



The CANADA CHALLENGE



“Would you be a Canadian today?”

Would you or your ancestor have been eligible to immigrate to Canada if current immigration requirements had applied to you or them?

1. What age were you or your ancestor when you or they immigrated?

Age: _____

2. What was the highest level of education that you or your ancestor completed at this age?

- a) Some schooling; no high school diploma
- b) High school diploma
- c) High school diploma and some post-secondary/college courses
- d) One-year post-secondary degree/diploma
- e) Two-year post-secondary degree/diploma
- f) Post-secondary degree/diploma
- g) Two or more post-secondary degrees/diplomas
- h) Master's or professional degree
- i) Doctorate

3. At this age, did you or your ancestor speak, read, write, and understand French or English? If so, what was your or their general level of proficiency in the stronger language? *(To qualify as 'fluent' or 'advanced' they must have proficiency in all four areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.)*

- a) Fluent
- b) Advanced
- c) Intermediate
- d) Basic or none

4. What type of work did you or your ancestor do at this age?

- a) Homemaker/parent
- b) Cashier, Cleaner, Food support worker
- c) Office support, Clerk, Sales, Installer/repairer, Agricultural worker, Manufacturing, Customer service, Truck driver, Heavy equipment operator.
- d) Jobs which require technical vocational training (i.e., Administrative support, Chef, Law enforcement, Health support professional, Photographer, Graphic Artist, Retail supervisor, Mechanic)
- e) Professional/Regulated Job requiring university education (i.e., Accountant/Auditor, Engineer, Architect/Urban Planner, Actuary, IT professional, Scientist, Physician, Dentist, Veterinarian, Dietician, Lawyer, Professor, Teacher, Policy Researcher, Librarian, Archivist, etc.).
- f) Manager

5. How many years of full-time, continuous work experience did you or they have in the occupation selected above?

- a) Less than one year
- b) Two or three years
- c) Four or five years
- d) Six or more years

6. Would you or your ancestor have had a sufficient amount of available cash to facilitate your or their settlement in Canada? Please indicate if you or they would have had, in the year they immigrated, an amount of readily available cash equivalent to \$21,971 today.

- a) No
- b) Yes

7. Were you or your ancestor ever convicted of an offence in Canada or elsewhere, or did you or they have a close relative who was ever convicted of an offence?

- a) Yes
- b) No

8. Did you or your ancestor have an immediate family member with a serious illness or a disability?

- a) Yes
- b) No

9. Were you or your ancestor affiliated with a political movement that may have been considered “revolutionary”?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Total Points: _____
(See reverse to calculate)

1.

Age	Points
18–19	4
20	8
21–49	10
50+	0

2.

Answer	Points
a	Not eligible
b	5
c	15
d	15
e	19
f	21
g	22
h	23
i	25

3.

Answer	Points
a	24
b	16
c	Not eligible
d	Not eligible

4.

Answer	NOC (occupational category)	
a	No NOC classification	Not eligible
b	NOC D	Not eligible
c	NOC C	Not eligible
d	NOC B	Eligible
e	NOC A	Eligible
f	NOC 0	Eligible

5.

Answer	Points
a	Not eligible
b	9
c	11
d	13
e	15

6.

Answer	
a	Not eligible
b	Eligible

7.

Answer	
a	Not eligible
b	Eligible

8.

Answer	
a	Not eligible
b	Eligible

9.

Answer	
a	Not eligible
b	Eligible

10. Calculate your points:

TOTAL POINTS		
<i>If you received any "not eligible" subtract 1000 points from your score</i>	minus	–
TOTAL (Points – "non eligible")		
<i>Passing mark: Foreign Skilled Worker</i>		67
<i>Passing mark: MB Provincial Nominee</i>		60
Can you or your ancestor immigrate?		

"The Canada Challenge" quiz was created as an educational tool for the Migrant Worker Solidarity Network (www.mwsn.ca) and Migrante Manitoba by Alicia Dueck. (Last updated June 11, 2014)



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Explanation and Calculation of Points

Acronyms

FSWP (Federal Skilled Worker Program): A federal immigration stream designed to attract skilled workers to Canada.

CEC (Canadian Experience Class): A federal immigration stream designed to make it easier for individuals who already have experience studying or working in Canada to apply for permanent residency.

MB PNP (Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program): A provincial immigration stream designed to attract skilled workers to Manitoba.

CIC (Citizenship and Immigration Canada): The federal government department responsible for administering the Canadian immigration system.

NOC (National Occupational Classification): The system by which Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) categorizes occupations as high skilled or low skilled, generally based on the work performed and education required for a position.

1. Age

In the FSWP and MB PNP, points are given to an applicant based on their age: What was your answer?

Age	Points
18–19	4
20	8
21–49	10
50+	0

2. Education

The FSWP and CEC require applicants to meet minimum educational requirements, including holding a formal credential. This presents problems for individuals who may not have formal educational credentials, who may not have documentation that shows the education they have completed, or whose foreign education is not assessed to be equivalent to a Canadian education credential.

