



DEPARTMENT
OF LABOUR, SKILLS
AND IMMIGRATION

Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream Submission Guide

Nova Scotia Nominee Program

Nova Scotia: Express Entry • Nova Scotia Nominee Program
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Thank you for choosing Nova Scotia

This guide explains how to submit an expression of interest (EOI) to the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream of the Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP). Please read it carefully.

approved through this stream, you, your spouse, and your dependants may apply to the Canadian government for permanent resident visas.

The Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream is for skilled people who want to make Nova Scotia their permanent home.

This stream is for applicants who meet at least one of the following:

- A) Have at least one year of work experience in Nova Scotia in a skilled occupation.
- B) Have a job offer to work in Nova Scotia as a physician.
- C) Have received a Letter of Interest in their Express Entry profile from the Province of Nova Scotia inviting them to apply

This stream is part of Nova Scotia's economic immigration program. You may NOT use it to immigrate to Canada for any of these reasons:

- the intention of settling in another Canadian province or territory;
- family reunification;
- because you need protection/protected person status; or,
- to remain in Canada for humanitarian or compassionate reasons.

This stream is one of several pathways available under NSNP. We encourage you to explore other NSNP streams, the Atlantic Immigration Program, and other permanent residence pathways administered by IRCC to determine the option that best aligns with your circumstances.

Expression of Interest

Your submission to the Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP) is treated as an expression of interest (EOI).

You will submit a complete EOI form to indicate your interest in immigrating to Nova Scotia, and it will be added to our EOI pool. We periodically select EOIs from the pool for processing, based on factors such as current provincial priorities and labour market information, the number of NSNP approvals remaining in our annual allocation, the volume of all EOIs in the pool, and program integrity considerations.

If your submission is selected, you will receive direct communication from our department confirming that it has been chosen for processing; selection means your submission is moving to the next stage of processing, but it does not guarantee approval.

The decision to process and assess a particular submission is at the sole discretion of the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration (LSI), Immigration and Population Growth branch (IPG). You will receive communication only if your submission is selected for processing.

Important! We will conduct a completeness check. Your application may be closed if you do not submit all required documents or if you do not meet the eligibility criteria for this stream.

NOTE: The Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration (LSI), Immigration and Population Growth Branch (IPG), is the official name of Nova Scotia's provincial immigration authority. References to Nova Scotia Immigration and Population Growth (NSIPG) or the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration (NSOI) are legacy names and refer to the same authority.

You are NOT eligible for this stream if

Do NOT submit an EOI to this stream if even ONE of the statements below is true:

- Your qualifying work experience is dependent on a federal post-graduation work permit issued as a result of studies outside Nova Scotia.
- You plan to work in a job that falls under National Occupational Classification (NOC) categories 4 or 5.
- You have been found to have committed misrepresentation in relation to an immigration application in the last five years.
- You are currently living in a country in which you are NOT legally allowed to live.
- You have received a nomination or endorsement (NSNP or Atlantic Immigration Program) within the last 12 months.
- You are in Canada as part of the Live-In Caregiver Program.
- You have applied to immigrate to Canada on compassionate or humanitarian grounds or to claim refugee status.
- You have applied for refugee status in Canada and been refused.
- You have received a removal order from IRCC or the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)
- You are currently studying at a Canadian post-secondary institution.
- You received a scholarship or award that requires you to return to your home country upon graduation and you have not yet done so.
- You are self-employed.
- You have been offered a sales job for which you will ONLY be paid commission. Commission means you are paid a percentage of the value of the item you sell or the profit your employer makes from that item.
- Your job contravenes LSI policies related to:
 - Program Integrity Policy
 - On-site Home-based Businesses
 - Service Home-based Businesses
 - Businesses with a Telework Arrangement

You may not submit an EOI if any of the above applies to you.

You may be eligible for this stream if

Core Requirements – Applies to all Applicants

This stream may be right for you if you meet the Core Criteria for All Applicants AND the additional criteria for one of the following categories (and can provide the required documentation):

- A) Skilled work experience in Nova Scotia
- B) Physicians with a valid job offer
- C) Letter of Interest from Nova Scotia

This stream may be right for you if you meet ALL the criteria below:

All Nova Scotia: Express Entry candidates must meet all the following criteria	Required Documentation – You must provide evidence of each criterion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your work experience meets the criteria described in the National Occupational Classification (NOC) 2021 for categories 0, 1, 2, or 3.• During your work experience, you did at least 51% of the main duties described in NOC 2021.• You meet the work experience requirements for the Express Entry stream for which you have qualified.• You have proof that you meet our requirements for communicating in English or French.• You intend to live in Nova Scotia.• You can show that you will be able to support yourself and your family.• You stated in your Express Entry profile that you are interested in moving to Nova Scotia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Documents related to your work experience</u>, including letters of reference from your employers.• <u>Documents related to your education and training</u>, such as a high school diploma and licenses required for your job offer, if applicable.• <u>Proof that you have sufficient financial resources to settle in Nova Scotia and support your family</u>, based on your family size. <p>ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Online submission at novascotia.ca/ensnp (NSNP 100)</u>• <u>Documents about you and your family</u>, including passports, marriage certificates, birth certificates, and adoption papers, if applicable.• <u>Proof of legal immigration status in your country of residence</u>.

