

IMMIGRATION

IMMIGRATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students who make the transition to permanent residency are part of an important group of immigrants in Ontario. Their advanced language skills, level of education and experience in Canada put them in a privileged position to integrate quickly into Canadian society. International students bring enormous social, cultural and economic value to the country and there are a variety of programs to help them to become permanent residents.

OPPORTUNITIES ONTARIO

Opportunities Ontario is an immigration program through which Ontario nominates individuals and their families for permanent resident status.

The Opportunities Ontario program can facilitate the immigration process for international students in Ontario wishing to become permanent residents. The program has different streams, two of which are designed specifically for international students:

- Students with a Job Offer Stream – Graduates can apply within two years of graduating from a two-year diploma or degree program or one-year post-grad certificate program in Ontario. Applicants must have an offer of permanent full-time skilled work in a managerial, professional, or skilled trade position. The employer must apply to have the job approved by Opportunities Ontario.
- Ph.D. and Masters Graduate Streams – Graduates of Ph.D. or Masters programs at an eligible Ontario university can apply for up to two years after completing the program. No job offer is required.

Other streams in the Ontario Opportunities program include the following:

- Foreign Worker Stream - To fill a managerial, professional or skilled trade position, an employer can apply to have the position approved. Once the position is approved, the foreign worker completes the nominee application.
- Investor Stream - Businesses can apply through this program to facilitate the immigration process for important employees.

For more information about Opportunities Ontario, call **1-800-461-6348** or visit

www.ontarioimmigration.ca or findlink.at/ONT_PNP.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS TO ATTAIN PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS

In addition to the provincial immigrant nominee program, there are a number of federal immigration programs leading to permanent resident status.

Canadian Experience Class

This category is for people who have at least 12 months of full-time Canadian work experience in a managerial, professional, or skilled trade position.

Federal Skilled Workers

This category is for people who meet the eligibility requirements such as skilled work experience, education, language ability, and have enough money to support themselves and their family in Canada.

Skilled Trades

This category is for people who have at least two years of full-time work experience in a skilled trade and have an offer of full-time employment or an Ontario certificate of qualification in their trade.

Investors and Entrepreneurs

This category is for people who have a minimum investment in a business from either a designated investor group or a venture capital fund in Canada.

1-844-871-4567

www.settlement.org/isc

Self-Employed People

This category is for people who intend to become self-employed in Ontario in the areas of cultural activities, athletics or farm management.

Family Sponsorship

Permanent residents or Canadian citizens can sponsor some family members to immigrate here. Eligible family members include partners, dependent children, parents and grandparents, and other specified relatives. Sponsors must meet income requirements to show that they can support their family.

For more information about the federal programs described above, visit Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada: www.cic.gc.ca or findlink.at/applyImmCa.

