

Atlantic Immigration Program: What's Changed?

The Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) is a permanent federal immigration program designed to help employers meet regional labour market needs. Employers using the AIP first need to be designated and then have their positions endorsed by the province where candidates will work. Only after an endorsement is approved can candidates apply for permanent residency (and a work permit, if needed).

The AIP builds on the success of the Atlantic Immigration Pilot Program. While most elements of the pilot program remain in the permanent program, several key changes are highlighted below. Please visit the [Nova Scotia AIP webpage](#) for detailed program information.

Process

- Designation and endorsement applications must be submitted through an online portal
- Endorsement application category is based on the skill level (NOC) of the job offer
- Provincial endorsement certificates will be valid for 12 months
- The federal permanent residency processing standard is 1 year (80% of cases)

Employer

Training

- All employers participating in the AIP must complete onboarding and, if required, intercultural competency training before endorsement applications can be approved.

Settlement

- Employers are expected to support the provision of settlement services in the preferred official language of their candidates and, if French, to facilitate links with francophone settlement supports and francophone communities, where available.

Candidate

Language

- Candidates with NOC 0, A or B job offers must have a minimum language level of Canadian Language Benchmark 5

Education

- Candidates with NOC 0 or A job offers must have a minimum one-year Canadian post-secondary program credential, or equivalency, demonstrated by an Educational Credential Assessment

Work Experience

- Candidates with a NOC 0 job offer must have accumulated 1 year of work experience at NOC 0, A, B or C in the last 5 years.
- Candidates with a NOC A job offer must have accumulated 1 year of work experience at NOC A, B or C in the last 5 years.
- Candidates with a NOC B job offer must have accumulated 1 year of work experience at NOC B or C in the last 5 years.
- Candidates with a NOC C job offer must have accumulated 1 year of work experience at NOC C in the last 5 years.