A) Skilled Work Experience in Nova Scotia

You may submit an expression of interest (EOI) under the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream if you have at least one year of skilled work experience in Nova Scotia.

See APPENDIX A for document checklist,

To qualify based on your Nova Scotia work experience, you must meet ALL Stream Criteria for All Candidates AND:	Required Documentation – You must provide evidence of each criterion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You must have a total of 1,560 hours of work experience in Nova Scotia, accumulated within the three (3) years before you submit your EOI. This work experience can be one of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Full time: 30 hours per week for 12 months at one or more jobs○ Part time: 15 hours per week for 24 months• This work experience cannot include any of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ work experience that was dependent on a federal post-graduation work permit issued to you because of your post-secondary studies in another Canadian province or territory;○ self-employed work○ work while you were a full-time student○ co-op work terms, unpaid internships or volunteer work• You must have been authorized to work in Canada when you gained your work experience.• You meet our requirements for communicating in English or French.• You graduated from high school and/or a post-secondary institution,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Documents related to your work experience</u>, including letters of reference from your employers.• <u>Documents related to your authorization to work in Nova Scotia (Canada)</u>.• <u>Documents related to your ability to communicate in English or French</u> (if your first language is NOT English or French):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ NOC TEER 0-1 must meet a CLB level 7 or higher○ NOC TEER 2-3 must meet CLB level 5 or higher○ CLB must be based on test results issued within two (2) years of the date you submit your EOI.• <u>Documents related to your education and training</u> such as diplomas and transcripts.

in Canada or abroad. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are between the ages of 21 and 55. 	
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B) Physicians with a Valid Job Offer

You may submit an EOI under the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream if you have an approved job opportunity from either Nova Scotia Health (NSH) or the IWK Health Centre (IWK).

See APPENDIX B for document checklist,

To qualify as a physician with an approved job opportunity, you must meet ALL Stream Criteria for All Candidates AND:	Required Documentation – You must provide evidence of each criterion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have received an approved job offer from <u>Nova Scotia Health (NSH)</u> or <u>IWK</u> in one of these <u>National Occupational Classifications (NOC)</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>NOC 31100</u>: Specialists in clinical and laboratory medicine ○ <u>NOC 31101</u>: Specialists in surgery ○ <u>NOC 31102</u>: General practitioners and family physicians • You have a valid Education Credential Assessment (ECA) from the <u>Medical Council of Canada</u> OR proof that you received the necessary medical training in Canada. • You meet the work experience requirements for the Express Entry stream for which you have qualified. • You received a Letter of Interest from Nova Scotia, on your federal Express Entry profile, and you continue to meet all the criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of a written and accepted job offer from one of two named employers. This job offer must attest to your eligibility to be licensed and to practise in Nova Scotia. • <u>Documents related to your ability to communicate in English or French</u> (if your first language is NOT English or French) as required by the federal Express Entry stream. • <u>Documents related to your education and training</u> such as a high school diploma and licenses required for your job offer, if applicable. • Your <u>valid Education Credential Assessment</u> and/or proof of qualifying medical training in Canada. • Proof of a written and signed Return to Service Agreement between you and the <u>Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness</u>.

<p>that applied at the time you received the Letter of Interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You promise to live and work in Nova Scotia for at least 2 years. 	
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C) Received a Letter of Interest

You may submit an EOI under the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream if you receive a letter of interest from Nova Scotia, in your Express Entry profile. Nova Scotia can issue letters of interest to candidates who address specific labour market needs and immigration priorities.

For each round in which Nova Scotia issues Letters of Interest, additional criteria may be applied based on identified labour market needs and immigration priorities at the time of selection.

See [APPENDIX C](#) for document checklist,

To qualify as a Letter of Interest candidate, you must meet <u>ALL Stream Criteria for All Candidates</u> , AND:	Required Documentation – You must provide evidence of each criterion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You received a Letter of Interest from Nova Scotia on your federal Express Entry profile. • You meet the criteria in place at the time you received the Letter of Interest. • You have proof that you graduated from high school or a post-secondary institution in Canada or abroad. • You have proof you meet our requirements for communicating in English or French. • Minimum age of 21. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Documents related to your ability to communicate in English or French</u> (if your first language is NOT English or French) as required by the federal Express Entry stream. • <u>Documents related to your education and training</u> such as a high school and post-secondary education diplomas.

What you need to know BEFORE you submit an EOI

Nova Scotia's Program Integrity Policy

You are required to acknowledge and comply with [Nova Scotia's Program Integrity Policy](#), which guides the Immigration and Population Growth (IPG) Branch of the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration (LSI). This policy promotes transparency, fairness, and accountability across all economic immigration programs and helps protect applicants, employers, and representatives by preventing fraud and misuse. Failure to follow the Program Integrity Policy may result in the refusal of your submission from current or future immigration programs. Review the full policy on our [website](#).

