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> [Find an IRCC application package or form](#)

Guide 5291 - Humanitarian and Compassionate Considerations



Applying online is now the main way to apply for permanent residence.

Other formats

If you can't apply online, and require accommodations, including for a disability, you can ask for the application in [another format](#) (paper, braille or large print).

▶ **If you can't apply online and require accommodations**

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This is not a legal document. The explanations and definitions are not legal definitions. In case of a discrepancy between the language in this document and the relevant legislation or regulations, the legal text in the legislation and regulations prevails.

For legal information, consult the following documents:

- *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*
 - *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations*
-

Overview

Application package

This application package has:

- an instruction guide, **and**
- the forms you need to fill out.

The **instruction guide**:

- has information you must know before you submit your application, **and**
- explains how to fill out the forms and gather your supporting documents.

Read the instruction guide completely and then fill out each of the applicable forms.

For an application to be considered complete, the principal applicant **must** fill out the forms listed below and **must** submit them all together in the Permanent Residence Online Application Portal for the principal applicant and each of their dependants. Incomplete applications will be returned.

The **forms** are designed with questions that will help the processing of your application.

Symbols used in this guide

This guide uses these symbols to draw your attention to important information:



What you **must** do to have your application processed.



Important information that you need to know to avoid delays or other problems.



Where to get more information.



Note: Tips that will help you with this application.

Before you apply

Who may use this application?

You may use this application to apply for permanent residence from within Canada on humanitarian and compassionate grounds (H&C) if you:

- are a foreign national currently living in Canada;
- need an exemption from one or more requirements of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) or *Regulations* in order to apply for permanent residence within Canada;
- believe humanitarian and compassionate considerations justify granting the exemption(s) you need; **and**
- are not eligible to apply for permanent residence from within Canada in any of these classes:
 - Spouse or Common-Law Partner;


- Live-in Caregiver;
- Caregivers: caring for children or people with high medical needs;
- Protected Person and Convention Refugees; and
- Temporary Resident Permit Holder.

My spouse or common-law partner is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident

If your spouse or common-law partner is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, your spouse or common-law partner **can** sponsor you.

You should apply using the application *Applying for Permanent Residence from Within Canada - Spouse or Common-law Partner Class* (IMM 5289). Visit the [Application for Permanent Residence From Within Canada – Spouse or Common-Law Partner in Canada Class \(IMM 5289\)](#) or consult the [Help Centre](#).

If your spouse or common-law partner cannot sponsor you, you may continue using this application.

 **Note:** You are not required to have legal immigration status to apply for permanent residence in the Spouse or Common-Law Partner in Canada Class.

Who may not use this application?

You **may not** apply for H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) consideration if you:

- are a Canadian citizen,
- a permanent resident,
- have submitted an H&C application for which a decision has not been made
- have an outstanding refugee claim,
- became a designated foreign national within the last 5 years.

Designated Foreign National

The Minister of Public Safety advises individuals when they become a designated foreign national.

If you are a designated foreign national, you may not apply for H&C for at least **5 years after the day** of your designation, or if you are a designated foreign national and made a:

- refugee claim at the Refugee Protection Division, Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB),
- appeal to your rejected refugee claim (at the IRB's Refugee Appeal Division), or
- application for a Pre-removal Risk Assessment,

you may not apply for at least 5 years after the date of the decision on that application or appeal.

In addition you may not apply for H&C consideration if you:

- had a refugee claim that was rejected (including claims that were abandoned) within the last 12 months by either the Refugee Protection Division or the Refugee Appeal Division of the IRB, or
- withdrew a refugee claim within the last 12 months, unless the claim was withdrawn before your hearing at the IRB.

i **Note:** This is known as the “12-month bar” There are exceptions to the 12-month bar. You may be excepted if:

- you provide sufficient credible and objective evidence that there are children under 18 years of age who would be directly and adversely affected if you were removed from Canada; or
- you provide sufficient credible and objective evidence that you or a failed refugee claimant included in your application, if returned to home country, would be subject to a risk to life caused by the inability of your country(ies) of nationality, or former habitual residence if you don't have a nationality, to provide adequate health or medical care.

Are you seeking protection?

If you are seeking protection for any of these reasons:

- persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group,
- danger of torture,
- risk to life or cruel and unusual treatment or punishment,

you can visit our website to learn more about the [in-Canada refugee process](#).

Are you under removal order?

If you are under a removal order and decide to submit an application for permanent residence based on H&C (humanitarian and compassionate), it will **not** delay your removal from Canada. You must leave on the specified removal date. We will continue to process your application and we will notify you of the decision in writing.

Concurrent applications for H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) and renewal of temporary resident status

If you are applying to renew your temporary resident status in Canada (student, visitor, worker, etc. (et cetera)) at the same time as your application for H&C (humanitarian and compassionate), **do not** include your temporary resident renewal application in the same envelope. You must pay for this application separately and it must be mailed to the [Case Processing Centre in Edmonton, Alberta](#). The Humanitarian Migration office in Vancouver only processes H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) applications.

Humanitarian and compassionate grounds

Normally, foreign nationals who wish to immigrate to Canada must apply for and obtain a permanent resident visa from abroad. Foreign nationals do not have the right to apply for permanent residence from within Canada if they do not meet the requirements of an in-Canada immigration class, or if they are otherwise inadmissible.

However, section A25(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) allows foreign nationals who are inadmissible or who are ineligible to apply in an immigration class, to apply for permanent residence, or for an exemption from a requirement of the Act, based on humanitarian and compassionate (H&C) considerations.

Note: A person is only allowed to have one H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) application under consideration at any time.

Exemptions



Important information

Applying for H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) consideration is an exceptional measure – it is not simply another means of applying for permanent resident status in Canada.

In order to be considered for an exemption from the usual requirements of IRPA (Immigration and Refugee Protection Act), you must:

- clearly indicate in your application the specific exemption(s) you are requesting.
- provide all details related to your request including the reasons why you believe an exemption(s) should be granted on H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) grounds.
- demonstrate that there are sufficient and compelling reasons for you to be granted an exemption allowing you to apply for permanent residence from

within Canada.

i **Note:** The cost and inconvenience of returning to your home country to apply for permanent residence are not, in the absence of other compelling factors, sufficient factors for H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) considerations.



Your responsibility

Important information

You are responsible for making sure that all circumstances and factors that you wish to have considered are provided in your application. This must include any hardship you believe you will suffer if you are not granted the exemption(s) you are requesting. For example, if you are claiming hardship arising from circumstances in your country of origin, your supporting documents should include:

- the hardship you anticipate,
- whether the hardship would be faced in all areas of the country of origin or country of habitual residence,
- whether you ever sought assistance from the authorities, including police or non-governmental organizations, to change or improve your situation in your country, **and**
- if you have **not** sought assistance from within your country, you **must** provide reasons why you have not done so.