Answer	Points
a	Not eligible
b	5
c	15
d	15
e	19
f	21
g	22
h	23
i	25

3. Language Proficiency

Programs like the FSWP and CEC will generally not accept applicants who test below Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) Level 7 in their first official language. Applicants must meet or exceed CLB 7 in all four language areas (Speaking, Reading, Listening, and Writing). CLB 7 is a relatively high level of English comprehension, which is considered advanced intermediate. A listener at CLB 7, for example, can understand moderately complex formal and informal communication, including some abstract concepts.¹

CLB 8, one level higher, is the English level required to attend most universities in Canada. CEC will accept some individuals with CLB 5 if they are applying with experience in certain occupations. The MB PNP will accept applicants at CLB 4 if they are in an occupation classified as low skilled (NOC C or D).

Answer	Points
a	24
b	16
c	Not eligible
d	Not eligible

4. Occupation

Both the FSWP and CEC require the applicant to have some previous work experience. However, in both programs only applicants who have work experience in certain occupations are eligible. The FSWP and CEC streams will only accept applicants with work experience in jobs classified under the NOC as O, A, or B. Essentially, this means that they will accept individuals who have had management positions in some fields (NOC O), jobs which require university education (NOC A), and jobs with require some college/technical training (NOC B). Applicants need to have the documentation to prove that they held the position qualifying as NOC O, A, or B and show that they have performed the main duties set out in the government description of these occupations.

In the CEC program, even if applicants have one year of work experience in Canada at the NOC O, A, or B level, if they are a cook, food service supervisor, administrative assistant/officer, or a number of other specified occupations, they are ineligible to apply in accordance with Ministerial instructions.

Currently, in the FSWP applicants must not only have the relevant work experience, but must also have an arranged offer of employment, be enrolled in a PhD program, or have work experience in 24 specific occupations in order to be able to apply. Securing an arranged offer of employment is not an easy task, as it requires an employer to prove that they cannot find a Canadian citizen or

¹ CIC, *Canadian Language Benchmarks* (2012), www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/pub/language-benchmarks.pdf, pages X, 14.

permanent resident for the job, advertise the position for a specified period of time, and receive a positive Labour Market Opinion (government evaluation of the labour market).

Answer	NOC (occupational category)	
a	No NOC classification	Not eligible
b	NOC D	Not eligible
c	NOC C	Not eligible
d	NOC B	Eligible
e	NOC A	Eligible
f	NOC 0	Eligible

5. Work Experience

An applicant also receives points under the FSWP and MB PNP for years of work experience. This work experience is calculated based on continuous, full-time work in a single occupation. In the FSWP this work experience must be in the occupation in which the applicant intends to work within Canada. This is a problem for people who have switched jobs frequently or who do not have documentation to attest to their positions.

For example, an individual who has worked for 5 years as a grocery store clerk in one supermarket (with documentary proof of employment), followed by 12 months part-time work as a graphic artist (with documentary proof of employment), followed by 2 years full-time work as a graphic artist (no documentary proof of employment) would not be eligible to apply under the FSWP as a graphic artist as he does not have the required years of experience.

Answer	Points
a	Not eligible
b	9
c	11
d	13
e	15

6. Financial Resources

In order to be eligible for any of the immigration programs, applicants need to show that they have significant money available for resettlement. Currently, a family of four would need to show that they have \$21,971 in readily available funds.

Answer	
a	Not eligible
b	Eligible

# of Family Members	Funds Required
1	\$11,824
2	\$14,720
3	\$18,097
4	\$21,971
5	\$24,920
6	\$28,105
7 or more	\$31,291

7-9. Inadmissibility

There are a number of factors that can restrict someone's ability to successfully apply for permanent residency in Canada. Some of these include previous convictions, serious health conditions, a lack of liquid finances available for resettlement, misrepresentation, or having a family member who may be inadmissible for some reason. Even previous association with the military or with political groups who may have been or currently are deemed as "subversive" to the government could make someone inadmissible.

For example, if someone has a child with a serious health condition, their application for permanent residency may not be successful because the child would be considered inadmissible because their condition could put a strain on the social/health services of Canada. Also, if an applicant fails to disclose the existence of a family member on their application, they could also be found inadmissible and not allowed to enter Canada for two years (i.e., if an applicant for the MB PNP fails to disclose that they have a child from a previous relationship).

Answer	
a	Not eligible
b	Eligible

10. Total Points

The FSWP and MB PNP are point-based streams, which means that in addition to meeting the basic eligibility and minimum requirements set by CIC, applicants are also assessed points based on six selection factors (language proficiency, education, work experience, age, arranged employment, adaptability) and must exceed the passing mark set by CIC.

TOTAL POINTS		
<i>If you received any "not eligible" subtract 1000 points from your score</i>	minus	–
TOTAL (Points – "non eligible")		
<i>Passing mark: Foreign Skilled Worker</i>		67
<i>Passing mark: MB Provincial Nominee</i>		60
Can you or your ancestor immigrate?		

Note: Please note that this quiz and information sheet is meant to provide a general overview of some of the different factors assessed when an individual applies for Permanent Residency through the Federal Skilled Worker Program, Canadian Experience Class, or Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program. This quiz does not provide an accurate account of each program's specific requirements and assessment factors nor should it be regarded as accurate for the purposes of submitting an application for permanent residency in Canada.

Sources: Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, CIC Operational Manuals and Bulletins, CIC website.

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