibilities (TEER) categories.

Work experience for immigration programs managed by Express Entry are under these 4 categories: TEER 0, 1, 2 or 3.

TEER 0 – management jobs

TEER 1 – professional jobs (require university degree)

TEER 2 – supervisor jobs, technical jobs and skilled trades (require college diploma, or apprenticeship training of more than 2 years)

TEER 3 – jobs that require a college certificate or apprenticeship training of less than 2 years, or more than 6 months of on-the-job training

How Express Entry works

Express Entry manages applications for permanent residence under these federal economic immigration programs:

- Canadian experience class
- Federal Skilled Worker Program
- federal skilled trades class

Provinces and territories can also recruit candidates from Express Entry through their Provincial Nominee Programs to meet local labour market needs.

To be eligible for Express Entry, you need to meet the criteria of at least one of these programs.

If you meet the minimum criteria, you will be placed into the Express Entry pool and ranked using the CRS. The CRS awards points based on various factors from your profile, including language ability, education, skills and experience.

The highest ranked candidates in the pool are invited to apply for permanent residence during general rounds of invitations. In program-specific rounds of invitations, we invite only those top-ranking candidates eligible for a specific program. For category-based rounds, we invite those top-ranking candidates eligible for a specific category. You can learn more by visiting Canada.ca/ExpressEntry.

There may be other requirements to work in your field in Canada, apart from your degree. Visit Canada.ca/newcomerservices to find resources that will help you find work in Canada.

Do you speak French?

You can get an additional 50 points in the CRS if you have strong French language skills. You may be invited to the Express Entry round of invitations based on your French language proficiency. French is one of Canada's 2 official languages. People speak it across Canada. From coast to coast to coast, there are many vibrant and welcoming Francophone communities with interesting job opportunities.

The ability to speak both French and English in one of these communities could give you a strong advantage over unilingual candidates with equivalent skills, as you may be able to serve clients in both languages or possibly help employers tap into new markets.

As a permanent resident, you can take free language courses and access other services in French to help you settle in your new community.

Learn about living in Canada as a French-speaker by visiting Canada.ca/francoimmigration.

Note: If you are interested in immigrating to Quebec, you need to contact that province directly because Quebec manages its own economic immigration programs.