If you are subject to a one year bar on applications for permanent residence (see above "Who may not use this application"), and you are requesting an exception to the bar, you must provide information to support that request. **It is also your responsibility to ensure that the information you provide is correct and up-to-date.** This means that if your personal situation changes after you have submitted your application, you must notify us immediately in writing. A change in your personal situation can refer to any of the following: marital status, birth of a child, criminal convictions, change of employer, etc.(et.cetera).

Are you inadmissible?

Reasons for inadmissibility include but are not limited to:

- criminality,
- health grounds,
- financial reasons,
- misrepresentation.

If you or a family member is inadmissible to Canada, it is strongly suggested that you resolve your inadmissibility if possible **before** applying for permanent residence. For example, if you are inadmissible due to a criminal conviction, you may be eligible to apply for rehabilitation or a record suspension (formerly a pardon).

Information on applying for criminal rehabilitation can be found on the our website.

i **Note:** If you are unable to resolve your inadmissibility, you may request an exemption on humanitarian and compassionate grounds to overcome the inadmissibility; however such exemptions are given only in exceptional circumstances.

Factors that may be considered

Examples of the factors that may be considered include, but are not limited to:

- establishment in Canada
- an inability to leave Canada that has led to establishment
- ties to Canada
- best interests of any children affected by your application (see following section for more information)
- health considerations
- family violence considerations
- consequences of your separation from relative

- factors in your country of origin (not related to seeking protection)
 - any other relevant factors you wish to have considered that are not related to seeking protection.
-


Best interests of the child

The best interests of any children directly affected by the decision made on your application will be taken into consideration in the assessment of your application.

Factors related to the best interests of the child may include but are not limited to the:

- age of the child,
- child's establishment in Canada,
- conditions in the country of origin that could impact the child,
- medical needs of the child,
- child's education, **or**
- child's gender.

The best interests of a child do not outweigh all other factors in a case. The best interests of the child are only one of many important factors that will be considered by the decision maker.

 **Note:** You must provide specific information and supporting documents to demonstrate how the child or children inside or outside of Canada would be affected.

Sponsorship/ undertaking assistance

We no longer assesses sponsorship undertakings in support of an in-Canada H&C application. Sponsorships already submitted will continue to be considered as a factor in the assessment of an H&C application similar to letters submitted by

family members confirming their ability to support you. The level of importance given to the sponsorship/letters confirming ability to support in the overall H&C application remains at the discretion of the decision maker.

Do you live in Quebec?

The provincial immigration authority, called the Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration (MIFI), must also approve your application.

You do not need to fill out extra forms; we will refer your application to the MIFI on your behalf.

If the MIFI refuses your application we will continue to process your application for permanent residence, provided you no longer live in the province of Québec.

Do family members need to apply separately?

You may include your family member(s), **residing in Canada**, in your application for permanent residence.

Family members **residing abroad cannot** be included for concurrent processing. However, in your application, you must list all your family members residing inside Canada or abroad. Your spouse or common-law partner and children must meet all the requirements to become permanent residents of Canada.

 **Note:** For the definition of a family member, see the table below.

Family member definitions

Your family members include your spouse or common-law partner, your dependent children and any children that are their dependent children.

Spouse

Refers to either of the two persons (any gender) in a marriage legally recognized in the country in which it took place, as well as in Canada.



Proxy, telephone, fax, internet and similar forms of marriage where one or both parties were not physically present are not considered as valid spousal relationships under the Regulations nor are polygamous marriages. For more information, consult our [policy on the legality of a marriage](#).

Common-law partner

Refers to a person who is living in a conjugal relationship with another person (any gender), and has done so continuously for a period of at least one year. A conjugal relationship exists when there is a significant degree of commitment between two people.

This can be shown with evidence that the couple share the same home, support each other financially and emotionally, have children together, or present themselves in public as a couple.

Common-law partners who have been in a conjugal relationship for at least one year, but are unable to live together or appear in public together because of legal restrictions in their home country or who have been separated for reasons beyond their control (for example, civil war or armed conflict) may still qualify and should be included on the application.

Dependent children

We assess your child's eligibility as a dependent based on how old they were at a specific point in time, called the [lock-in date](#). This is usually the date we received your application. To see if your child qualifies as a dependent, we consider the age of your child on the [lock-in date](#), even though your child's age may change during processing.

Your child or the child of your spouse or common-law partner can be considered a dependent child if that child meets the requirements below on the [lock-in date](#):

- They're **under 22 years old**, and
- They don't have a spouse or common-law partner

Children 22 years old or older qualify as dependents if they meet **both** of these requirements:

- They have depended on their parents for financial support since before the age of 22, and
- They are unable to financially support themselves because of a mental or physical condition

With the exception of age, dependents must continue to meet these requirements until we finish processing your application.

Not sure if your child is a dependent? [Check if your child qualifies by answering a few questions.](#)

If your child's age was locked in on or before October 23, 2017, a previous [definition of dependent children](#) may apply.


Dependent child of a dependent child

Refers to children of dependent children of the applicant and those of the spouse or common-law partner, if applicable.

Biometric (fingerprints and photo) requirements

You and your family members may need to appear in person to have fingerprints and a photograph (biometric information) taken at a biometric collection service point.

Canadian citizens and **permanent residents** of Canada are **exempt** from giving biometrics.

 As of December 3, 2019, you need to give biometrics when you apply from **within Canada**. You can go to a [designated Service Canada location](#).

Find out if you need to give [biometrics](#).

If you have to give biometrics, you can give them after you:

- pay for and submit your application and biometric fees; **and**

- get a Biometric Instruction Letter (BIL) which will direct you to a list of biometric collection service points you may choose from.

You must bring the BIL with you to the biometric collection service point to give your biometrics.

We encourage you to give your biometrics as soon as possible after getting the BIL. We'll start processing your application after we get your biometrics.

Where to give your biometrics


You **need to book an appointment** to give your biometrics at one of these official [biometric collection service points](#).

Can I apply for a loan?

You may apply for a loan to cover the cost of the Right of Permanent Residence Fee. Loans are not available to cover processing fees. To qualify, you must show that the loan is necessary and that you have the ability to repay it. If you have been in Canada for three years or longer, you must also show that you were unable to get a loan from a bank or other lending institution.

The Right of Permanent Residence Fee loan application is available on our [website](#). You may also refer to the section on [How to contact us](#).

Using an immigration representative

 If you're a representative, [find out how you can create an account and submit applications on behalf of your clients](#).

