



Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et
Immigration Canada



Student and Youth Mobility: Opportunities within Canada's Immigration System

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Canada

Canada's immigration program at a glance

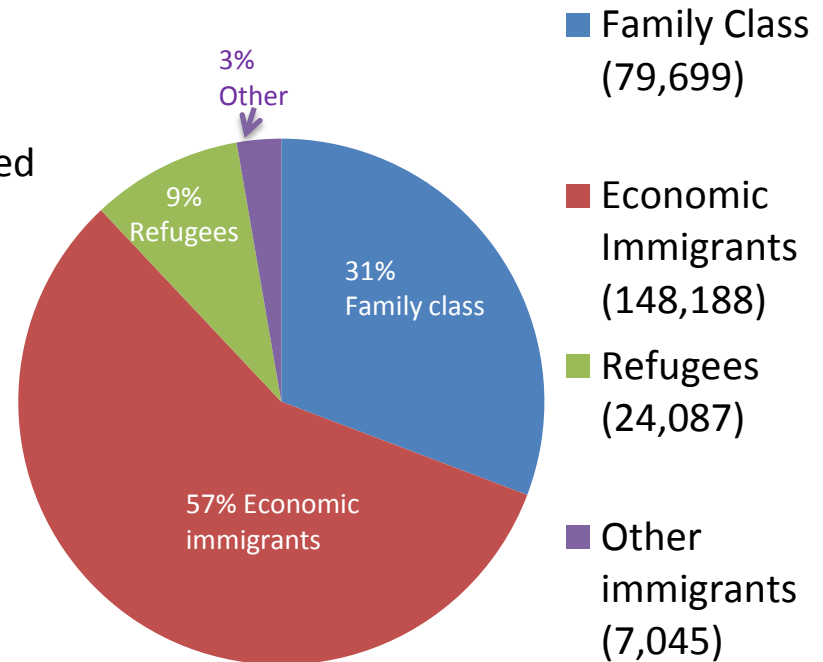
Temporary Residents:

- In Canada for a limited time:
 - Visitors and business travellers
 - International students
 - Working holidaymakers
 - Temporary Foreign Workers (TFWs)
- Intake responds to demand
- Bridge to permanence possible for qualified students and TFWs

Permanent Residents:

- Foreign nationals who settle in Canada permanently and can eventually apply for citizenship
- Intake is managed – subject to an annual levels plan tabled in Parliament
- Planning range of 240,000-265,000 admissions per year since 2007

In 2013: 259,019 New Permanent Residents Permanent residents by category





Student and Youth Mobility – A Key Component

- There are a number of opportunities for students and youth within Canada's immigration system. These include:
 - International Student Program
 - Canadian Experience Class
 - International Experience Canada
 - Student Refugee Program (via World University Service of Canada)





International Student Program

Program overview:

- CIC, in cooperation with the Canada Border Services Agency, manages the entry of foreign nationals into Canada for study/work purposes (Canada's International Student Program)

Value of the program:

- International students enrich the academic environment, enhance the intercultural competencies of domestic students, and serve as unofficial ambassadors after returning to home countries
- Provides opportunities for international students to gain Canadian work experience during/after their studies, through work permit programs
- A Canadian educational credential, coupled with Canadian work experience, provides international students with opportunities to qualify for permanent residence programs
- International students contribute approximately \$ 8 billion a year to the Canadian economy through tuition fees and other expenses

Study Permit Holders in Canada

Total number of international students present in Canada in 2012: 265,404

Principal countries of origin: China (30%), India (11%), Korea (7%), Saudi Arabia (5%), USA (5%), France (4%)

Main provinces and institutions of destination: Ontario (42%), British Columbia (26%), Quebec (14%)

Levels of study: University (55%), Other PSE (19%), K-12 (15%)





From International Student to Permanent Resident

- Canada's first International Education Strategy (launched by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development in January 2014) focuses on international student attraction and retention
- Canada's immigration policy supports the transition of international students at Canadian post-secondary institutions to permanent residency through Provincial Nominee Programs and the Canadian Experience Class
- International students who are eligible for permanent residence comprise an expanding group of highly qualified potential immigrants





Canadian Experience Class (CEC)

Program overview:

- Open to international graduates (in Canada) and temporary foreign workers who have intermediate language skills and have worked in Canada in a skilled occupation
- Canada recently welcomed its 20,000th permanent resident through the Canadian Experience Class

Skilled work experience

Work experience in Canada must be in a job or occupation in one of the following categories of Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC).