You must apply to 2 levels of government: federal and provincial

The Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream is a provincial immigration stream, however, to use this stream you must first create a (federal) Express Entry profile in IRCC's online Express Entry system. After you create your profile, you will get an Express Entry profile number. You need this number to submit an EOI to the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream and throughout the submission process.

Level 1: Nova Scotia (provincial)

Submit an EOI to the NSNP Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream. If you are nominated for this stream, you will have 30 days to accept the nomination within the Express Entry system. Accepting the NSNP nomination is the last step of the provincial process.

After you accept the nomination, IRCC will send you an invitation to apply for a permanent resident visa.

Costs

There is no EOI submission fee for the NSNP but there may be costs related to your submission. For example:

- Translation costs – if your required documents are in neither English nor French
- Fees charged by a representative, should you choose to hire one
- Fees for English or French language testing

Level 2: Canada (federal)

If IRCC invites you to apply for a permanent resident visa, you can submit an application and supporting documents through your IRCC account. Find out more about applying for a permanent resident visa on the [Government of Canada Express Entry website](#).

Costs

You must pay all the required Government of Canada immigration fees when you submit your file to IRCC. For current fees, see the fee list on the [IRCC website](#).

You are responsible for your submission

It is up to you to provide ALL of the documents we require including those that you get from your employer, your spouse or common-law partner, and your dependents. You must also ensure that all documents are valid when you submit your EOI for this stream AND when you apply for a permanent resident visa. If you are missing documents or any document is invalid, we will refuse your submission.

Important!

You must tell us if your status changes at any time before you receive a permanent resident visa. These are just a few examples of a change in status:

- a change in marital status for example, you got married or divorced
- you no longer have a job offer
- you changed employers
- If your employer has indicated an immediate labour need and requested a letter of support for a work permit, you are expected to apply to IRCC for a work permit as soon as possible and travel to Canada as soon as possible if the work permit is issued. If you do not intend to do so or if your intention changes before you receive a permanent resident visa, you must tell us.

Warning!

Failure to inform us of relevant changes may result in losing provincial support for your nomination.

Know which family members are allowed to immigrate with you

Family members who immigrate with you as part of the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream are called “dependents.” These are limited to the following:

- your spouse – the person to whom you are legally married
- your common-law partner:
 - Your partner may be of the same or opposite sex.
 - You must have lived together like spouses for at least one continuous year.
 - If you were prevented from living together, you must provide proof that explains why you could not live together.
- You must provide a Statutory Declaration of Common-Law Union.
 - your children, including adopted children:
 - children under the age of 22 who do not have a spouse or common-law partner
 - children over the age of 22 who have been financially dependent on you since before turning 22 years old, and who are unable to support themselves financially because of a physical or mental condition

You must hold legal status in your country of residence

If you reside in a country other than your country of citizenship, you must hold valid legal status in that country at the time you submit your expression of interest (EOI).

If you reside in Canada

You must hold a valid and non-expired temporary resident status document on the date you submit your EOI, such as a work permit or a study permit. Applicants in maintained status, formerly referred to as implied status, are not eligible to submit an EOI.

If your EOI is selected for assessment, you must continue to meet all program requirements. Officers will assess your eligibility at the time of assessment, not solely at the time of EOI submission.

Know the National Occupational Classification (NOC) for your job

NOC 2021 has 6 categories based on training, education, experience and responsibility (TEER). To qualify for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream, you

must have a NOC category of 0, 1, 2, or 3.

- 0 – Management jobs
- 1 – Professional jobs that usually require a university degree
- 2 – Usually, jobs that require a college diploma of two to three years or completion of an apprenticeship training program of two to five years
- 3 – Usually, jobs that require a college diploma of less than two years or completion of an apprenticeship training program of less than two years

Find out more about NOC 2021 on the [National Occupational Classification website](#).

The NOC is important for 2 reasons:

- It helps you to determine the level of English or French language ability you will need to qualify for an immigration stream.
- It helps us determine if your qualifications and experience match the requirements for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream.

You may use a representative

There are two kinds of representatives: paid and unpaid. Both can help you to complete and submit your submission. When you appoint a representative, you authorize:

- Us to share information about your submission with them.
- Them to act on your behalf.

Unpaid representatives

As the name suggests, unpaid representatives do NOT charge for their services. Your representative could be a family member, a friend, or someone else.

Paid representatives

Paid representatives charge a fee for their services. If you are using a paid immigration representative, they must be authorized. Authorized representatives must be one of the following:

- An immigration consultant who is a member in good standing with the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants (CCIC). Visit the CCIC website.
- A lawyer or paralegal who is a member in good standing of a Canadian law society, barristers' society, or barreau, or a law student under the supervision of a recognized lawyer. Visit the Federation of Law Societies of Canada website for links to law societies across Canada.
- A notary public who is a member in good standing of the Chambre des notaires du Québec or a law student under their supervision. Visit the

Chambre website.

