ACCESS TO PERMANENT RESIDENCE

Presented by the Bureau de la vie étudiante

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Agenda

- Permanent Immigration in Québec
- The Québec Selection Certificate (CSQ)
    - The Skilled Worker Selection Program
- Applying for permanent residence in Québec
- Permanent Residency Outside Québec
- Immigration procedures to be undertaken at the end of your studies
- Question Period

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Permanent Immigration in Québec

In two steps

1. Certificat de sélection du Québec (CSQ) – MIFI

- The Government of Québec is responsible for selecting candidates destined for its territory.

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Permanent Immigration in Québec

In two steps (continued)

2. Permanent Residence - IRCC

Québec-Selected Skilled Worker Regular Program

The Government of Canada is responsible for the admission of all immigrants to its territory.

The process of obtaining a post-graduation work permit and the application for permanent residence are **2 separate procedures**. Applying for and obtaining a CSQ and applying for permanent residence do not confer legal status in Canada.

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QUÉBEC SELECTION CERTIFICATE - (CSQ)

Québec Selection Certificate (CSQ)

Programs available for skilled workers

1. Skilled Worker Selection Program (PSTQ)
    - The invitations began in July 2025 and are primarily aimed at people already living in Québec. They mainly favour those who have work experience or studies outside the *Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal*, who speak French and who work in a profession that is experiencing a labour shortage.
    - Divided in 4 streams
    - Starting in July 2026, invitations will mainly be in Stream 2 (TEER 3-4-5) and Stream 4 (excep. talent)

Québec Selection Certificate (CSQ)

Programs available for skilled workers (continued)

2. **PEQ – Has been reopened from July 2nd 2026 to July 2nd 2028**

   To apply you must wait for an invitation window that fits your situation. The current window is for persons that graduated at the latest on November 19, 2025 (or had the minimum work requirement). This window will close on October 31, 2026.

   MIFI has announced that the next window will open in 2027 (late?) for graduates who graduated between November 20, 2025 and a date yet to be determined (subject to change).

Québec Selection Certificate (CSQ)

Programs available for skilled workers (continued)

Two PEQ programs

- PEQ Graduates requires a Québec's bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree and knowledge of French
- PEQ Temporary Foreign Workers requires 24 months of full-time employment in Québec in a TEER 0, 1, 2, 3.

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SKILLED WORKER SELECTION PROGRAM(PSTQ)

Two-step process

Fill out an expression of interest in the ARRIMA platform

If you are selected, you will receive an invitation to submit an application for Permanent Selection (CSQ):

- ✓ Accept the invitation (within 30 days)
- ✓ Submit supporting documents (within 60 days or one year if you are selected through stream 3 – regulated profession)

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Expression of Interest

- You must submit an expression of interest in Arrima (free, updates possible, remains valid for one year)
- Your profile will be ranked according to a scoring system based on various criteria chosen by the government, including main occupation, knowledge of French, level of education, Québec diploma, stay in Québec, age, work experience gained over the last 5 years, validated job offer, characteristics of spouse, etc.

Warning: everything you declare must be true and demonstrable

- For more information on the expression of interest: Help Capsules
- MIFI Customer Service

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Expression of Interest

- Four components, depending on the main occupation declared:

  Stream 1 - High Qualification and Specialized Skills (TEER 0,1,2)

  Stream 2 - Intermediate and Manual Skills (TEER 3,4,5)

  Stream 3 - Regulated Professions

  Stream 4 - Exceptional Talent

- **Main occupation:** Must be acquired during the five years preceding the date of submission of the CSQ application, in Québec, Canada or elsewhere. The person does not have to be employed or have held his or her last job in his or her main occupation at the time of submitting his or her application for permanent selection.

- You must identify this occupation in the National Occupational Classification (NOC) to find out its TEER category (education, experience and responsibilities) and to know which stream is for you.

