Canada is changing its economic immigration programs to provide more opportunities to prospective skilled immigrants. As of January 2015, skilled foreign workers have access to Express Entry, which covers Canada’s key economic immigration programs:

- the Federal Skilled Worker Program;
- the Federal Skilled Trades Program;
- the Canadian Experience Class; and
- a portion of the Provincial Nominee Program.

Candidates who are invited to apply for permanent residence under the Express Entry system will benefit from fast processing times of six months or less.

Express Entry also provides a pathway for skilled workers to connect with potential job opportunities in Canada prior to arrival.

Express Entry ensures that the candidates who are most likely to succeed economically – not simply those first in line – are able to immigrate to Canada.

**How Express Entry Works**

**STEP 1**
Create your profile

Express Entry Pool

Job Bank registration and self-promotion to employers

**STEP 2**
Invitation to Apply

Apply for permanent residence online
Express your interest in coming to Canada as a skilled foreign worker. Create an online Express Entry profile and tell us about your skills, work experience, language ability, education and other details. Before doing this, you will need to take a language test in English or French. If you were educated outside of Canada, you may also need to have your education assessed against Canadian standards. More information on language and education assessments is available online.

If you meet the criteria of one of the federal economic immigration programs subject to Express Entry, you will be placed in a pool of pre-screened candidates.

If you do not already have a Canadian job offer or a nomination from a province/territory, you must register with the Government of Canada’s Job Bank. Job Bank is an easy, online search tool that will help you get matched with jobs in Canada based on your skills, knowledge and experience.

**Step 1**
**Potential candidates create an online Express Entry profile**

Express your interest in coming to Canada as a skilled foreign worker. Create an online Express Entry profile and tell us about your skills, work experience, language ability, education and other details. Before doing this, you will need to take a language test in English or French. If you were educated outside of Canada, you may also need to have your education assessed against Canadian standards. More information on language and education assessments is available online.

If you meet the criteria of one of the federal economic immigration programs subject to Express Entry, you will be placed in a pool of pre-screened candidates.

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**Express Entry Pool**

You will be given a score to determine your place in the Express Entry pool using a Comprehensive Ranking System that includes factors known to contribute to economic success (such as language, education, and work experience).

There will be regular rounds of invitations issued to candidates from the Express Entry pool, inviting them to apply for permanent residence. Candidates with the highest scores, including those who have a valid job offer or a provincial/territorial nomination, will be invited to apply.

Your Express Entry profile will be valid for 12 months. During that time, you will need to update your profile if circumstances change such as your level of education or language test results.

*Important: Filling out an online Express Entry profile is not a guarantee that you will qualify for permanent residence. If you are invited to apply for permanent residence, information provided in your Express Entry profile will be verified at that time.*

**Step 2**
**Selected candidates are invited to submit an electronic application for permanent residence**

You will receive an Invitation to Apply for permanent residence if you:

- have a valid job offer from an employer in Canada (subject to the Labour Market Impact Assessment process in place at that time);
- have been nominated by a province or territory; or
- are among the top ranked in the pool based on your skills and experience.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada will process the majority of complete permanent residence applications received within six months or less.

Candidates in the Express Entry pool who do not receive an Invitation to Apply for permanent residence after 12 months can resubmit their profile and re-enter the pool if they still meet the criteria.

*For more details on Express Entry, see www.canada.ca/ExpressEntry.*