You don't need to use a representative to prepare and submit an EOI. If you choose to use a representative—paid or unpaid—they must complete a NSNP 50 Use of a Representative form. You must submit this form to us with your EOI. Please note:

- if your representative is unpaid, you must submit this form with your EOI.
- If you have a paid representative, they must submit your complete EOI, including the NSNP 50 form, through their authorized online portal account.

Warning!

We strongly recommend that if you choose to hire a representative, you choose one from the categories listed above. We do NOT deal with unauthorized representatives. Also, if your representative is NOT authorized, you may not have the ability to hold them accountable if they make an error or give you bad advice.

Duty to provide accurate information:

Employers and Representatives

Labour, Skills and Immigration relies on information provided by employers and authorized representatives to assess whether an applicant is eligible to participate in the Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP). If an employer or authorized representative provides information to LSI that:

- is false or misleading about one or more Nova Scotia Nominee Program eligibility criteria,

OR

- leaves out or conceals requested information about one or more Nova Scotia Nominee Program eligibility criteria,

we may determine that they have committed misrepresentation or fraud.

The duty to provide accurate information applies to all information provided to LSI, including document(s) or verbal information provided in support of the NSNP applicant. If necessary, LSI (the Government of Nova Scotia) may ask for further information in support of a submission. Employers are obligated to provide this information.

Important!

Employers and authorized representatives who commit misrepresentation or fraud in relation to the Nova Scotia Nominee Program will NOT be allowed to participate in any provincial immigration programs for a period of five (5) years.

Misrepresentations disqualify you for 5 years

Misrepresentation means you or someone else involved in your submission:

- was not truthful about one or more of the eligibility criteria
- leaves out information we need to assess your submission.

People involved in your submission include yourself, your spouse or common-law partner, your dependents, your employers, and your immigration representative if you decide to use one.

Important!

If you are refused for misrepresentation, you will NOT be allowed to submit an EOI or apply to any immigration program or stream for 5 years.

There are no guarantees

Submitting an EOI and meeting all eligibility requirements for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream do NOT guarantee that your submission will be processed, assessed, and approved.

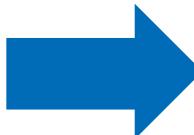
Even if your EOI to the Nova Scotia Nominee Program is processed and we nominate you for Express Entry, we cannot guarantee that IRCC will issue you a permanent resident visa. Permanent residency is a separate application process, and only IRCC can issue permanent resident visas.

Responsibilities of LSI

- assess nominee submissions
- issue letters of support for work permits (if applicable)
- issue nomination certificates

Responsibilities of IRCC

- assess work permits (if applicable)
- assess permanent resident applications
- issue permits and visas



Important! LSI-issued letters of support or nomination certificates do NOT guarantee approval by IRCC.

Criteria may change; streams may close

We may stop accepting submissions for this stream, close this stream, or suspend this stream (close it temporarily) at any time. If we close or suspend the stream before we review your EOI, your submission may not be considered even if we received it before we closed the stream.

If your EOI is selected for assessment, there may be a delay between the time we receive your submission and when we can process it. During that time, criteria may change. We will assess your submission based on the criteria in place at that time, unless otherwise stated. Check our [immigration website](#) regularly to stay up-to-date with all changes.

Decisions are final; there are no appeals

If we refuse your submission for the NSNP Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream, our decision is final. There is no appeal process. You may be eligible to submit a new EOI.

We may withdraw your nomination

We may withdraw your nomination at any time before you receive a permanent resident visa and before you arrive in Canada for any of these reasons:

- You no longer meet the eligibility requirements for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream.
- The Government of Canada has advised us that some information in your application for permanent residency is false.
- IRCC finds that you, your spouse or common-law partner, or a dependent is not allowed to immigrate to Canada.

You may withdraw your EOI submission

You may withdraw your submission without penalty at any time before you receive a nomination certificate. There is one exception. You may NOT withdraw your submission without penalty if we know or suspect that you have NOT been truthful or have left out important information in your submission.

Post Nomination Responsibilities

Program participants must immediately notify LSI of any changes to information previously submitted in a program-related application or supporting

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documentation, whether the change occurs after submission or after nomination under a Nova Scotia immigration program.

For immigration candidates, this includes, but is not limited to, changes to:

- marital status
- job duties
- work location
- employment status
- immigration status
- any other particulars previously reported to LSI

Any third party, including employers, recruiters or immigration consultants, who submits information in support of a submission must also notify LSI immediately if that information changes.

Gather the documents you need

You will need a number of documents to complete your submission. You will have to complete some of these documents yourself. Some will have to be completed by your employers. You will also have to get documents from third parties such as educational institutions and governments. Begin to gather these documents as soon as you know that you will submit an EOI for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream. It may take some time to gather all the documents you need.