If you want to appoint someone to do business with us on your behalf, you must

- submit a [Use of a Representative \[IMM 5476\] \(PDF, 648.31 KB\)](#) form
- sign it digitally or by hand and get your immigration representative to do so also

- upload it with your application

An immigration representative (an immigration consultant or lawyer) can give you advice and help you with your application for a fee. But they can't

- open a portal account on your behalf
- electronically sign the application for you
- sign into the portal using your username and password

A representative can fill out forms and communicate with us on your behalf through their own account. They can also

- help you prepare the documents you need to upload
- answer questions about the forms

After you read the declaration, **you must be the one who types your name.** This is the legal requirement for your application to be considered "signed," according to Canada's immigration law.

If you want to allow us to release information from your application to someone other than yourself who will not act as your representative you must


- submit an [Authority to Release Personal Information to a Designated Individual \[IMM 5475\] \(PDF, 593.57 KB\)](#) form
- complete the form and sign it by hand
- upload it with your application

Step 1. Gather documents

What documents are required?

Use the [Document Checklist \[IMM 5280\] \(PDF, 0.387 MB\)](#) which you can find in this package to assist you in gathering the necessary documentation.

If any of the required documents are missing, or scans are not clear, your application will be returned to you.

 Important information: You must provide evidence that will support any statement you make on your application. Include any additional **supporting** document(s) explaining your hardship, best interests of a child, or any other factor you may want considered.



Note

Reminder

It is your responsibility to ensure that the information in your application is correct and up-to-date. If your circumstances change, you **must** inform us. Decisions made on your application will be based on the information we have at the time your application is reviewed. Updated information should be sent to the Humanitarian Migration office in Vancouver by email to: VancouverBRO@cic.gc.ca.

Translation of documents

You **must** include the following **along with** any document that is not in English or French:

- the English or French translation; **and**
- an affidavit from the person who completed the translation (if they are not a certified translator)

Translations may be done by:

- a person who is fluent in both languages (English or French, and the unofficial language); **or**
- a Canadian certified translator (a member in good standing of a provincial or territorial organization of translators and interpreters in Canada).

If the translation isn't done by a Canadian certified translator, the person who completed the translation must provide an affidavit swearing to their language proficiency and the accuracy of the translation.

The affidavit must be sworn in the presence of:

In Canada:

- a notary public;
- a commissioner of oaths; **or**
- a commissioner of taking affidavits.

Authority to certify varies by province and territory. Consult your local provincial or territorial authorities.

Outside of Canada:

- a notary public

Authority to administer oaths varies by country. Consult your local authorities.

⚠ Important information: Translations must not be done by the applicants themselves nor by members of the applicant's family. This includes a parent, guardian, sibling, spouse, common-law partner, conjugal partner, grandparent, child, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew and first cousin.

i Note: An affidavit is a document on which the translator has sworn, in the presence of a person authorized to administer oaths in the country where the translator is living, that the contents of their translation are a true translation and representation of the contents of the original document. **Translators who are certified in Canada don't need to supply an affidavit.**

Certified true copies

To have a photocopy of a document certified, an authorized person must compare the original document to the photocopy and must print all of the following on the photocopy:

- "I certify that this is a true copy of the original document";
- the name of the original document;
- the date of the certification;

- the name of the authorized person;
- their official position or title; **and**
- their signature.

Who can certify copies?

Only authorized people can certify copies.

Important information: Certifying of copies must not be done by the applicants themselves nor by an applicant's parent, guardian, sibling, spouse, common-law partner, conjugal partner, grandparent, child, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew or first cousin.

People authorized to certify copies include the following:

In Canada:

- a notary public;
- a commissioner of oaths; **or**
- a commissioner of taking affidavits.

Authority to certify varies by province and territory. Check with your local provincial or territorial authorities to learn who has the authority to certify.

Outside Canada:

- a notary public

Authority to certify international documents varies by country. Check with your local authorities to learn who has the authority to certify in your country.

Police certificates

If you and your family members are 18 years of age and older and aren't permanent residents or Canadian citizens, you must provide a valid police certificate for any country **other than Canada** in which you spent 6 or more months in a row since the age of 18.

i **Note:** You do **not** need to provide a police certificate from a country if you or your family members were under 18 years of age the entire time you lived in that country.

If the original certificate isn't in English or French, you must get an accredited translator to translate it. You must include both the police certificate **and** the translation.

We'll also do our own background checks to see if there are reasons why you or your family members may not be admissible to Canada.

For specific and up-to-date information, see our guide on [where to get a police certificate](#).

Medical requirements

You and your family members must undergo an immigration medical exam (IME) in order to become a permanent resident of Canada. You and your family members must not have a health condition that:

- is a danger to public health or safety, **or**
- would cause excessive demand on health or social services in Canada.

Examples of "excessive demand" include ongoing hospitalization or institutional care for a physical or mental illness.

Find out more about [immigration medical exams](#).

⚠ Important information: You must inform us immediately of any change in your marital status or your family composition (e.g. marriage, common-law relationship, separation, divorce, birth of a child, adoption of a child, death, etc). Any family member who has not been examined before you become a permanent resident can never be sponsored by you in the future.

Instructions

Information on medical instructions **will be provided to you** by the IRCC office. When you receive your assessment notice you will also receive medical forms for yourself (and any dependants, if applicable) and instructions on how to access a list of doctors in your area who are authorized to conduct IMEs (see below).

Note: You are not required to have an IME before you submit your application forms.

Exam validity

Medical results are valid for twelve months from the date of the IME. If your application is not finalized during this time, you may be required to do another medical exam.

Authorized doctors

The IME must be performed by a doctor from the IRCC list of Panel Physicians. You cannot choose your family doctor if their name is not on this list. See the [list of Panel Physicians](#) to find a doctor in your area.

Note that the doctor is only responsible for conducting the IME and cannot give you any advice on the immigration process.

Step 2. Complete the Application

Sign in or create a [permanent residence online application portal account](#).

You must fill out these digital forms online

You'll fill out these digital forms online (for yourself, and any family members 18 or older)


- Generic Application Form for Canada (IMM 0008)
- Schedule A – Background/Declaration (IMM 5669)
- Additional Family Information (IMM 5406)

You must also fill out these PDF forms

- you don't need to sign them
- upload them to your online application
- as the principal applicant, you'll electronically sign for the entire application, including those of your family members
 - [Document Checklist \[IMM 5280\]](#) (PDF, 0.387 MB).
 - Use your checklist to make sure you include all the forms and documents you need.
 - [Supplementary Information \[IMM 5283\]](#) (PDF, 1.25 MB).