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National Occupational Classification (NOC)

- The National Occupational Classification (NOC) is the national system that categorizes all professional activities in Canada.

- NOC 2021 uses 5-digit codes and TEER (training, education, experience and responsibilities) categories numbered 0 to 5. The first digit of the NOC code normally identifies the broad occupational group

- The TEER categories are as follows (2nd digit of the NOC code):

  TEER 0 - Management Occupations
  TEER 1 - Usually requires a university education
  TEER 2 - Usually requires a college diploma or apprenticeship program of 2 years or more, or includes supervisory responsibilities
  TEER 3 - Usually requires a college diploma, an apprenticeship program of 2 years or less, or more than 6 months of on-the-job training
  TEER 4 - Usually requires a high school diploma or several weeks of on-the-job training
  TEER 5 - Usually requires on-the-job training and no specific educational requirements

Find NOC Contact the NOC Team

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NOC - Examples

TEER	NOC CODE	TITLE
TEER 0	60030	Restaurant and food service managers
TEER 1	41201	Post-secondary teaching and research assistants
	41200	Professor, lecturer, postdoctoral fellow
TEER 2	12200	Accounting and bookkeepers
TEER 3	33102	Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates
TEER 4	64400	Customer Service Representatives - financial institutions (Bank Teller)
TEER 5	65310	Light duty cleaners

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Requirements Stream 1 - High Qualification and Specialized Skills

Main occupation	TEER Category 0, 1 or 2
Work Experience	As an employee. In the main occupation of at least one year (1560 hours) within the last 5 years. The internship (paid or unpaid), which is mandatory as part of your studies, is recognized for up to three months provided that you have a work permit for a co-op internship
Schooling	**Québec diploma**: obtained before submitting the application of at least 30 credits if university **Outside Québec**: post-secondary diploma obtained before submitting the application for at least one year full-time (no need to apply for a comparative evaluation from MIFI)
Knowledge of French	**Principal applicant**: level 7 or higher for oral skills, level 5 or higher for written skills **Spouse**: level 4 or higher for oral skills See French language tests and diplomas

Requirements Stream 2 - Intermediate and Manual Skills

Main occupation	TEER Category 3, 4 or 5
Work Experience	As an employee. In the main occupation of **at least two years in the last 5 years, including at least 1 year in Québec.** Clarification experience outside Québec: in an occupation in the same broad occupational category (first digit of the NOC).
Schooling	**Québec diploma:** obtained before applying: 600 hours if high school or 900 hours if college-level **Outside Québec:** diploma equivalent to a DES or equivalent to one year of professional or college studies (no need to apply for a comparative evaluation from the MIFI)
Knowledge of French	**Principal applicant:** level 5 or higher for oral skills **Spouse:** level 4 or higher for oral skills See French language tests and diplomas

Calculation of hours worked

To calculate 1560 hours, you have to count the number of weeks you worked 30 hours or more. Then multiply that number of weeks by 30.

For the weeks you worked under 30 hours, you need to count the actual number of hours worked per week for each week.

Then add these numbers.

Examples of Calculation:
- 30 weeks at 30 hours or more = 900 hours
- 30 weeks at 24 hours/week = 720 hours

Total: 1620h
Average: 27h (1620h/60 weeks)

Important to remember

Hours in excess of 30 hours per week are not counted.

In Arrima, you must declare the average worked for each job.

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Requirements Stream 3

Regulated Professions

Main occupation	Listed on the Ministry's List of Regulated Professions (PDF) No work experience required
Authorization to practice in Québec	Partial or complete, see Table of accepted documents issued by a regulatory authority in Québec
Knowledge of French	**Principal applicant:** If your main occupation is TEER 0, 1 or 2: level 7 or higher production and listening comprehension, level 5 or higher production and reading comprehension If your main occupation is in TEER category 3, 4 or 5: level 5 or higher production and listening comprehension **Spouse:** level 4 or higher production and listening comprehension See French language tests and diplomas