Important!

- All documents must be valid on the dates of your submission to both LSI and IRCC.
- All documents must be PDF files.
- Documents with images must be scanned in colour.
- Text-only documents may be scanned in black and white.
- The total size of all documents must be no more than 50 megabytes (MB).
- Each file name must be no more than 50 characters.
- All documents must be clear enough to read.
- Scanner resolution must be 300 dots per inch (dpi).

Warning! We may close your submission if documents are missing, unsigned, unclear, or have been enhanced or edited.

Documents in languages other than English or French

Documents in languages other than English or French must be translated by a certified translator.

- Submit a copy of the original document AND a copy of the certified translation.
- Submit proof from the translator of their certification.

Warning! These individuals are NOT allowed to translate your documents:

- members of your family
- anyone who works for the paid representative you have hired to help you with your submission

If your documents are NOT translated by a certified translator, we may NOT accept your submission.

Documents related to your work experience

Letters of Reference

Whether you gained your work experience in Nova Scotia, are submitting an EOI as a physician with a valid job offer, or received a Letter of Interest, you must submit employer reference letters to demonstrate that you have the work experience and skills required under the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream.

These letters must be written on company letterhead and they must be stamped with the company's official seal if it has one.

They must also include ALL of the following:

- the company's full address, telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses
- your supervisor's signature or that of a responsible officer
- the specific period of time that you worked for the company
- the titles of the jobs you held while you worked for the company
- the amount of time you worked in each job
- your main duties in each job
- your annual salary plus benefits for each job
- the number of hours you worked per week in each job
- the number of hours you worked in total in each job

Send the above list to each employer you ask for a reference letter. This will help to ensure that they include all the information we need.

For Skilled Work Experience gained in Nova Scotia

You must show that you have the following:

- at least 12 months of full-time paid work experience—30 hours per week for 12 months (1,560 hours)

OR

- at least 24 months of part-time work experience—15 hours per week for 24 months (1,560 hours)

AND

- the work experience was with a Nova Scotia employer who met the criteria defined below during the period of your work experience.

AND

- the work experience took place within the 3 years before the date of your submission to the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream

AND

- the work experience was in a job that meets the criteria for NOC categories 0, 1, 2, or 3 AND you completed duties set out in the lead statements of the occupation description, including at least 51% of the main duties

AND

- the work experience is NOT dependent on a federal post-graduation work permit issued as a result of studies outside Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia employer means an employer that meets these criteria:

- If the employer is a commercial business, it must be registered with the Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stock Companies AND have a permanent establishment in Nova Scotia as defined in Canada's Income Tax Act.
- If the employer is a not-for-profit organization, it must be registered under the Societies Act.
- The employer must have operated in Nova Scotia for at least 2 years at the time your employment started.

In addition, at the time of your employment, the Nova Scotia employer must:

- have a history of good workplace and business practices and must be compliant with all applicable laws and regulations.
- be in good standing with provincial occupational health and safety and labour authorities.
- have an Employer Registration Certificate from the Director of Labour Standards in order to recruit and hire foreign workers for employment in Nova Scotia, if necessary.
- NOT be in violation of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act or Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations.
- NOT deduct the costs of bringing a foreign worker to Canada from their wages or salaries.
- NOT be an employment agency or placement firm unless hiring the applicant as a full-time permanent employee in their agency or firm.

Your employment with the employer must have met these criteria:

- The employee must be paid a salary that meets provincial employment standards and the provincial wage range for the specific occupation.
- Hiring the applicant must not contravene LSI policies related to:
 - On-site Home-based Businesses
 - Service Home-based Businesses
 - Business with a Telework Arrangement

Documents for Submissions for Skilled Work Experience in Nova Scotia

- work permit – this proves that you were legally allowed to work in Canada when you gained your work experience
- employment contracts
- pay stubs
- letters of reference

Documents related to your education and training

If you were educated or trained in Canada

Provide the documents that apply to you:

- a copy of your high school diploma
- a copy of a certificate, diploma, or degree from a post-secondary institution
- copies of transcripts of successfully completed high school or post-secondary education
- copies of the licences or certificates you need for the work you plan to do in Nova Scotia

If you were educated or trained outside Canada

Provide the documents listed above or other proof of education AND

- a copy of your educational credential assessment (ECA) report from an organization designated by IRCC

What is an ECA?

An ECA proves that your certificate, diploma, degree, or other proof of education is real and as valid as if it were earned in Canada. When you submit your ECA, be sure that it meets these criteria:

- It was issued on or after the date the organization was designated by IRCC.
- It meets the IRCC format and content requirements.
- It was issued within 5 years of the date that we receive your submission AND of the date that you apply for permanent residence.
- It shows that your certificate, diploma, degree, or other proof of education is as valid as if it were earned in Canada.

Find out more about ECAs and the organizations that provide them on the [Government of Canada educational credential assessment website](#).