Complete and sign these PDF forms, if they apply to you

- print and complete it
- sign it by hand
- get the third party to sign it by hand
- upload it with your application
 - [Statutory Declaration of Common-law Union \[IMM 5409\]](#) (PDF, 0.78 MB), if this applies
 - [Separation Declaration for Minors Travelling to Canada \[IMM 5604\]](#) (PDF, 1.99 MB), if this applies

 **Note:** It is a serious offence to give false or misleading information on these forms. The information you provide on your application may be subject to verification.



Be complete and accurate

Important information

Complete all sections. If a section does not apply to you, write "Not Applicable" or "NA". If your application is incomplete it may be returned to you and this will delay the processing of your application.

If you need more space for any section, print out an additional page containing the appropriate section, complete it and submit it along with your application.

Generic Application Form for Canada (IMM 0008)

Who must fill out this application form?

This form must be completed by:

- you, the principal applicant
-

Completing the form

You'll fill out and submit the Generic Application Form for Canada (IMM 0008) online. You don't need to print and sign by hand. Please follow the instructions below to ensure the form is properly completed.

You must answer all questions on this application form unless otherwise indicated.

You also have the option of saving your form and completing it later.

Read and follow the steps below to help you fill out the form.

Application Details

Language preference

From the list, select your preferred language for:

- a. correspondence (any letters or emails we send you)
- b. interview: if your native language is not in this list, select "**Other**"
- c. interpreter requested: you must select "**Yes**" if you do not select English or French for the interview

Where do you plan to live in Canada?

If you plan to live in the Province of Quebec and haven't received your Certificat de Sélection du Québec (CSQ), enter the date when you applied for it. If you haven't applied yet, you must do so before applying for permanent residence.

Personal Details

Family name

Family name is also known as **last name** or **surname**.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet (and you're filling this form out on their behalf), enter your family name(s).

Given name

Given names are also known as **first name** and **middle name**. Do not use initials.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet (and you're filling this form out on their behalf), enter your family name(s). For given name(s) enter "Child" or leave the given name field blank.

Physical characteristics - sex

If you choose "X" for gender, you need to complete the [Request for a Change of Sex or Gender Identifier \(PDF, 1.6 MB\)](#) form and send it with your application if

- your foreign travel document or passport does not have the "X" gender identifier (or an equivalent non-binary option)
- you have or have had a Canadian temporary resident document with a different gender identifier, including a
 - visa

- electronic travel authorization
- work permit or
- study permit

You don't need any supporting documents.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select "**U - Unknown**".

Physical characteristics - Eye colour

If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select "**Other**".

Birth information - Date of birth

If you don't know your complete date of birth, write 1901/01/01 in the fields fill in the spaces for the unknown year, month or day. Include a letter of explanation saying why you used this date.

Birth information - Place of birth

As shown in your passport or your travel document.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, indicate "Unknown" for the city or town and select the country where you plan to adopt a child.

Citizenship(s)

If you aren't a citizen of any country, choose "**Stateless**".

If you are a citizen of more than one country, choose your other country of citizenship in the second field.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select the country where you intend to adopt a child.

Current country of residence

You must be in this country legally.

For refugee claimants in Canada only: select "**Canada**" whether you have been lawfully admitted or not.

If you've lost your status

- for "Status," choose "**Other**"
- in the details field, enter "Out of status, requires restoration"
- leave the "From" and "To" fields blank

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select the country where you plan to adopt a child and "Citizen" as the immigration status in that country.

Previous countries of residence

This means you lived in the country for 6 months total, not just in a row.

If you chose "**Other**" as a status, try to provide as much detail and an explanation as to why you are out of status.

Marital and relationship status

You're single if you've never been married and are not in a common-law relationship.

You're married if you and your spouse have had a ceremony that legally binds you to each other. Your marriage must be legally recognized in the country where it was performed and in Canada.

You're common-law if you've lived continuously with your partner in a marital-type relationship for 1 year or more.

You're divorced if you are officially separated and have legally ended your marriage.

You're legally separated if you're still legally married but no longer living with your spouse.

You're widowed if your spouse has died and you have not re-married or entered into a common-law relationship.

An annulled marriage has been legally declared as not valid. An annulment can also be a declaration by the Catholic Church that the marriage was not binding.

- Family name is also known as **last name** or **surname**.
- Given names are also known as **first name** and **middle name**. Do not use initials.
- If you're in a common-law relationship, enter the date (year, month and day) you began living together.
- If you're legally separated or divorced, enter the date you were no longer living together.



Note: If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select "**Single**".

Contact Information

Current mailing address

- Post office box (P.O. box) number: If you don't enter a post office box, you must enter your street number

- **Street number (no.):** The number on your house or apartment building. You must enter a street number if you didn't enter a P.O. box

All correspondence will be mailed to this address unless you include your email address.

If you want a representative to do business with us on your behalf, you **must** provide their address in this section **and** on the [Use of a Representative \[IMM 5476\]](#) (PDF, 264 KB) form.

For more information, read the [Use of a Representative](#) guide.

Email address

Use this format: name@provider.net

By entering your email address, you authorize IRCC to transmit your file and personal information to this specific email.

Passport

Passport/travel document number (exactly as shown on your passport or travel document)

If you have more than one passport, choose the one you'll use to travel to Canada.

Most people will need a passport to travel to Canada. If you're approved to come here, you'll need to get one.

A travel document is an identity document issued by a government or international organization (like the United Nations). It has a photo and personal information, and let the holder travel between countries. If you have a passport, you don't need a travel document.

Issue/expiry dates

You can find this information on the page in your passport that shows your photo and date of birth (also called the biodata page)

National Identity Document

A national identity document is an identity card with a photo which is issued by a government or official authority, and can be used as identification inside the country that issued it. It may also be known as "ID," "ID card," "identity card," "citizen card" or "passport card."

Document number

Enter your national identity document number exactly as shown on the identity document. Make sure there is no space between each number or letter.

Education/Occupation Details

Highest level of education

- a. **None:** No education.
- b. **Secondary or less:** High school diploma obtained after elementary school and before college, university, or other formal training.
- c. **Trade/apprenticeship certificate/diploma:** Diploma completed in a specific trade, such as carpentry or auto mechanics.
- d. **Non-university certificate/diploma:** Training in a profession that requires formal education but not at the university level (e.g., dental technician or engineering technician).
- e. **Post-secondary – no degree:** Post-secondary studies at a college or university but no degree earned.
- f. **Bachelor's degree:** Academic degree awarded by a college or university to those who have completed an undergraduate curriculum. Also called a baccalaureate. Examples include a Bachelor of Arts, Science or Education.
- g. **Post graduate – no degree:** Post-graduate studies at a college or university but no degree earned (Master or PhD).
- h. **Master's degree:** Academic degree awarded by a graduate school of a college or university. You must have completed a Bachelor's degree before you can earn a Master's degree.