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Requirements Stream 4

Exceptional Talent

Primary occupation	Exceptional expertise with the potential to contribute to Québec's prosperity
Achievements (some examples in the "Research" section)	Hold one of the following types of research chairs : • Canada Excellence Chair; • Canada Research Chair; • United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Research Chair (UNESCO); • Chair in Institutional Research; • Ministerial Research Chair.
4 targeted areas	Opinions of MIFI partners Strategic economic sectors Research Arts and culture Sport
Work Experience	At least 3 years in the last 5 years

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How to apply

Two situations are possible

First option - If you have accepted an invitation in Stream 1, 2, 4 or Stream 3 with proof of credential, you have 60 days to submit your application, attach the required documents and pay the fee.

Second option - If you do not have proof of recognition of skills (Stream 3): you have 1 year to submit your application, attach the documents and pay the fees. This period allows the completion of the procedures with the regulatory authority in Québec.

Invitations in Arrima for the Programme de sélection des travailleurs qualifiés (Skilled Worker Selection Program) (2026)

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How to apply

Processing fee

In force since January 1, 2026. They are subject to change without notice. Must be paid by credit card online on the Arrima platform at the time of application.

- $940 Principal Applicant
- $201 for a spouse/partner and each dependent child

List of required documents

Consult: MIFI-Submitting a CSQ application

All documents must be scanned in color. They must be legible, complete, accurate, in the required format, written in French or English (otherwise accompanied by a certified translation).

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French tests and diplomas

Here are the French tests and diplomas accepted by the Ministry :

- Test de connaissance du français pour le Québec (TCF-Québec) from France Éducation international
- **Test de connaissance du français pour le Canada (TCF-Canada) from France Éducation international***
- Test de connaissance du français (TCF) from France Éducation international
- Diplôme approfondi de langue française (DALF) from France Éducation international
- Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELF) from France Éducation international
- Test d'évaluation du français adapté pour le Québec (TEFAQ) of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Paris Île-de-France (CCIP-IDF)
- **Test d'évaluation du français pour le Canada (TEF Canada) from CCIP-IDF***
- Test d'évaluation du français (TEF) from CCIP-IDF.

To find out which level of the Échelle québécoise des niveaux de compétence en français your result corresponds to, refer to the results correspondence tables.

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French tests and diplomas

Here are the high school diplomas accepted by the Ministry for knowledge of oral and written French :

- General, vocational and technological baccalaureates issued by the Ministry of National Education of France;
- The certificate of upper secondary education (CESS) issued by the Government of the French Community of Belgium;
- The baccalaureate certificate issued at the end of studies in a school located in a French-speaking canton of French-speaking Switzerland.

Here are the documents provided by a professional order accepted by the Ministry for knowledge of oral and written French (accepted only in Stream 3: Regulated professions) :

- A regular permit to practice from a professional order in Québec that is valid or expired for two years or less;
- A certificate that proves that you have passed the French exam of the Office québécois de la langue française for professional orders two years or less old.

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General Requirements

Age	At least 18 years of age
Eligible employment (salaried employee)	Intend to settle in Québec to take up paid employment for an enterprise located in Québec, excluding employment as a self-employed person or owner or employment in an **ineligible sector** A skilled worker is a foreign national at least 18 years of age who settles in Québec to hold employment that the foreign national **is likely able to hold**.
Ineligible sectors of employment	• Payday loans, cheque cashing or pawn loans; • Production, distribution or sale of pornographic or sexually explicit products or services related to the sex industry such as nude or erotic dancing, escort services or erotic massages. Note: A job is in an ineligible sector when the employer operates a business in that sector, whether or not that employment contributes to it.

