

SKILLED MIGRATION | CANADA

Canadian Experience Class (CEC)

A fast pathway to Canadian permanent residency for skilled workers with Canadian work experience.

TIMELINE

6 months

JOB OFFER

Not required

FAMILY

Spouse, children up to
age 22

At a glance

COUNTRY Canada	ROUTE Skilled Migration - Points
TIMELINE 6 months	FAMILY MEMBERS Spouse, children up to age 22
LANGUAGE CLB 7 for TEER 0 & 1 jobs; CLB 5 for TEER 2 & 3 jobs	JOB OFFER Not required
LAST UPDATED 1 October 2026	

Overview

The **Canadian Experience Class (CEC)** is a fast and reliable Express Entry stream for skilled workers who have gained **eligible Canadian work experience**. It rewards in-country experience, language ability, and workforce integration as primary pathways to permanent residency.

Why Choose CEC

- Fast processing for in-country skilled workers
- No job offer or proof of settlement funds required
- Recognises Canadian experience, improving success chances
- Include family members in the application
- Clear route to citizenship after meeting residency obligations

Requirements

- Minimum 1 year of skilled Canadian work experience (1,560 hours) in the last 3 years.
- Work experience must be in NOC TEER 0, 1, 2 or 3 occupations.
- Meet language level requirements (CLB 7 for TEER 0/1; CLB 5 for TEER 2/3).
- Experience must have been gained while authorized to work in Canada.
- Intend to live outside Quebec.

When this route may not fit

- Not having at least 1 year of eligible Canadian work experience in the last 3 years.
- Failure to meet required language levels for your NOC category.
- Unverifiable employment or document discrepancies.

Skills, language and points

ACCEPTED TESTS

IELTS, CELPIP, TEF Canada, TCF Canada

MINIMUM LEVEL

CLB 7 for TEER 0 & 1 jobs; CLB 5 for TEER 2 & 3 jobs

Job offer: No job offer is required if you meet the Canadian work experience criteria.

Typical eligible occupations

- Skilled occupations in NOC TEER 0, 1, 2 or 3 (e.g., managers, professionals, technicians)

How the process works

1

Confirm Canadian Work Experience

Ensure you have 12 months (1,560 hours) of eligible work experience in the last 3 years.

2

Language Test

Take IELTS/CELPIP or TEF/TCF and meet CLB requirements for your NOC.

3

Create Express Entry Profile

Enter the Express Entry pool under the CEC stream.

4

Receive ITA

If selected, submit a complete PR application within 60 days.

5

Receive PR Approval

After processing, receive Confirmation of Permanent Residence and land in Canada.

Document checklist

Identity & Civil

- Passport and ID

Work Experience

- Employment letters, pay records, and tax statements

Language

- IELTS/CELPIP or TEF/TCF results

Health & Character

- Medical exam certificate
- Police clearance certificates

Questions clients ask

Do I need a job offer to apply under CEC?

No — CEC is based on Canadian work experience and does not require a job offer.

Is proof of funds required?

No. Canadian Experience Class applicants do not need to show proof of settlement funds.

Can part-time work count?

Yes — part-time counts if total hours reach 1,560 within the qualifying period.

Can I apply from outside Canada?

Yes, if your Canadian experience was obtained within the last 3 years and meets requirements.

How long does it take?

Processing generally averages around 6 months after submission of a complete PR application.

Important notes

- Canadian experience must be properly documented and gained while authorised to work in Canada.
- Express Entry cut-offs still decide selection. Recent Canadian Experience Class draws have had cut-offs of 516-523.
- NOC/TEER classifications can change; XIPHIAS checks the current classification for your role before filing.

Compliance

- The timeline shown on this page is XIPHIAS's own observed average from our case files, not an IRCC published figure. IRCC publishes live processing times through its own checker tool; your individual case can run faster or slower than either.
- IRCC charges a processing fee and a Right of Permanent Residence Fee for each adult applicant, and a processing fee for each dependent child. XIPHIAS confirms the current amounts on canada.ca before filing.

Official sources: IRCC — Canadian Experience Class: who can apply; IRCC — Check processing times.



NEXT STEP

Plan your Canada application with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will confirm whether **Canadian Experience Class (CEC)** fits, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

CALL OR WHATSAPP

+971 52 727 5101

EMAIL

dubai@xiphiasimmigration.com

WEBSITE

www.xiphiasimmigration.ae

OFFICE

Jumeirah Lakes Towers, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

CREDENTIALS

- Advising clients on global mobility since 2009; XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC in Dubai since 2017.
- Named Best Immigration Consultant by The Times of India in 2022.
- Canada files handled by a CICC-licensed Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, licence R516194.
- Australia files handled by a registered migration agent, MARA 1680615.

This brochure is produced from the programme information published at www.xiphiasimmigration.ae/skilled/canada/canadian-experience-class as at 1 October 2026. Rules, fees and processing times are set by the relevant government and can change, and approval is always the authority's decision. Please confirm the current position with us before you apply. XIPHIAS provides immigration consulting and documentation support. It is not a law firm, and nothing in this brochure is legal advice.