- i. **Doctorate – PhD:** Highest university degree, usually based on at least 3 years of graduate studies and a thesis. Normally, you must have completed a Master’s degree before you can earn a PhD.

Current occupation

If you don’t work, enter “not employed”.

Intended occupation

If you aren’t planning to work in Canada (for example, if you’re retired), enter “None”.

Language Details

Native language/mother tongue

This is the language that you learned at home during your childhood and that you still understand. If your native language is not in this list, choose “**Other**”.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don’t know yet, choose the native language of the country where you plan to adopt a child.

Test from a designated testing agency to assess English or French

Approved testing agencies include:

- IELTS
 - CELPIP
 - TEF
 - TCF
-

Dependant’s Personal Details

Select the box to tell us if your dependant will accompany you to Canada.

If you answered “**No**,” explain why your dependant is non-accompanying.

Dependant’s relationship to the principal applicant

Select your dependant’s relationship to you, the principal applicant:

- Adopted Child
- Adoptive parent
- Child
- Common-Law Partner
- Grandchild
- Parent
- Spouse
- Step-Child
- Step-Grandchild
- Other

Dependant type

Type A

The dependant is **under** the age of 22 and single (not married and not in a common-law relationship).

Type B (Important: This dependant type applies only if your child’s age was locked in before August 1, 2014)

The dependant has been continuously enrolled in and in attendance as a full-time student at a post-secondary institution accredited by the relevant government authority and has depended substantially on the financial support of a parent since before the age of 22.

Type C

The dependant is 22 years of age or older, has depended substantially on the financial support of a parent since before the age of 22, and is unable to provide for themselves because of a medical condition.

Not sure which type of dependant your child is? Check if your child qualifies as a dependant by answering a few questions.

Family name

Family name is also known as **last name** or **surname**.

i Note: If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet (and you're filling this form out on their behalf), enter your family name(s).

Given name

Given names are also known as **first name** and **middle name**. Do not use initials.

i Note: If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet (and you're filling this form out on their behalf), enter your family name(s). For given name(s) enter "Child" or leave the given name field blank.

Physical characteristics - sex

If you choose "X" for gender, you need to complete the [Request for a Change of Sex or Gender Identifier \(PDF, 1.6 MB\)](#) form and send it with your application if

- your foreign travel document or passport does not have the "X" gender identifier (or an equivalent non-binary option)
- you have or have had a Canadian temporary resident document with a different gender identifier, including a
 - visa
 - electronic travel authorization
 - work permit or
 - study permit

You don't need any supporting documents.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select "**U - Unknown**".

Physical characteristics - Eye colour

If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select "**Other**".

Birth information - Date of birth

If you don't know your complete date of birth, enter 1901/01/01 to fill in the spaces for the unknown year, month or day. Include a letter of explanation.

Birth information - Place of birth

As shown in your passport or your travel document.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, indicate "Unknown" for the city or town and select the country where you plan to adopt a child.

Citizenship(s)

If you aren't a citizen of any country, choose "**Stateless**".

If you are a citizen of more than one country, choose your other country of citizenship in the second field.

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select the country where you intend to adopt a child.

Current country of residence

You must be in this country legally.

For refugee claimants in Canada only: select “**Canada**” whether you have been lawfully admitted or not.

If you’ve lost your status

- for “Status,” choose “**Other**”
- in the details field, enter “Out of status, requires restoration”
- leave the “From” and “To” fields blank

i **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don’t know yet, select the country where you plan to adopt a child and “Citizen” as the immigration status in that country.

Previous countries of residence

This means you lived in the country for 6 months total, not just in a row.

If you chose “**Other**” as a status, try to provide as much detail and an explanation as to why you are out of status.

Marital and relationship status

You’re single if you’ve never been married and are not in a common-law relationship.

You’re married if you and your spouse have had a ceremony that legally binds you to each other. Your marriage must be legally recognized in the country where it was performed and in Canada.

You’re common-law if you’ve lived continuously with your partner in a marital-type relationship for 1 year or more.


You're divorced if you are officially separated and have legally ended your marriage.

You're legally separated if you're married but no longer living with your spouse.

You're widowed if your spouse has died and you have not re-married or entered into a common-law relationship.

An annulled marriage has been legally declared as not valid. An annulment can also be a declaration by the Catholic Church that the marriage was not binding.

- Family name is also known as **last name** or **surname**.
- Given names are also known as **first name** and **middle name**. Do not use initials.
- If you're in a common-law relationship, enter the date (year, month and day) you began living together.
- If you're legally separated or divorced, enter the date you were no longer living together.

 **Note:** If you are a parent of a child to be adopted in Canada whose details you don't know yet, select "**Single**".

Passport

Passport/travel document number (exactly as shown on your passport or travel document)

If you have more than one passport, choose the one you'll use to travel to Canada.

Most people will need a passport to travel to Canada. If you're approved to come here, you'll need to get one.

A travel document is an identity document issued by a government or international organization (like the United Nations). It has a photo and personal information, and let the holder travel between countries. If you have a passport, you don't need a travel document.

Issue/expiry dates

You can find this information on the page in your passport that shows your photo and date of birth (also called the biodata page)

National Identity Document

A national identity document is an identity card with a photo which is issued by a government or official authority, and can be used as identification inside the country that issued it. It may also be known as "ID," "ID card," "identity card," "citizen card" or "passport card."

Document number

Enter their national identity document number exactly as shown on the document. Make sure there is no space between each number or letter.

Education/Occupation Details

Highest level of education

- a. **None:** No education.
- b. **Secondary or less:** High school diploma obtained after elementary school and before college, university, or other formal training.
- c. **Trade/apprenticeship certificate/diploma:** Diploma completed in a specific trade, such as carpentry or auto mechanics.
- d. **Non-university certificate/diploma:** Training in a profession that requires formal education but not at the university level (e.g., dental technician or engineering technician).
- e. **Post-secondary – no degree:** Post-secondary studies at a college or university but no degree earned.
- f. **Bachelor's degree:** Academic degree awarded by a college or university to those who have completed an undergraduate curriculum. Also called a baccalaureate. Examples include a Bachelor of Arts, Science or Education.

- g. **Post graduate – no degree:** Post-graduate studies at a college or university but no degree earned (Master or PhD).
- h. **Master’s degree:** Academic degree awarded by a graduate school of a college or university. You must have completed a Bachelor’s degree before you can earn a Master’s degree.
- i. **Doctorate – PhD:** Highest university degree, usually based on at least 3 years of graduate studies and a thesis. Normally, you must have completed a Master’s degree before you can earn a PhD.

