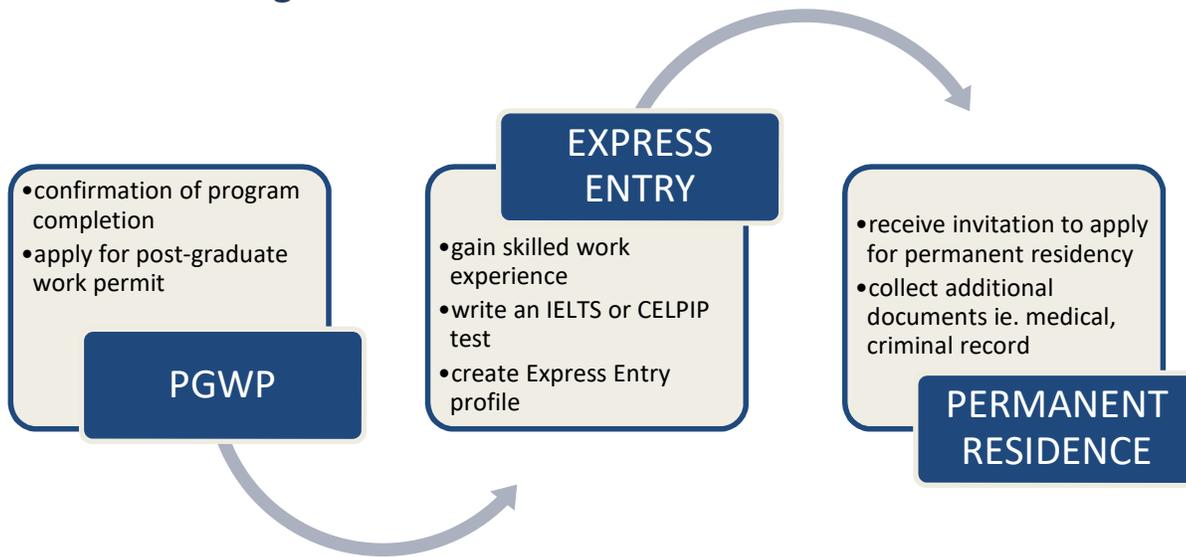


# Pathway to permanent residence in Canada

For international graduates



## 1. Apply for your post-graduate work permit

You must apply for the Post-Graduate Work Permit within 180 days of receiving your final grades i.e. if you see all of your final grades on April 25, you must apply before October 22. With a letter confirming your graduation from the Registrar's Office, you apply online through MyCIC.

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/work-postgrad.asp>

*Processing time for the PGWP is typically 4 weeks.*

## 2. Gain 12 months of full-time, skilled work in Canada\*

For PR purposes, full time work is generally defined by IRCC as 30 hours a week (you need 1560 hours and this can be a combination of part-time jobs). What is "skilled" work? The National Occupational Classification (NOC) classifies jobs in Canada. Jobs classified as A, B, or O are generally considered "skilled" for which the skill level is based on the nature of education and training required. See

<http://noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/noc/welcome.aspx?ver=16>

To determine the skill level of your job, search the NOC for the job title with "main duties" that most closely match your job's duties. You can then determine the job's skill level (e.g. A, B, C, D, or O) within the NOC Matrix. See NOC Tutorial: <http://noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/NOC/Tutorial.aspx?ver=16>

**\* If you have 12 months of skilled work experience from your home country, you may qualify for the Federal Skilled Worker Program: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/English/immigrate/skilled/apply-who.asp>**



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### 3. Complete your express entry profile

Express Entry is an application management system used by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to manage certain economic PR programs. Express Entry applicants first (1) meet the requirements of a PR program managed through Express Entry, and then (2) create an online Express Entry profile. The system assesses each applicant's profile based on IRCC's Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) and assigns a number of points to their application accordingly. After points are assigned, the application is placed in the Express Entry "pool." Only top ranked applicants are periodically "drawn" from the Express Entry pool and invited to apply for PR.

Complete the CRS self-assessment questionnaire to see how many points you could score based on your circumstances; see <http://www.cic.gc.ca/ctc-vac/getting-started.asp>

### 4. Once invited, apply for PR through Canadian Experience Program

Canadian Experience Class (CEC) CEC is a federal immigration program assessed through Express Entry.

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/cec/apply-who.asp>

To be eligible, you need 12 months of skilled work experience as described above.

*Applications for PR are generally processed within 6 months.*

### Nova Scotia Nominee Program

There are certain circumstances where you may also choose to apply for nomination through the province.

After completing your Express Entry profile, if you are worried you may not have enough points to be 'drawn' from the pool ie. less than 430, you can apply through the NS Experience program to receive an extra 600 points: <http://novascotiainmigration.com/move-here/nova-scotia-experience-express-entry/>

*Applications for NS Nominee Program are free and processing typically takes 3-4 weeks.*

If you want to start your own business, read about the NS International Graduate Entrepreneur program:

<http://novascotiainmigration.com/move-here/international-graduate-entrepreneur/>

### Atlantic Immigration Pilot Program: Atlantic International Graduate Program

If you intend to work in an industry with high labour market needs, your employer may qualify to endorse you as a permanent resident through the Atlantic Immigration Pilot. In order to qualify, you must have a Canadian degree or diploma, studied full-time in Nova Scotia for at least two years and have a full-time, permanent job offer at NOC level O, A, B, or C. The advantage of this program is that your employer can endorse you as soon as you have a job offer (you don't need to work for 12 months in order to qualify!).

Please note that this program is entirely employer led <http://novascotiainmigration.com/help-for-employers/atlantic-immigration-pilot/>

Your employer can ask for assistance from NS Immigration or from one of the staff helping with this program at the Halifax Partnership: <http://www.halifaxpartnership.com/en/home/grow/smart-business/atlantic-immigration-pilot.aspx>

*It can take 4-8 weeks for the employer designation and endorsement and then your permanent residency processing time will be approximately 5 months.*



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