

# Changes to the Express Entry System: Category-based Selection

June & July 2023



**\*\*Cette présentation est disponible en français et en anglais / This presentation is available in English and in French**



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

Canada

# Agenda



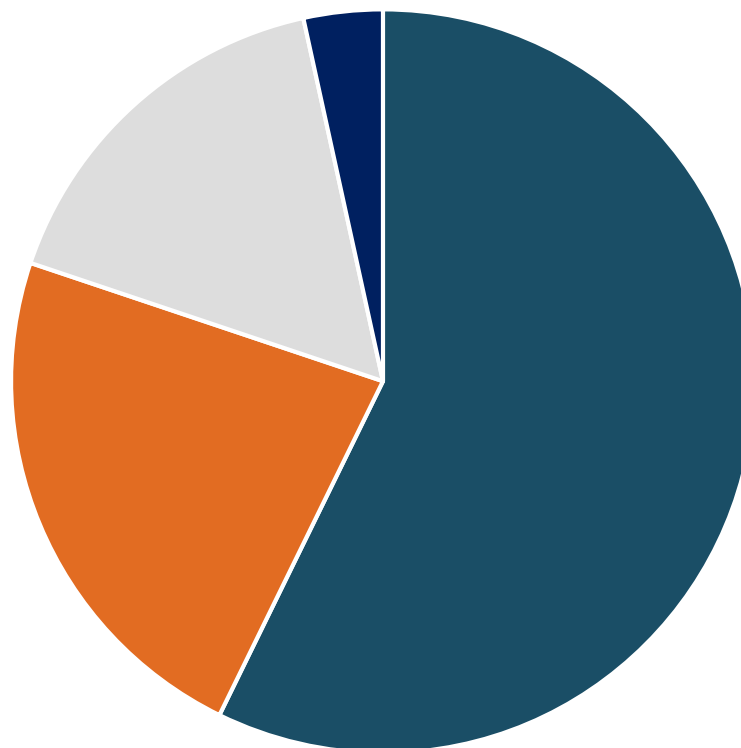
- ✔ Brief Overview of Express Entry
- ✔ New Category-based Selection in Express Entry: How it Works
- ✔ 2023 Express Entry Categories
- ✔ Questions

# Express Entry and Economic Immigration

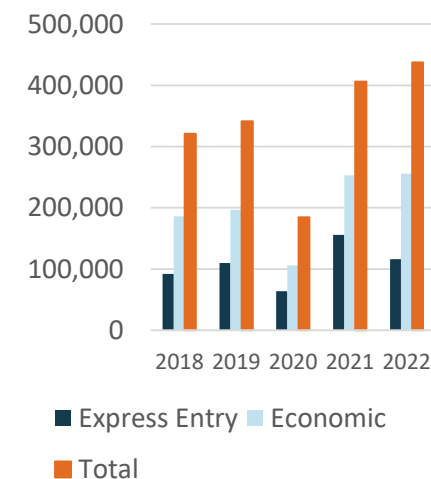
- **Express Entry** is Canada's electronic management system for Federal High Skilled immigration programs:
  - Federal Skilled Worker
  - Canadian Experience Class
  - Federal Skilled Trade
  - Provincial Nomination Program (portion)
- Express Entry allows IRCC to **select**, amongst a pool of eligible candidates, **those skilled workers that are most likely to succeed in Canada.**
- Selection is based on a Comprehensive Ranking System score rooted in **predictors of economic integration**

Immigration Levels Plan 2023 Targets

■ Economic ■ Family ■ Refugees and Protected Persons ■ H&C and Other



Admissions 2018-2022



Data based on the Supplementary Information for the 2023-2025 Immigration Levels Plan

# Express Entry: Step-by-Step



## Expression of Interest:

- Candidates create an Express Entry profile.
- Candidates must meet the **Minimum Entry Criteria** to be accepted into the **Express Entry pool**.

## Comprehensive Ranking System:

- Candidates receive a **Comprehensive Ranking System** score.
- Candidates in the pool are ranked by score.

## Invitation to Apply:

- Highest-ranking candidates are issued an invitation to apply (ITA) for permanent residence during **rounds of invitations** that occur on a regular basis.

Not all candidates who enter the Express Entry pool are invited to apply.

The system actively and purposefully issues invitations only to the candidates who are best positioned for economic success in Canada.

# Express Entry: Rounds of Invitation

- Express Entry **rounds of invitations** have traditionally been general or program-specific:
  - **General rounds**: Top-ranked candidates in the Express Entry pool overall
  - **Program-specific rounds**: Top-ranked candidates in a specific immigration program (for example, Canadian Experience Class)
- In 2023, IRCC will introduce a new type of invitation round to enhance the Express Entry system:
  - **Category-based selection rounds**: top-ranked candidates who meet the eligibility requirements to be a member of a category (for example, healthcare).

# What is category-based Selection?





- Category-based selection is an **enhancement to the Express Entry system** and offers more flexibility in Canada's immigration response to changing economic and labour market needs.
- Category-based rounds will occur **in addition to** general rounds and program-specific rounds
- Categories must meet a specific economic goal, and subject to change over time. Decisions on categories are determined based on the **collection and review of data including labour market shortages** (e.g. [Canadian Occupational Projection System](#) led by ESDC), **and input from IRCC's partners, including provinces and territories, as well as stakeholders** from across the country.

# How the draws work?



- Express Entry round type, frequency and sizes are **calibrated based on the operational needs of IRCC to have the inventory required to meet admissions targets set out in the Levels plan.** The types of rounds (general, program and category-based) will be distributed throughout the year until the established target ranges for each category for 2023 have been met.
  - As such, the total number of rounds, or the number of invitations to apply issued in a round is not pre-determined.
- Applications will be processed with the same timelines as other Express Entry applications. Most complete applications that include all supporting documents will be processed in 6 months or less.