Current occupation

If your dependant doesn’t work, enter “not employed.”

Intended occupation

If your dependant isn’t planning to work in Canada (e.g., if they are younger than working age), enter “None”.

Language Details

Native language/mother tongue

This is the language that they learned at home during their childhood and they still understand. If their native language does not appear in this list, select “**Other**”.

Test from a designated testing agency to assess English or French

Approved testing agencies include:

- IELTS
 - CELPIP
 - TEF
 - TCF
-

Consent and Declaration of Applicant

1. Follow the instructions at the bottom of the online application to view the declaration.

2. Read all of the statements in all sections carefully and:

- a. check the **“Yes”** or **“No”** buttons to show if you agree that the information in this application about your intended occupation, education and work experience may be shared with prospective employers to help them hire workers;
- b. type your name in the blue field.

By typing your name, you’re signing the application electronically. By doing so, you certify that you fully understand the questions asked, and the information you provided is complete, truthful, and correct. You can’t submit your application online unless you sign it.

Schedule A – Background/Declaration (IMM 5669)

For refugee claimants in Canada: Only family members included in your application for refugee protection who are with you in Canada must be included using this form.

Personal details

Family and given names

Family name is also known as **last name** or **surname**.

Given names are also known as **first name** and **middle name**. Do not use initials.

Enter your names exactly as they appear on your passport, travel document or identity document.

Questionnaire

If you answered **“Yes”** to one or more of these questions, you must enter an explanation in the details field.

Education

If you didn't earn a diploma, leave the "Type of certificate or diploma issued" field blank.

Personal history



Important: DO NOT leave any gaps in time.

If you don't account for all time periods, it may delay the processing of your application.

Personal history - Activity

Examples of activity types

- employment (please specify)
- unemployed
- educational activity

Personal history - Status in country or territory

Examples of status

- work visa
- citizen
- study visa
- visitor visa

Exception: If you have not worked in the past 10 years (for example, you're retired), you must provide details of your personal history since the age of 18. The resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV) that you provide with your application will help verify the information in this question.

Membership and association with organizations

Examples of organizations

- political organizations

- social organizations
- youth or student organizations
- trade unions
- professional associations

Don't use abbreviations.

Government positions

Examples of government positions

- civil servant
- judge
- police officer
- employee in a security organization

Don't use abbreviations.

Military and paramilitary service

 **Important: DO NOT leave any gaps in time.**

If you don't account for all time periods, it may delay the processing of your application.

Addresses

Write out addresses in full without using any abbreviations. Use the apartment or unit number, if this applies.

Example: 999 Family Street, Unit #3, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K3J 9T5

Authority to disclose personal information

Declaration of applicant

Read all of the statements in all sections carefully and type your full name into the blue field (this is your digital signature).

By signing, you certify that you fully understand the questions asked, and that the information you provided is complete, truthful, and correct.

Additional Family Information (IMM 5406)

Section A

Write the personal details for:

- Yourself:
 - If when selecting your marital status, you indicate that you are married, select the option that corresponds to your situation:
 - Check **“Yes”**, if you were physically present at the marriage ceremony
 - Check **“No”**, if you were not physically present at the marriage ceremony
- Your spouse, common-law partner or conjugal partner (if this applies)
 - If you are married, select the option that corresponds to your situation:
 - Check **“Yes”**, if your spouse was physically present at the marriage ceremony;
 - Check **“No”**, if your spouse was not physically present at the marriage ceremony.
- Your parent 1 (mother or father), **and**
- Your parent 2 (mother or father).

Section B

Include:

- married children,
- adopted children,
- children of your spouse(step-children) or common-law partner,
- any of your children who have been adopted by others,

- any of your children who are in the custody of an ex-spouse, former common-law partner or other guardian.

You must answer all questions. If any sections don't apply to you, enter "**Not Applicable**".

Section C

Write personal details about your:

- brother(s),
- sister(s),
- half-brother(s) and half-sister(s),
- step-brother(s) and step-sister(s).

Read all of the statements in all sections carefully.

By clicking the "Complete and return to application" button, you certify that

- you fully understand the questions asked and
- the information you provided is complete, truthful, and correct

Supplementary Information Humanitarian and Compassionate Considerations (IMM 5283)

Who needs to fill out this form?

This form **must** be completed by:

- the principal applicant
- your family members, **only** if they have different humanitarian and compassionate grounds, and they are included in this application.

Include all factors you wish to have considered. For all the factors, you must provide evidence to support any statements you make on this form.

General information

This form **must** be completed in:

- English or French only **and**
- Typed or printed clearly in **black** or **blue** ink.

You **must** answer all questions that apply to you. If a section does not apply to you, write **“Not applicable”** or **“N/A”**.

i **Note:** If there is not enough space to fully answer a question, use an additional sheet of paper. Write your name and date of birth at the top left corner of each additional sheet. Remember to submit the additional sheet with your application.

Personal Information

Question 1

Write in the appropriate box:

- your last name (surname/family name) as it appears on your passport or other valid identity document
- your given name(s) as it appears on your passport or other valid identity document
- your date of birth **and**
- your country (or countries) of citizenship.

With whom were you living before coming to Canada?

Question 2

Write or check in the appropriate box the information of whom you were living with **before coming to Canada:**

- the last name (surname/family name)
- given name(s)
- gender (**F**-Female, **M**-Male or **X**-Another gender)
- relationship to you (e.g., (for example) friend)
- country of birth
- date of birth **and**
- address

Family members living in Canada

Question 3

Write or check in the appropriate box the details of your immediate family (parents, non-dependent children, brothers and sisters) **living in Canada**.

- the last name (surname/family name)
- given name(s)
- gender (**F**-Female, **M**-Male or **X**-Another gender)
- relationship to you (i.e. (for example) friend)
- country of birth
- date of birth **and**
- address.

Person you are living with in Canada

Question 4

Check “**yes**” or “**no**” to indicate if you are living with someone in Canada. If “**yes**” write in the appropriate box the details of the person you are living with:

- the last name (surname/family name)
- given name(s)
- gender (**F**-Female, **M**-Male or **X**-Another gender)
- relationship to you (i.e. friend)
- country of birth
- date of birth **and**
- address

Family members living abroad/outside Canada

Question 5

Write or check in the appropriate box, the details of your immediate family members (parents, non-dependent children, brothers and sisters) living **outside Canada** whether they wish to be considered in your application for permanent residence at this time or not:


- the last name (surname/family name)
- given name(s)
- gender (**F**-Female, **M**-Male or **X**-Another gender)
- relationship to you
- country of birth

- date of birth **and**
- address

Additional information or documentation


This information will be used to determine if there are sufficient humanitarian and compassionate grounds to:

- grant your request to process your permanent resident application from within Canada, **and/or**
- exempt you from any criteria or obligations of the Act.

