

EXPRESS ENTRY 101

Express Entry is an online immigration application system.

It works for 3 immigration programs:

1. Federal Skilled Workers (FSW),
2. Canadian Experience Class (CEC), and
3. Federal Skilled Trades (FST)

Minimum Requirements Include:

FSW

- Language requirement
 - CLB 7 in all 4 abilities
- Education
 - Minimum a Canadian high school diploma or equivalent
- Work Experience
 - Minimum 12 months of continuous, full-time, skilled work experience completed in the last 10 years (or equivalent)
- Proof of funds
 - Enough funds to support themselves and their dependents
- Must not intend to live in Quebec

If a candidate meets these requirements, they must then score a minimum of 67 out of 100 points on the FSW eligibility points grid

CEC

- Language requirement:
 - CLB 7 for NOC O or A jobs
 - CLB 5 for NOC B jobs
- Minimum 1 year of skilled (NOC O, A, or B) Canadian work experience in the last 3 years before applying
- Can be obtained in a few ways:
 - Full-time job (FT)
 - 30 hrs/week for 1 year
 - Total of 1,560 hours
 - Part-time job (PT)
 - 15hrs/week for 24 months
 - Equivalent to 1yr FT work (1,560 hours)
 - You can do as many PT jobs as you need to meet this requirement
 - FT at more than 1 job
 - 30 hrs/wk for 12 months at more than 1 job
 - Equivalent to 1yr FT work (1,560 hours)
- Must not intend to live in Quebec

FST

- Language requirement:
 - CLB5 for speaking + listening
 - CLB4 for reading + writing
- Work experience:
 - at least 2 years and must be paid
 - FT or equal amount of PT in a Skilled Trade within 5 years before applying.
 - Must be a position in NOC Major group 72, 73, 82, 92 or Minor Group 632, 633
- Meet job requirements for that skilled trade as set out in the NOC Except for needing a Certificate of Qualification
- Have a valid job offer:
 - FT employment for a total of at least 1 year or,
 - Certificate of Qualification in that trade issued by a Canadian government (provincial/federal/territorial)
- Must not intend to live in Quebec
- Proof of funds
 - Enough funds to support themselves and their dependents
- Must not intend to live in Quebec

Ideal FSW Candidate

- Age: 30 yrs
- Education: at least 2 Bachelor's degrees or a Master's degree
- Language: able to demonstrate moderate to high English and/or French proficiency (CLB8 or higher)
- Work: at least 3 yrs of skilled work experience

Key points

- You should have:
 - 1,560 hours of FT or FT equivalent work
 - For 1 year within the last 3 years before applying

Key points

- IRCC only considers work experience obtained after an individual has been granted the certification to practice the trade in their country of residence.
- Volunteer/unpaid work or internships do NOT count.

BASED ON

ImmiSearch webinar with Li Cao