# Categories Established for 2023-2024

2023-2024 priorities	Rationale
 <p><b>Structural Skills and Labour Shortages</b> (occupational categories)</p>	<p>Help address labour market needs for workers with experience in occupations known to be facing or expected to face labour shortages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• healthcare;</li><li>• science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM);</li><li>• trades (e.g. carpenters, plumbers and contractors);</li><li>• transport;</li><li>• agriculture and Agri-Food.</li></ul>
 <p><b>Francophone Immigration outside Quebec</b> (language category)</p>	<p>Help economic prosperity of Francophone communities and fill jobs that require the ability to communicate in French or in both official languages.</p>



# Category Requirements: Francophone Immigration

## French-Language Proficiency:

Candidate must:

- have French-language test results that show a **minimum score of 7 in all 4 language abilities** on the Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens; and
- Meet all of the requirements in the instructions for that round.



# Category Requirements: Occupational

## Occupations Facing Labour Shortages:

Candidates must:

- Have accumulated **at least 6 months of continuous work experience** (in Canada or abroad), within the past 3 years, in a single occupation listed in the next slides (relevant NOC codes available online); and
- meet all of the requirements in the instructions for that round.



# Healthcare Occupations

Occupation	NOC codes	TEER
Audiologists and speech language pathologists; Chiropractors; Dentists; Dieticians and nutritionists; Education counsellors; General practitioners and family physicians; Kinesiologists and other professional occupation in therapy and assessment; Nurse practitioners; Nursing co-ordinators and supervisors; Occupational therapists; Optometrists; Other professional occupations in health diagnosing and treating; Physician assistants, midwives and allied health professionals; Physiotherapists; Psychologists; Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses; Specialists in clinical and laboratory medicine; Specialists in surgery; Therapists in counselling and related specialized therapies; Veterinarians.	31112, 31201, 31110, 31121, 41320, 31102, 31204, 31302, 31300, 31203, 31111, 31209, 31303, 31202, 31200, 31301, 31100, 31101, 41301, 31103.	1
Instructors of persons with disabilities; Licensed practical nurses; Massage therapists; Medical laboratory technologists; Medical radiation technologists; Medical sonographers; Other practitioners of natural healing; Other technical occupations in therapy and assessment; Respiratory therapists, clinical perfusionists and cardiopulmonary technologists; Traditional Chinese medicine practitioners and acupuncturists.	42203, 32101, 32201, 32120, 32121, 32122, 32209, 32109, 33109, 32102, 32103, 32200.	2
Medical laboratory assistants and related technical occupations; Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associate; Other assisting occupations in support of health services; Paramedical occupations; Pharmacy technical assistants and pharmacy assistants.	33101, 33102, 33103.	3

*Note: reflects 2021 NOC codes and TEER categories*

# STEM Occupations

Occupation	NOC codes	TEER
Architects; Business systems specialists; Civil Engineers; Computer engineers (except software engineers and designers); Computer systems developers and programmers; Cybersecurity specialists; Data scientists; Database analysts and data administrators; Electrical and electronics engineers; Industrial and manufacturing engineers; Information systems specialists; Land surveyors; Landscape Architects; Mathematicians, statisticians and actuaries; Metallurgical and materials engineers; Natural and applied science policy researchers, consultants and program officers; Software developers and programmers; Software engineers and designers; Urban and land use planners; Web designers; Web developers and programmers.	21200, 21221, 21300, 21311, 21230, 21220, 21211, 21223, 21310, 21321, 21222, 21203, 21201, 21210, 21322, 41400, 21232, 21231, 21202, 21233, 21234.	1
Architecture and science managers; Computer and information systems managers; Engineering managers.	20011, 20012, 20010.	0

*Note: reflects 2021 NOC codes and TEER categories*

# Trade Occupations

Occupation	NOC codes	TEER
Residential and commercial installers and servicers	73200.	3
Elevator constructors and mechanics; Machine fitters; Heating, refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics; Construction millwrights and industrial mechanics; Carpenters; Plumbers; Electricians (except industrial and power system); Welders and related machine operators; Contractors and supervisors, other construction trades, installers, repairers and servicers.	72406, 72405, 72402, 72400, 72310, 72300, 72200, 72106, 72014.	2

# Transport Occupations

Occupation	NOC codes	TEER
Aircraft assemblers and aircraft assembly inspectors; Transport truck drivers.	93200, 73300.	3
Railway traffic controllers and marine traffic regulators; Engineer officers, water transport; Deck officers, water transport; Air traffic controllers and related occupations; Air pilots, flight engineers and flying instructors; Aircraft mechanics and aircraft inspectors; Railway carmen/women.	72604, 72603, 72602, 72601, 72600, 72404, 72403.	2
Managers in transportation.	70020.	0

# Agriculture and Agri-Food Occupations

Occupation	NOC codes	TEER
Contractors and supervisors, landscaping, grounds maintenance and horticulture services; Agricultural service contractors and farm supervisors.	82031, 82030.	2
Butchers- retail and wholesale.	63201.	3

# Next Steps



- Invitations for 2023 categories will begin this summer. Stay tuned!
- Category-based selection results will be included in the Express Entry Year-End Report
- IRCC will monitor and assess categories on a regular basis.
- Consultations for the 2024 categories will also begin this summer. Please consider taking part and sharing your input when you receive an invitation.



# For more information

**REMINDER:** Policies and programs can change.  
Please consult [www.canada.ca/immigration](http://www.canada.ca/immigration)  
for accurate, up-to-date information.

**Contact us:**

[promotion@cic.gc.ca](mailto:promotion@cic.gc.ca)



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Questions ?  
& Answers ●