 Important information: In questions **7 to 13**, you must ensure that you explain in detail your situation and all the reasons you would suffer hardship if the requested exemptions are not granted. Your application will be assessed on all the information you provide. Make sure to include everything you want considered.

Question 6

Are you currently subject to a removal order? If so, please provide details.

 **Note:** A removal order is made against a person who has violated the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) or its Regulations. There are 3 types of removal orders: departure, exclusion and deportation.

Question 7

Explain in detail why you believe you should be granted exemptions from the requirements of IRPA (Immigration and Refugee Protection Act) on Humanitarian and Compassionate (H&C) grounds. Include information about the hardships you would experience if the requested exemption is not granted.

Question 8

If you or a family member is inadmissible to Canada:

- provide all relevant documents regarding the inadmissibility such as conviction certificate, rehabilitation or record suspension (formerly a pardon) application,
- clearly indicate the exemption you are requesting, **and**

- explain why you should receive an exemption.

Question 9

Provide information that you believe may support your request to have an application for permanent residence processed from within Canada about your:

- family, **and/or**
- relationships.

Question 10

Provide information on any child who would be affected by your application. If applicable, explain the hardships your child or children would experience if you were not granted the requested exemption(s).

You must provide specific information and supporting documentation on how the child or children would be affected.

Question 11

Explain how you have established yourself in Canada.

i **Note:** You may want to show how you are involved or participate in the community. Remember to provide supporting documentation if it is available. e.g. letters from community organizations, religious institutions, etc. If the documentation is not available, explain why.

Question 12


Provide any documentation that would support your statements on how you intend to support yourself and your family while your application is in process. (e.g. (for example) a letter from your employer)

Question 13

Indicate any other information you want considered in your application.

Declaration of Applicant

You must provide all documents that support your case for H&C (Humanitarian and Compassionate) considerations.

 **Note:** By signing, you certify that you fully understand the questions asked, and that the information you have provided is **complete, accurate, and factual**.

Use of a Representative (IMM 5476)

Who may use this form?

Fill out this form **only** if you:

- are appointing a representative;
- need to update contact information for your previously appointed representative; **or**
- are cancelling a representative's appointment.

If you have dependent children aged 18 years or older, they must fill out their own copy of this form if a representative is also conducting business on their behalf.

Who is a representative?

A **representative** is someone who:

- you have appointed by completing the IMM 5476 form;
- gives advice, consultation, or guidance to you at any stage of the application process; and
- has your consent to conduct business on your behalf with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA).

You are not obliged to hire a representative. We treat everyone equally, whether they use the service of a representative or not.

For more information, see: [Use of a Representative](#).

Step 3. Pay the fees

Calculating your fees

Use the table below to calculate the total amount of fees to be paid. The processing fee **must** be included with your application.

We recommend you pay the right of permanent residence fee (\$515) now to avoid delays. You will have to pay it before you become a permanent resident.

Application (per person)	\$CAN
Your application	1,085
Processing fee (\$570) and right of permanent residence fee (\$515)	
Your application (without right of permanent residence fee)	570
Include your spouse or partner	1,085
Processing fee (\$570) and right of permanent residence fee (\$515)	
Include your spouse or partner (without right of permanent residence fee)	570
Include a <u>dependent child</u>	155

Note: The following persons are **exempt** from paying the Right of Permanent Residence Fee of \$515:

- Your dependent children;
- You, if you are the principal applicant and the dependent child of a permanent resident or Canadian citizen. You must meet the definition of “dependent child” at the time of the application;
- You and your family members, if you are a protected person.

Biometrics fees	\$CAN
Biometrics (per person)	85

Biometrics (per family) (2 or more people)


170

Maximum fee for a family of 2 or more people applying at the same time and place

Payment Issues


No fee included or Insufficient Fees


If you do not pay the full fees for your application(s) we will return your application(s). We will only start processing your application after you return it with the correct fees.

 For immigration applications, see [section 10 of the IRPR](#) and for citizenship applications, see [section 13 of the *Citizenship Act*](#) for more information.

Overpayment

If you pay more than the fees needed for your application(s) we will start processing your application, and send you a refund as soon as possible.

 **Note:** You don't have to ask for a refund. It will be done automatically.

 **Note:** If you're eligible for a refund, we will issue the refund to the person indicated on the **Payer Information** section of the receipt (If a receipt is attached to a paper application or uploaded as part of an online application). If you paid directly within an online application (no receipt attached), or if there is no name indicated on the receipt, we will send the refund to the applicant.



Only online payments are accepted in Canada. If any other forms of payment are received, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) will return your application.

Payment for any other type of application **cannot** be included with this application. Any other application (i.e., (for example) renewal of temporary resident status) must be sent to the appropriate processing centre and paid for separately.



Important information

How to pay the fees for your application

To pay your fees for your application you'll need:

- a valid email address;
- a credit card, Debit MasterCard[®] or Visa[®] Debit card.

Follow [these instructions](#) to pay your fees online.

 **Do not exit without printing or saving the receipt! The receipt is your proof of payment!**

- **At the end**, click on the “Save” button to save a PDF copy of the IRCC official receipt.
- **Upload a copy of this receipt to your online application when asked.**

The only acceptable form of payment is online payment. If you send any other form of payment, IRCC will return your application.



Note

Step 4. Submit your application

Now that you've prepared your application, you can submit it for processing. To help make sure the application can be processed as quickly as possible:

- answer all questions
 - electronically sign your application (type your full name exactly as shown on your passport)
 - include your processing fee receipt
 - upload all the supporting documents
-

Submit the document checklist

Make sure you use and submit the Document Checklist (IMM 5280) along with your application forms and supporting documents.

What Happens Next

What you will receive from us

The following table outlines the type of communication that you may receive from us as a result of submitting this application.

- If your application is received and properly completed
 - your application will be processed.



Note: We may contact you to arrange an interview, or to verify or expand on information contained in your application.

- If your application is received and incomplete
 - your application will be returned to you.
- If your application is approved

- We will inform you in writing and provide further information on the next steps to proceed to obtain your permanent residence status (i.e. (for example) medical instructions, background checks).
 - If your application is refused
 - We will inform you in writing.
 - If your application is received with insufficient or non payment of fees
 - We will not process your application and it will be returned to you with further instructions.
-



Updating your contact information

Important information

While your application is in process, you must tell us if you change your address, email address, or telephone number. Use the [Change your address](#) tool to give us your new contact information.

Withdrawing the application

If you wish to withdraw your application for H&C (humanitarian and compassionate) considerations, you must do so in writing. Make sure to indicate your client ID number, family name and first name on all correspondence with us.