Important! You must include your proof of education AND your ECA report (if you need one) in your submission for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream. Do NOT request that your ECA report be sent directly to us. Keep a copy of it for your records and future use.

Documents related to your ability to communicate in English or French

NOC categories 0 and 1

You must meet one of the following:

- the criteria listed under Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) Level 7 or higher
- the criteria listed under Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (NCLC) Level 7 or higher

To show that you meet the above criteria, you must submit the results of one of these language tests even if your first language is English or French:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) General Training
- Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPPIP)
- General
- Pearson Test of English (PTE) Core
- Test d'évaluation de français (TEF) Canada
- Test de connaissance du français (TCF) Canada

This table shows the scores you need in each language test to meet the CLB/NCLC 7 standard.

Test	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
IELTS	6	6	6	6
CELPPIP	7	7	7	7
PTE	60	60	69	68
TEF	249	207	310	310
TCF	458	453	10	10

NOC categories 2 and 3

You must submit the results of one of these language tests even if your first language is English or French:

- IELTS General Training
- CELPIP-General
- PTE Core
- TEF Canada
- TCF Canada

Your test results must show that you meet at least the CLB level 5 criteria for either the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) OR Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (NCLC).

This table shows the scores you need in each language test to meet the CLB/NCLC 5 standard.

Test	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
IELTS	5	4	5	5
CELPPIP	5	5	5	5
PTE	39	42	51	51
TEF	181	151	226	226
TCF	369	375	6	6

Warning! You must have had your language skills tested within 2 years of submitting an expression of interest to the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream. We do NOT accept test results dated more than 2 years before the date on your submission.

Important! Do NOT request that your language test results be sent directly to us. Submit them as part of your submission to the Nova Scotia Experience: Express Entry stream. Keep a copy of your test results for your records and future use. You may use them in the future as part of another immigration submission as long as they are not more than 2 years old when we

Documents about you and your family

Passports

You, and everyone immigrating with you, must have a valid passport. The expiry date of all passports should be at least 2 years from the date of your submission. Do NOT include the original passports in your submission. Instead, include copies of pages that show these things:

- the passport number
- the date of issue and expiry
- the photo of the passport holder
- the name of the passport holder as well as their date and place of birth
- any changes to the passport holder's name, date of birth, or other identifying information
- any changes to the passport's expiry date
- any visas or visits to Canada

Documents related to your spouse and children if they are immigrating with you

Include the documents that apply to you:

- a copy of your marriage certificate
- copies of birth certificates for dependent children
- copies of adoption papers
- copies of custody documents and permission to come to Canada for children under the age of 19

Documents related to your immigration status

Include the documents that apply to you:

- If you currently live in Canada, include proof of your valid, and non-expired legal status document in Canada ("Maintained status" is not accepted). Ensure that your supporting documentation is valid at the time you submit your EOI, and that you maintain and demonstrate continued eligibility under the program requirements if your EOI is selected for processing.

- If you currently live in a country of which you are NOT a citizen, include proof of your legal status in that country.
- If you have applied to immigrate to Canada before, include copies of every letter you have received from the Canadian government or any provincial or territorial government regarding each application.

The expression of interest (EOI) process

Submitting an EOI

1. Create an Express Entry profile

Follow the steps on the [IRCC website: Submit an Express Entry Profile: Online form](#) to complete your Express Entry profile. If, after completing your profile, you are accepted into the Express Entry pool, IRCC will send you an Express Entry profile number and a job seeker validation code. You need both of these numbers to submit an EOI to the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream.

After creating your Express Entry profile, the next step depends on your situation:

IF

A) You qualify based on your skilled work experience in Nova Scotia;

OR

B) You are a physician with a valid Nova Scotia job offer;

→ Proceed to Step 2 and submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to Nova Scotia.

IF

C) You have received a Letter of Interest from Nova Scotia through the federal Express Entry system;

→ Wait for Nova Scotia to select your profile from the federal Express Entry pool; then proceed to step 2 and follow instructions on your letter.

2. Go to [novascotia.ca/ensnp](#) to submit your EOI.

You must complete the [eNSNP 100 form online](#) and ensure that you

Nova Scotia: Express Entry Submission Guide

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include all the documents we need. On the form you must show your intention to settle in Nova Scotia. Be sure to write in detail

- why you chose to settle in Nova Scotia permanently
- what Nova Scotia can offer you
- what Nova Scotia can offer your family if you have one
- if you currently live in another Canadian province, explain why you would leave this province and come to Nova Scotia

These are some details you may want to include:

- where you plan to live
- how you will meet your daily needs
- where you will work, including details about your job
- where you will send your children, if any, to school or daycare
- what your plans are for improving your English or French
- how you plan to become part of the community to which you are moving

Important! You must write all this information in your own words. Do NOT copy information from other sources.

3. Your submission enters the EOI pool.

Submissions are treated as EOIs and entered into an EOI pool.

