

BACKGROUNDER

SASKATCHEWAN IMMIGRANT NOMINEE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

November 2013

Consultations

Between June and August of 2013, the Government of Saskatchewan held consultations regarding the future of the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP). Following the consultations, the government is now announcing improvements to the SINP based on the feedback received from stakeholders, which will be effective January 2, 2014.

Program Enhancements

The SINP's nine categories have been combined into three main categories: International Skilled Worker, Saskatchewan Experience, and Entrepreneur and Farm. Changes have been made to eligibility requirements to increase program efficiencies and improve program outcomes.

The SINP will launch an exclusively electronic system for the submission of applications. The new online system will increase efficiencies and result in faster processing times, thereby increasing the program's responsiveness to the needs of employers.

International Skilled Worker Category

The International Skilled Worker Category is for skilled workers who want to work and live in Saskatchewan. This category enables the SINP to nominate individuals with high human capital that have the education, experience, language and adaptability to economically establish and successfully integrate into Saskatchewan's communities. Criteria include:

- The point rating system focuses on employment offers, education, work experience, language ability, and family connections;
- Applicants must have a minimum language score of Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 4;
- Applicants intending to work in regulated professions must obtain and provide the appropriate Saskatchewan qualification recognition or licensure to practice their profession; and
- Applicants that do not have a skilled job offer from an approved Saskatchewan employer require proof of settlement funds and must submit a settlement plan.

The new point rating system and application guide will be posted on the immigration website prior to the new category being launched on January 2, 2014.

Saskatchewan Experience Category

The Saskatchewan Experience Category is for foreign workers currently working and living in Saskatchewan. Streams under this category have specific requirements based on particular skill sets or employment prerequisites. They include the following:

- Existing Work Permit (no changes to criteria)
- Health Professions (no changes to criteria)
- Hospitality Sector Pilot Project (no changes to criteria)
- Long Haul Truck Drivers (no changes to criteria)
- Students (please see changes listed below)

Changes to the Student streams include:

- Saskatchewan graduates will be required to have a skilled job offer or a job offer requiring post-secondary education. (Work experience requirement continues to be six months)
- Out of province graduates will be required to have a skilled job offer or a job offer requiring post-secondary education and they must work in Saskatchewan for two years prior to application.

Entrepreneur and Farm

The new Entrepreneur and Farm Category sub-categories will be consolidated into three streams: Entrepreneur, Farm Owners/Operators, and Young Farmers.

Contact Us

We have customer service staff available to answer questions about the changes. Phone inquiries can be directed to: (306) 798-7467 and e-mail inquiries can be sent to immigration@gov.sk.ca.