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General Requirements - Continuation

Attestation of learning of democratic and Québec values	• Online assessment OR • Objective Integration Information Session (offered, among others, by Option-travail and the Centre R.I.R.E. 2000).
Financial autonomy	You must commit to providing for your basic needs and those of your family members included in your application for a minimum period of three months from the date you obtain permanent resident status Scales in effect from January 1 to December 31, 2026 Note that you do not have to send financial proof, you have to fill out and sign the financial autonomy contract
Compliance with conditions	**You must comply with any conditions of return to your country imposed by a scholarship to study in Québec, if applicable.**

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Summary

	PEQ Graduates	PEQ Temporary Workers	PSTQ Stream 1	PSTQ Stream 2	PSTQ Stream 3
Main occupation	N/A	N/A	TEER 0, 1, 2	TEER 3, 4, 5	In an occupation that has a regulator (Order Pro, College, etc.)
Work experience	N/A	24 months full time in TEER 0, 1, 2, 3 in Québec	1 year anywhere (in 1 NOC)	2 years, minimum 1 year in Québec	N/A
Degree	Bachelor, Master, PhD from Québec	N/A	High school	High school	N/A
French	Oral: 7 Written: 5	Oral: 7	Oral: 7 Written: 7	Oral: 5	Met regulator requirement or as per TEER level.

APPLYING FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN QUÉBEC

Application for permanent residence

- Choosing the Québec-Selected Skilled Worker Program

- Online application. You can find the information and the application package on this IRCC website.

- Within 4 to 8 months of submitting your application, you will receive a confirmation of receipt with your file number and instructions on how to contact the IRCC office processing your application.*

- Once your application is received by IRCC, notify them of any changes: contact information, marital status (marriage, divorce, etc.), birth of a child outside Canada.

** Once you have received the Completeness check with the application number, you are eligible for a renewable two-year Open Work Permit.*

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Application for permanent residence

- You and your family members (children, spouse), whether or not they are accompanying you, must undergo a medical examination. Specific medical instructions will be sent to you by IRCC. You may not need to do this if you have taken an exam in the last five years, due to a temporary IRCC policy.

- You must present a valid police certificate or criminal record check for each country, other than Canada, in which you or your family members have resided for 6 consecutive months or more since the age of 18.

- Biometrics are mandatory, even if you have already provided them. Instructions on these will be sent to you after you open your file.

- Processing times: Economic Class – Québec Skilled Worker

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Application for permanent residence

Nonrefundable processing fee, to be paid as you submit your application (effective April 2026):

- Principal applicant: $990, spouse: $990, each dependent child: $270
- Biometrics Fee: $85 for applicants 14yr+

Right of Permanent Residence Fee **if your application is accepted***

- Principal applicant and their spouse: $600 per person. Children are exempted.

**Can be paid at time of application and will be refunded if refused.*

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PERMANENT RESIDENCY OUTSIDE QUÉBEC

Permanent Residency Outside Québec

Express Entry: is an online system that the federal government uses to manage immigration applications from skilled workers. **You must plan to reside outside the province of Québec**. You must have moved before you get your final approval. If you receive an invitation, plan to move as soon as possible.

Three immigration programs are managed under Express Entry:

- **Canadian Experience Class**: for skilled workers who have Canadian work experience and wish to become permanent residents.
- **Federal Skilled Worker Program**: for skilled workers who have eligible **foreign or Canadian work experience.**
- **Federal Skilled Trades Program**: for skilled workers in skilled trades (construction, transportation, manufacturing and industrial production, natural resources and agriculture).

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Permanent Residency Outside Québec

To create a profile in the system, you must first have with you:

- The results of a recognized language test
- If you do not yet have your degree from Université Laval, the recognition of your diploma obtained abroad
- Have evidence confirming that you have at least one year of skilled employment in the last 10 years (TEER 0, 1, 2 and 3) in your main occupation
- Have an adequate amount of funds to support yourself and your family members

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Permanent Residency Outside Québec

Three steps

Programs

Must meet the eligibility requirements of at least one program:

- CEC
- FSWP (67/100 pts)
- FTWP

Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)

Points are awarded according to your socio-economic characteristics. Looking for individuals with high social capital.