Draws for processing:

Nova Scotia will conduct periodic draws to select EOIs for processing. Factors that may guide selection include provincial priorities, remaining allocation, EOI pool volume, and program integrity considerations.

If selected:

You will receive direct communication from our department confirming your submission has been chosen for processing. Being selected means your submission aligns with current priorities. It does not guarantee approval.

If not selected:

Your submission remains in the EOI pool. If you do not receive communication, your status has not changed.

Important! We will conduct a completeness check. Your submission may be closed if you do not submit all required documents or if you do not meet the

eligibility criteria for this stream

4. If selected, we assess your submission

We check to see if you are eligible and your submission is complete

We do a basic review of your submission looking for 2 things:

- that you meet all of our eligibility criteria
- that your submission is complete; a complete submission includes
 - all the documents we ask for in this guide
 - your Express Entry profile number
 - your job seeker validation code

Important!

We may return your submission to you for these reasons:

- You failed to include even one of the required documents in your submission
- You do NOT meet the basic eligibility requirements for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream.

We will refuse your submission if you fail to include these numbers:

- your Express Entry profile number
- your job seeker validation code

We conduct a detailed evaluation of your submission

It can take 3 months or more to evaluate your submission for these reasons:

- It takes time to verify each of the documents you send us.
- We receive a large number of submissions and it may take time to get to yours.
- We may need to interview you as part of our evaluation. This interview will take place in person and in Nova Scotia.

Important! Our officers are not allowed to give information about the status of your submission over the phone. Do NOT call us to ask whether you have been nominated or refused. Wait to receive an email or letter from us (LSI).

You will either be nominated or refused

If you are nominated

If you meet the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream criteria, we will email a nomination certificate to you or your representative. The certificate expires at the end of the month one year after your nomination date. We will also confirm our nomination through IRCC's Express Entry online system. You must accept this nomination using the Express Entry online system within 30 days.

We may extend your nomination

You can ask us to extend your nomination period beyond 12 months. You must provide evidence that:

- you applied for permanent residency before the 12-month expiry date,
- the application was rejected by IRCC after the expiry date, and
- you resolved the issue for which your application was rejected.

We allow you only one such extension. This extension will expire 6 months after the original expiry date. We do NOT grant extensions after 18 months from the original nomination date. You will have to submit a new EOI.

If we decide to refuse your submission

We will refuse your submission if you do NOT meet the criteria for the Nova Scotia: Express Entry Stream. We will notify you or your representative by email. This decision is final. There is no appeal process.

Apply to IRCC for permanent residence

Within 12 months of your nomination certificate having been issued, [submit a complete application for a permanent resident visa to IRCC](#). We will send you more information about this with your nomination certificate.

Questions?

Email

immigration@novascotia.ca

Write to

Labour, Skills and Immigration
Immigration and Population Growth
PO Box 697
Halifax, NS B3J 2T8
CANADA

Visit online

liveinnovascotia.com

Visit in person

Labour, Skills and Immigration
Immigration and Population Growth branch
1505 Barrington Street, 4th Floor (Maritime Centre)
Halifax, NS B3J 3K5
CANADA

Find Nova Scotia Immigration and Population Growth on social media:



APPENDICES: Document Checklists

A) Document Checklist - Skilled Work Experience

Follow these instructions carefully. If your submission does NOT follow these instructions, we will NOT assess it and we will return it to you.

1. Check your documents against the list below. Be sure that you have all the documents we have requested in this guide.
2. Ensure that all documents are valid on the dates of your submissions to both LSI and IRCC.
3. Arrange your forms and documents in the same order as they are listed in the checklist.
4. Provide copies, where we ask for them. We will NOT return original documents to you.

Note: We may ask you for more information at any time during the submission process.

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
Nova Scotia Nominee Program forms	
<input type="checkbox"/> eNSNP 100 – Online submission at novascotia.ca/ensnp	Applicant
Provide originals or copies	
<input type="checkbox"/> NSNP 50 – Use of a Representative (optional. Use only if a representative has helped you to complete and submit your EOI). See <u>You may use a representative</u> .	Applicant Dependents aged 19 and older
<input type="checkbox"/> NSNP 60 – Authority to Release Personal Information to a Designated Individual (optional. Use only if you want us to send your submission information to someone other than yourself or your representative)	
The person you choose will have access to information about your submission but they will NOT be able to act on your behalf.	

