

Atlantic Immigration Project (AIP)

The Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) is a pathway to permanent residency for foreign skilled workers and international graduates who wish to work and live in one of Canada's 4 Atlantic provinces.

This is an employer-driven program designed to help employers in Atlantic Canada hire qualified candidates for jobs that they cannot fill locally. You must receive a job offer from a designated employer in Atlantic Canada to participate in the program.

The four Atlantic provinces include:

- Nova Scotia
- New Brunswick
- Newfoundland and Labrador
- Prince Edward Island

To qualify for the Atlantic Immigration Program, you must:

1. Work Experience:

- The applicant has at least one cumulative year (1,560 hours, 30 hours per week) of paid work experience in the past five years;
- The job category falls within TEER 0/1/2/3/4, and the applicant's work experience must include most of the behaviors described in the NOC occupation code as well as the main responsibilities;
- International students are exempt from the work experience requirement, provided they meet the following conditions: Earned a degree, diploma, certificate or technician/apprentice certification through at least 2 years of full-time study at an accredited post-secondary institution in the four Atlantic provinces, have lived in the Atlantic provinces for at least 16 months of the last 2 years prior to graduation, and hold a visa or permit necessary to work, study or train in Canada.

2. Educational requirements:

- Applicants in TEER category 0 or 1 occupations are required to have at least the equivalent of a one-year post-secondary degree or above in Canada;
- Applicants in TEER 2/3/4 category occupations are required to have at least a high school degree;
- Education outside Canada requires ECA academic certification;

3. Language requirements:

- Applicants in the occupation category of TEER 0/1/2/3 are required to have at least CLB/NCLC 5 language scores, while applicants in the occupation category of TEER 4 are required to have at least CLB/NCLC 4 language scores, which must be within the validity period of 2 years.

4. Proof of funds:

- Applicants need to have sufficient funds to support their family when they first arrive in Canada. If they are already living and working in Canada with a valid work permit, they do not need to provide proof of funds. (any bank account or financial institution to obtain an official letter)

The table below shows the minimum amount you need to immigrate to Canada as of April 25, 2023

Number of family members	Funds required (in Canadian dollars)
1	\$3,439
2	\$4,281
3	\$5,263
4	\$6,391
5	\$7,248
6	\$8,175
7	\$9,101
如果超过 7 人，每增加一名家庭成员	\$926
If there are more than 7 people, each additional family member	

1. Job offer requirements:

- Job offers must be full-time and non-seasonal;
- TEER type 0/1/2/3 occupational job offer made by the employer for a period of at least one year (from the date the applicant becomes permanent resident);
- TEER Category 4 occupational job offers offered by employers are long-term;
- The job offer is not from an enterprise in which the applicant and his spouse are the major shareholders;
- With the exception of international students from the four Atlantic provinces, the job offer must be at the same or higher skill level than the work experience they have (see table below). For some jobs in the health care industry, it is not necessary to obtain job offers at the same or higher skill level as qualified work experience;
 - Work experience of NOC 32101 Nurse practitioner and NOC 31301 Registered Nurse can be used for job offers of NOC 33102 nurse assistant or NOC 44101 Home Health worker.

Categories of job offers	Work experience requirements
TEER 0	TEER 0,1,2,3,4
TEER 1	TEER 1,2,3,4
TEER 2	TEER 2,3,4
TEER 3	TEER 3,4
TEER 4	TEER 4

Processing time: 5 months

Cost	\$Canada
Your Application	1,365
<u>Handling fee (US \$850) and permanent residency fee (US \$515)</u>	
<u>Your Application (No permanent residence fee)</u>	850
Including your spouse or partner	1,365
<u>Handling fee (US \$850) and permanent residency fee (US \$515)</u>	
<u>Including your spouse or partner (No permanent residence fee)</u>	850
Including a <u>dependent child</u>	230 (each child)

AIP program employer requirements

Before an offer can be made to an applicant, the employer must first become a designated employer in the Atlantic province where the applicant will work. The following conditions must be met:

- The business does not violate the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) or the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPR);

- In good standing and in compliance with employment standards and occupational health and safety legislation;
- Not to recruit or employ workers for the purpose of building a pool of candidates for subsequent transfer or outsourcing to different enterprises;
- Have continued and active operation of the same business in the Atlantic Provinces for at least 2 years, or be able to continue and active operation elsewhere with the approval of the province in which you are applying to become a designated employer;
- Work with settlement service providers to help their employees access settlement services;
- Commitment to attend free induction training;
- Commit to attending free intercultural competency training unless the employer is exempted by the provincial government;

Induction training and cross-cultural competence training

As a designated employer, you must complete these two training courses before you can submit your first accreditation. The training includes (you can only register for the training if you meet your designated or planned employer) :

Online orientation (We will send you a training video that you can watch at your own pace. When you submit an endorsement application to the province, you will need to prove that you have completed it.) :

- Introduction to the Canadian immigration system;
- Background to the Atlantic Migration Project;
- Summary of roles and responsibilities;
- Atlantic Migration program process;
- Application for permanent residence;
- Work permit application;
- Permanent resident status;
- Settlement and community integration.

Cross-cultural competence training

As the designated employer, you will be required to complete cross-cultural competency training. In some cases, the province may exempt you.

An employer applying to the Province to endorse an employee will need to demonstrate that this training has been completed.

This free training takes half a day and is offered in person or through live webinars in English and French.

This training is designed to support those responsible for recruiting or managing employees in an employer's business and covers topics such as:

- Creating a welcoming and culturally inclusive workplace;
- Newcomer experience;
- Culture consciousness

Please contact your service provider in your area to register for training.

AIP program application process

1. The employer applies for AIP designation and obtains the Confirmation of Designation;
2. Employers participate in induction training and cross-cultural competence training;
3. The applicant is matched to a suitable employer position;
4. Sign the employer offer, and the employer assists in completing the settlement plan;
5. Submit Endorsement (equivalent to provincial nomination) application, if the applicant needs to apply for a work visa, the employer must ask the provincial government to provide a letter of recommendation at this stage;
6. Endorsement approved;
7. The applicant submits the federal PR application within 90 days of submitting the work visa application;
8. PR approval.

AIP Period of trial

One Year

Provinces will refer employers to the DSC after their first recognition. You can use these services for up to one year after you successfully endorse the first candidate under the scheme.