* Same as Arrima

Invitation

You can be invited through one of the 3 programs or one of the 10 category-based selection rounds, depending on your score.

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Permanent Residency Outside Québec

Categorie-based invitations:

- French-language proficiency
- Healthcare and social services occupations
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) occupations
- Trade occupations
- Education occupations
- Transport occupations
- Physicians with Canadian work experience
- Senior managers with Canadian work experience
- Researchers with Canadian work experience
- Skilled military recruits

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Permanent Residency Outside Québec

Check your CRS score:

- This tool will help you calculate your score: Express Entry Calculator
- Check out the scores from previous invitation rounds

Create your profile:

- Prepare your documents
- Log in to your IRCC secure account

For more information:

- Express Entry
- Express Entry for French-speaking skilled workers

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Permanent Residency Outside Québec

CRS points for French-Speaking Skilled Workers

You can get up to 50 extra points for your strong French language skills (even if French is your second language).

If you achieve CLB level 7 or higher for all four French language skills, you can receive:

- 25 additional points, if you have achieved CLB level 4 or lower in English (or if you have not taken an English test);
- 50 additional points, if you have achieved CLB level 5 or higher for all four English language skills.

Visit the IRCC website

GENERAL TIPS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR CHANCES OF OBTAINING PERMANENT RESIDENCY

(APPLIES TO MIFI AND IRCC PROGRAMS)

General tips

Programs for permanent residence always attribute points or choose candidates according to the following factors:

- **Education** (preferably Canadian/Québec education)
- **Work experience** (preferably Canadian/Québec experience)
- **Field of expertise** (Related to labour market needs: STEM, Health care, Education, etc.)
- **Language skills in an official Canadian language** (preferably French)
- **Age** (preferably 20 to 30 years old; 44 years old or older = no points)

General tips

- **French test**: A good score on the TEF or TCF Canada is a decisive asset (PSTQ or Express Entry).
- **English test**: Taking a test will allow you to accumulate more points. IELTS General is valid for Express Entry
- **Gain professional experience**: Ideally outside the Montreal Metropolitan Community. Receiving a validated Job Offer could be an advantage for the PSTQ
- **Get your non-Canadian educational credentials (ECA) assessed**: Can be required for Express Entry.
- **Stay informed**: Immigration rules change frequently.
- Visit the Université Laval immigration website

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Université Laval - IMMIGRATION website

You will find information on the procedures to become a permanent resident:

- In Québec: Settling permanently in Québec
- In a province other than Québec: Settle permanently in Canada (in a province other than Québec)

To consult the calendar of conferences offered by the Bureau de la vie étudiante: Workshops and presentations

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END OF STUDIES: IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES TO BE UNDERTAKEN

Maintain a valid temporary status

If after completing your study program, you want to stay in Canada, you have different options :

- Apply for a post-graduation work permit before your study permit expires
- Extend your student status if you start a new program of study
- Change your student status to a visitor status

It is imperative that you always have a valid temporary resident status when living in Canada (temporary worker, international student, visitor)

Note that your study permit lapses on the date it expires or 90 days after you graduate (whichever comes first)

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Maintain a valid temporary status

Do you want to work in Canada after completing your program of study?

- The post-graduation work permit allows you to maintain a valid temporary status.
- The validity period varies and is normally 3 years for bachelor's, master's and doctoral students and 1 year for certificate and DESS students.
- If you apply when your study permit is valid, you can start working immediately with no time limit.
- Can only be issued once in a lifetime.

For more information, you can visit our website: Applying for post-graduation work permit and attend the Post-graduation work permit information session

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Policies and programs are subject to change at any time.

Please refer to www.canada.ca/immigration for up-to-date information.

This document is current as of October 2026.

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Any questions?

Bureau de la vie étudiante / Université Laval
https://www.ulaval.ca/espace-etudiant
https://www.ulaval.ca/en/international/immigration

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