You must send your notification by fax at 604-666-1116, or by email to: VancouverBRO@cic.gc.ca.

Checking application status

In Canada and the United States

You may [Contact Us](#) or go online to see the current status of your application:

1. Click on [Check application status](#), and
2. follow the instructions provided.

To obtain details on how to remove your application status information from the Internet, visit the "[Frequently Asked Questions](#)" (FAQ) section.

If you are outside Canada and the United States:

Contact the [Canadian embassy, high commission or consulate](#) responsible for your region



Current processing times

For more information

You can check current processing times on the [Application processing times](#) webpage.

Protecting your information

Your personal information is:

- available to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) employees who need to see it to provide the services to you, **and**
- not disclosed to other organizations except as permitted under the provisions of the *Privacy Act* **or** the *Citizenship Regulations*.

 For more information about the protection of your data, visit the [Frequently Asked Questions/Help Centre](#).

Quality Assurance Program

Our quality assurance program randomly chooses applications for a special review. If chosen, we will ask you to attend an interview with an IRCC official to:

- verify that the documentation and any other information you submitted is accurate,
- verify that your application has been completed properly.

i **Note:** We will notify you in writing if your application is chosen.

Need help?

If you need help, you can find answers to your questions by visiting the [Help Centre](#).

Appendix A: Police Certificates

[Request for Police Certificates/Clearances and Authorization for Release of Information \(PDF, 0.60 MB\)](#)

► Text version: Request for Police Certificates/Clearances and Authorization for Release of Information

Appendix B: Photo specifications

Photograph specifications

Notes to the applicant

Take this information with you to the photographer

- Photos may be in colour or in black and white.
- Photos must be original and **not altered in any way** or taken from an existing photo.
- Photos must reflect your current appearance (taken within the past six (6) months).

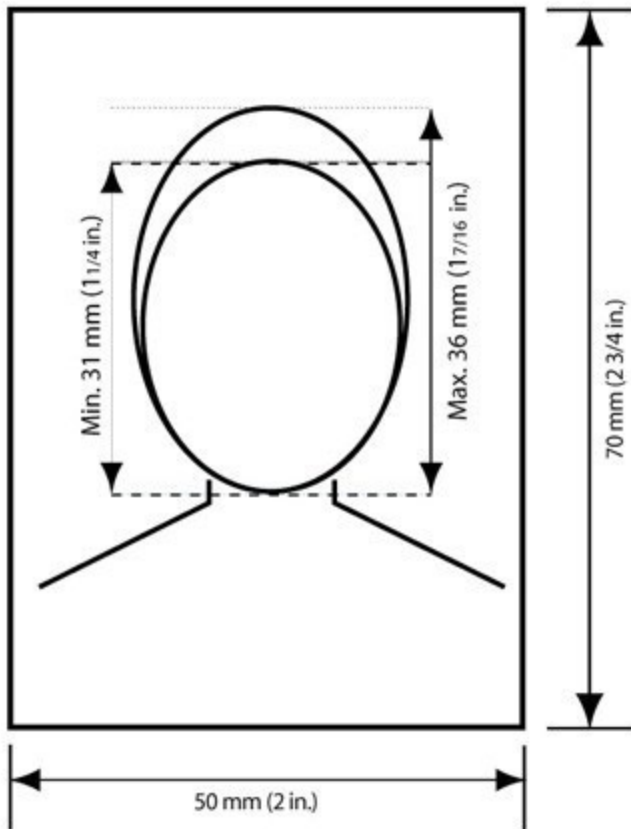
Applying online

- You need one (1) photo.
- Follow the instructions in the online application to scan and upload **both sides** of your photo to your application.

Notes to the photographer

The photo must be:

- taken by a commercial photographer;
- 50 mm x 70 mm (2 inches wide x 2 3/4 inches long) and sized so the height of the face measures between 31 mm and 36 mm (1 1/4 inches and 1 7/16 inches) from chin to crown of head (natural top of head);
- clear, sharp and in focus;
- taken with a neutral facial expression (**eyes open and clearly visible, mouth closed, no smiling**);
- taken with uniform lighting and **not show** shadows, glare or flash reflections;
- taken straight on, with face and shoulders **centred** and squared to the camera (i.e. the photos must show the full front view of the person's head and shoulders, showing the full face centered in the middle of the photo);
- taken in front of a plain white background with a clear difference between the person's face and the background. Photos must reflect and represent natural skin tones and not be altered.



Front



Back

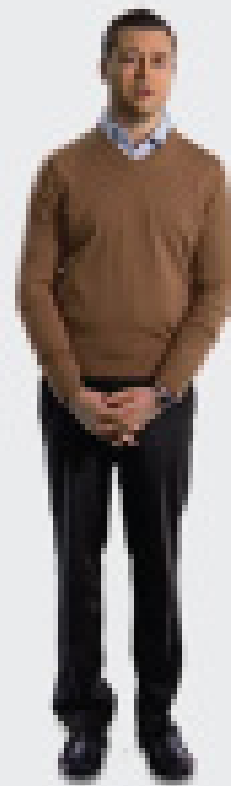
Not actual size. Refer to measurements above.

The back of the photo must include:

- the name and date of birth of the person in the photo
- the name and complete address of the photography studio
- the date the photo was taken;

The photographer may use a stamp or handwrite this information. Stick-on labels are not accepted.

How-to video



Save Time: Send a Complete Application

Find out if you are eligible

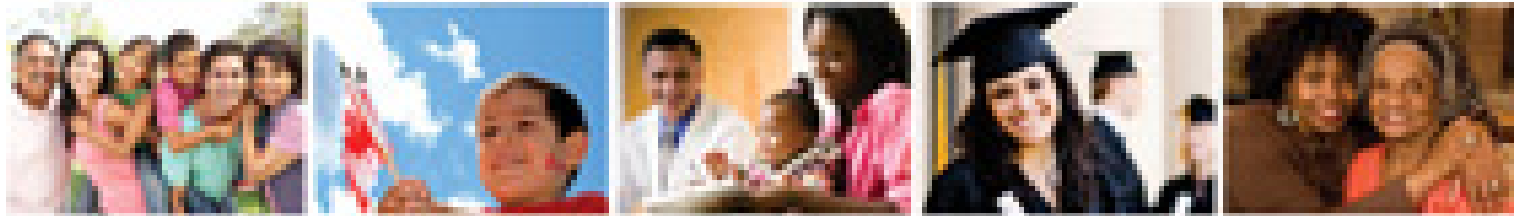
Come to Canada



Come to Canada



Living in Canada



[Learn about what it's like to live in Canada and which resources are available to you to help you settle here](#)

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