Supporting Documents – provide COPIES ONLY	Who must provide the document
Immigration status (See Documents related to your immigration status)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Passport pages as described under Passports in this guide <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of legal status in the country where you are currently living, including Canada. See Documents related to your immigration status . <input type="checkbox"/> Letters from past attempts to immigrate to Canada <input type="checkbox"/> Previous temporary residence permits, if available	Applicant Spouse or common-law partner <u>Dependents</u>
Accompanying family members (if applicable)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Birth certificates for dependent children <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Custody documents and permission for the child to come to Canada, for children younger than 19 <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption papers	Applicant Spouse or common-law partner
Education (See Documents related to your education and training)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificates, diplomas, degrees, and transcripts <input type="checkbox"/> Educational credential assessment (ECA) <input type="checkbox"/> Licences or certificates you need for the work you plan to do in Nova Scotia	Applicant
Language (See Documents related to your ability to communicate in English or French)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Proof of English or French language ability	Applicant
Work Experience (See Documents related to your work experience)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Letters of reference from employers and supporting documents <input type="checkbox"/> Proof that your work experience was in a job that meets the criteria for NOC categories 0, 1, 2 or 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Work permit	Applicant

B) Document Checklist - Physicians with a Valid Job Offer

Check your documents against the list below. Be sure that you have all the documents we have requested in this guide. We may ask you for more information if we need it.

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
NSNP FORMS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> eNSNP 100 – Online application at novascotia.ca/ensnp<input type="checkbox"/> NSNP 50 – Use of a Representative (optional. Use only if a representative has helped you to complete and submit your application). See You may use a representative .<input type="checkbox"/> NSNP 60 – Authority to Release Personal Information (optional. Use only if you want us to send your application information to someone other than yourself or your representative). The person you choose will have access to information about your application but they will NOT be able to act on your behalf.	<p>Applicant Any dependents aged 19 and older</p>
Documents Related to the Nova Scotia Labour Market Priorities Stream for Physicians	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> A copy of your approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK<input type="checkbox"/> A copy of your Return of Service Agreement with the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness<input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the valid Letter of Interest from us (NSOI) See Documents related to your application to the Nova Scotia Labour Market Priorities Stream for Physicians	Applicant

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
Work Experience	
<input type="checkbox"/> Letters of reference from employers. See <u>Documents related to your work experience.</u>	Applicant
Education and Training	
<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of all certificates, diplomas, and degrees <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of your valid Education Credential Assessment (ECA) from the Medical Council of Canada See <u>Documents related to your education and training.</u>	Applicant
Language	
<input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of English or French language ability See <u>Documents related to your ability to communicate in English or French.</u>	Applicant
Immigration status	
<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of passport pages as described under Passports in this guide <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of proof of legal status for the country where you are currently living, including Canada <input type="checkbox"/> Previous temporary residence permits, if applicable and available <input type="checkbox"/> Letters from previous attempts to immigrate to Canada See <u>Documents related to your immigration status.</u>	Applicant Spouse or common-law partner Dependents

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
Accompanying family members (if applicable)	
<p>Copies of these documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Birth certificates for dependent children <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Declaration of Common-Law Union <input type="checkbox"/> Custody documents and permission for the child to come to Canada <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption papers <p>See <u>Documents related to your spouse and children if they are immigrating with you</u></p>	<p>Applicant Spouse or common-law partner</p>
Settlement Funds	
<p>You may provide one or both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> official banking statements from a financial institution for the past 3 months <input type="checkbox"/> statements for investment portfolio and fixed deposits and the terms and conditions for withdrawing these funds prior to maturity <p>See <u>Documents related to your move to Nova Scotia.</u></p>	<p>Applicant Spouse or common-law partner</p>

C) Document Checklist - Received Letter of Interest

Check your documents against the list below. Be sure that you have all the documents we have requested in this guide. We may ask you for more information if we need it.

Criteria and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
NSNP Forms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> eNSNP 100 – Online application at novascotia.ca/eNSNP<input type="checkbox"/> NSNP 50 – Use of a Representative (optional. Use only if a representative has helped you to complete and submit your application).<input type="checkbox"/> See You may use a representative.<input type="checkbox"/> NSNP 60 – Authority to Release Personal Information (optional. Use only if you want us to send your application information to someone other than yourself or your representative).<input type="checkbox"/> The person you choose will have access to information about your application, but they will NOT be able to act on your behalf.	<p>Applicant Any <u>dependents</u> aged 19 and older</p>
Documents Related to the Letter of Interest Category	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the valid Letter of Interest<input type="checkbox"/> Documents showing that you meet the <u>criteria for the draw</u> you have been invited to apply to<input type="checkbox"/> See Documents related to your application to the Nova Scotia Labour Market Priorities stream	Applicant
Work Experience	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> letters of reference from previous employers<input type="checkbox"/> Documents showing that you meet the criteria for one of IRCC's Express Entry streams<input type="checkbox"/> See <u>Documents related to your work experience</u>	Applicant
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement Funds 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may provide one or both of the following: • D Official banking statements from a financial institution for the past 3 months • D Statements for investment portfolio and fixed deposits and the terms and conditions for withdrawing these funds prior to maturity • See <u>Documents related to your move to Nova Scotia</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant • Spouse or common-law partner • Dependents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration Status 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D Copies of passport pages as described under <u>Passports</u> in this guide • D A copy of proof of legal status for the country where you are currently living, including Canada • D Letters from previous attempts to immigrate to Canada • See <u>Documents related to your immigration status</u>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant • Spouse or common-law partner • Dependents