Skill Type 0 - Senior management occupations, middle and other management positions.

Skill Level A - Occupations that usually require university education at the bachelor's, master's or doctorate level.

Skill Level B - Occupations that usually require education obtained at a college or vocational institute, apprenticeship training or three to four years of secondary school followed by more than two years of on-the-job training, specialized training courses or specific work experience.

By the Numbers

2013: Approx. 10,000

Principal countries of origin: China, India, USA





Canadian Experience Class (CEC)

Recent improvements (January 2013):

- **Streamlined:** Standardized eligibility requirements for all applicants
- **Faster transition to Permanent Residence:** Reduced work experience requirement from 24 months to 12 months. Students now have more time to gain this experience (36 months instead of 24)
- **Language threshold:** Applicants are required to provide evidence that they meet the minimum threshold across four language abilities -- reading, writing, listening and speaking. The threshold varies depending on the occupation.

Intake measures:

- Set restrictions on how many people can apply to the program each year.
- The most recent set of intake measures limit overall intake to 8,000 complete applications per year (with sub-caps for some occupations).





International Experience Canada

- International Experience Canada (IEC) supports Canada's economic and cultural interests by facilitating bilateral, reciprocal agreements with other countries to allow travel and work exchange opportunities for young Canadians and foreign nationals aged 18-35.
- The initiative originated in 1951 as a cultural exchange between Canada and Germany.
- In the following years the program expanded to include France and the United Kingdom.
- Today: Canada has youth mobility agreements (YMA) with 32 countries.





International Experience Canada

One Program. Three categories, thirty-two countries.

- 97.5% of participants arrive through bilateral Youth Mobility Agreements (YMAS) negotiated with 32 countries.

Work permitted depends on the IEC category.

- Working Holiday (travel and work)– open work permits to allow work anywhere in the host country to supplement financial resources.
- Young Professionals (career development) – employer-specific work permit to gain targeted experience within their profession or field of study.
- International Co-operative Education (students only - internships) – employer-specific work permit to gain targeted experience within their field of study.
- ❖ Note: All three categories are not available in all 32 countries. Agreements are country specific.

- **2014 global reciprocal quota is 68,500.**
- **Specific country quotas are negotiated annually and vary (e.g. for 2014: France – 14,000; Germany – 5,000; Greece – 200; Belgium - 750).**





World University Service of Canada (WUSC) Student Refugee Program

- Since 1978, this program has enabled student refugees to be resettled to Canada as permanent residents in order to pursue their studies at universities and colleges across Canada.
- Offers student refugees whose education has been interrupted by war or political repression the chance to continue their postsecondary studies in Canada.
- WUSC, in close collaboration with local NGOs working in refugee camps, is responsible for promoting the program, selecting, interviewing and preparing the candidates for their departure to Canada. Currently, WUSC accepts applications through its partners in Kenya and Malawi.
- Qualified refugees living in designated countries of asylum must:
 - be between the ages of 17 and 25.
 - have completed secondary school (and submit official documents) and meet Canadian university and college academic standards.
 - be a recognized refugee in your country of asylum (ex. a UNHCR convention refugee).
 - express the need to be resettled.
 - be proficient in English and/or French.
 - be single, without dependents and able to resettle in Canada.
 - be self-reliant and mature.





World University Service of Canada (WUSC) Student Refugee Program

How the Program Works

- The Student Refugee Program facilitates more than 70 student refugees every year to enter Canada as permanent residents and pursue their studies at a Canadian postsecondary institution.
- Throughout its history, the Student Refugee Program has enabled students from five continents and over 35 countries of asylum to resettle in Canada.
- Each refugee is sponsored by a WUSC Local Committee on campus – students, staff, and faculty – that raises the necessary funds to support the refugee for his/her first year in Canada and help the student adapt to his/her new environment.
- Students on Canadian campuses raise the funds by collecting a student levy and negotiating with their college or university to waive tuition, residence fees, meal plans or by soliciting donations for other items.





Questions?

