

RECENT CHANGES TO THE Immigration Process AND HOW THEY AFFECT YOU

Canada's immigration system has undergone significant changes. Here's a quick glance at how the new Express Entry process, combined with changes to the Live-In Caregiver Program, the Provincial Nominee Program and the Family class have altered the landscape for many immigration candidates and the employers who want to hire them.



Introducing Express Entry

Express Entry is a new process recently introduced by Citizenship and Immigration Canada to streamline the application process and speed up processing times in the Federal Skilled Worker Program (FSWP); Federal Skilled Trades Program (FSTP); Canadian Experience Class (CEC); and a portion of the Provincial Nominee Program.

Old System	New System
First applicant in, first to be processed	CIC selects candidates that are most likely to succeed in Canada, rather than the first in line
Difficult to navigate the immigration system due to multiple players	Express Entry candidates with a valid job offer or provincial nomination will quickly be invited to apply for permanent residence
Recruitment of global talent at employer time and expense	Later in 2015 a new Job Bank will connect Canadian employers with a pool of skilled foreign national
Average of 12-14 months to process an application	Express Entry candidates will benefit from processing times of six months or less

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

How Express Entry Works

FOR CANDIDATES

- Submit an online Express Entry profile
- If your profile meets the criteria of one of the federal economic immigration programs subject to Express Entry, you will be accepted into the Express Entry pool
- You will be assessed according to a skills-based ranking system that looks at language proficiency, education, Canadian work experience and other factors that lead to success in Canada (a valid trade certification, for example)
- You will be assigned a score; those with the highest scores will be the first to be drawn from the pool
- If you have a job offer, your score will be raised to better ensure that you can be drawn from the pool
- It is your job to promote yourself. You should signal your presence in the Express Entry pool to recruiters, on private sector job boards, by participating in job fairs, by contacting Canadian employers directly, etc.

FOR EMPLOYERS

There are many scenarios in which an employer might employ Express Entry:

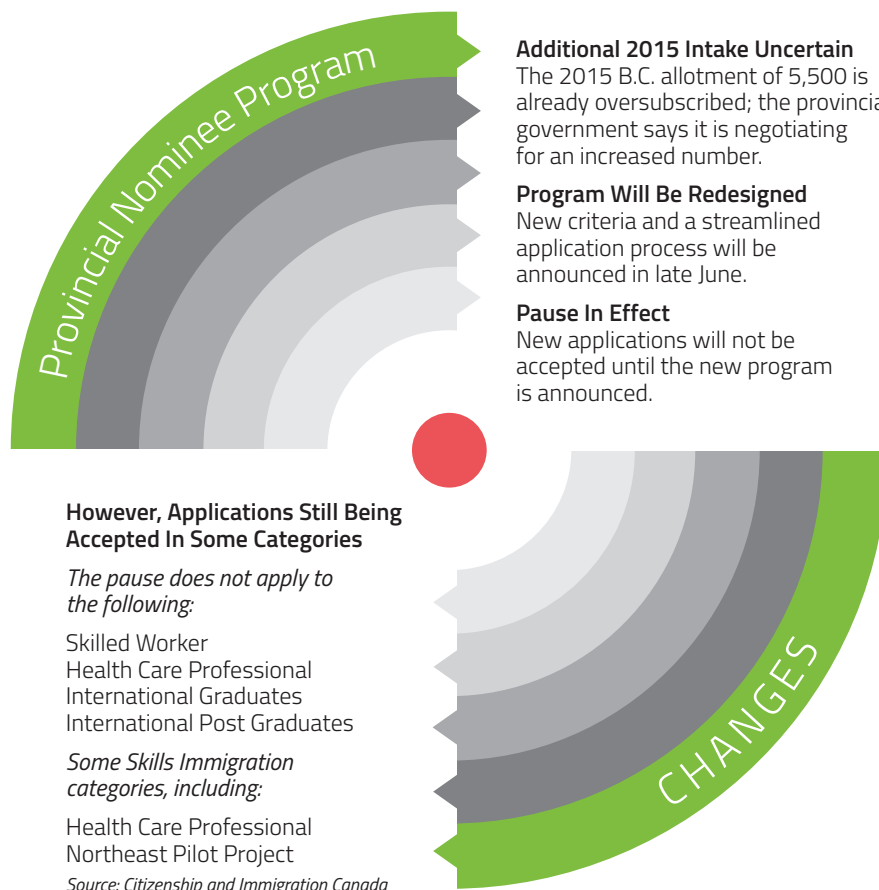
- When you find a qualified foreign national through your own recruitment efforts
- When you want to offer a permanent job to a current Temporary Foreign Worker
- When you are matched with a qualified foreign national through the Job Bank

Express Entry is not a new immigration category and it does not eliminate the need to seek a Labour Market Impact Assessment (where required) or to seek suitable domestic candidates. It is a new system designed to streamline the application process and speed up approvals. Find complete information at www.canada.ca/ExpressEntry. Note also the creation (later in 2015) of a new Employer Liaison Network, available to answer questions and make presentations.

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

CHANGES TO THE Provincial Nominee Program

Recent changes have made entry to Canada more difficult under programs such as the Temporary Foreign Worker Program and the Immigrant Investor Program. In turn, this has resulted in an increased number of applications to the B.C. Provincial Nominee Program.



Benefits of Provincial Nominee Enhancements

▶ **Provincial Nominees** will enjoy expedited entry under the new federal Express Entry system.

▶ **When a candidate is** identified as a provincial nominee, they receive additional points in the ranking system and will be quickly invited to apply for permanent residence.

▶ **CIC will process** most applications in six months or less.

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

ABOUT THE SURREY LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP Established in 2014, Surrey LIP is led by the City of Surrey and governed by a committee drawn from 30 community organizations.

Live-In Caregiver Program Overhaul

Several changes introduced late in 2014 are designed to provide faster processing, faster family reunification, better career opportunities and better protection against workplace vulnerability.

Some of the key concerns that have been addressed:

Backlog Reduction

- Permanent resident admittees to be increased to 30,000 and members of their families in 2015

Two New Pathways Allow Caregivers To Live On Their Own

- New Caring for children pathway geared to those with a work permit, at least two years of Canadian childcare experience and who meet education and language criteria.
- New Caring for people with high medical needs pathway geared to those with a work permit, and appropriate experience and qualifications.

Changes Within Family Class

- Since late 2014, eligible spouses or common-law partners have had the opportunity to work in Canada while they wait for their application for permanent residence to be processed.
- Also since late 2014, the age required to qualify as a dependant child has been reduced from 22 to 19.

For more information:

www.cic.gc.ca/english/work/caregiver/improvements.asp