



BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON
SKILLS IMMIGRATION STREAM CHANGES
FOR RECENT GRADUATES

In January 2025, the British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP) will launch three new streams designed for recent graduates with Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate degrees. This document offers more details about these upcoming changes.

Updates may occur without prior notice. Please check the [Guides, forms, reports and documents page of our website](#) to ensure you are reading the most up-to-date version.

Once the new graduate streams are launched, a revised edition of the BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide will be released, outlining the full stream criteria. At that time, this document will be removed.

In case of any discrepancies between this document and the BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide, the published Guide will serve as the official policy.

For more information, please contact:

The BC Provincial Nominee Program
Email: PNPInfo@gov.bc.ca
Website: <http://www.WelcomeBC.ca/PNP>

Contents

Overview of 2025 Changes	4
Important Dates	4
Eligible Post-Secondary Institutions and Programs	5
Certificate/Diploma Programs	5
Applicable Policies	6
Job Offers.....	6
Language Proficiency Criteria	7
Registration Information.....	7
Accepted Documents	8

Overview of 2025 Changes

- **What is being updated?**
 - The BC PNP is updating its streams for recent graduates. The current International Graduate and International Post-Graduate streams will be replaced by three new streams, Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate.
 - Please refer to our [news post](#) on March 19, 2024, for more information.

Important Dates

- **When is the latest date to register for the International Graduate stream?**
 - The final invitations to apply for the International Graduate stream, including the Express Entry option, will be issued in November 2024.
 - This will ensure invited registrants can apply before the International Graduate stream is replaced.
- **What happens to International Graduate stream registrations that don't receive an invitation to apply before the stream is discontinued?**
 - Registrants who have not received an invitation to apply will be notified when the final invitations for this stream have been issued.
 - To be considered for future invitations to apply, a new registration will need to be submitted to another program stream.
- **When is the latest date to apply for the International Post-Graduate stream?**
 - Applications to the International Post-Graduate stream will be accepted until 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 7th, 2025.
- **When will the new streams be open for submissions?**
 - The new Bachelor's and Master's programs will begin accepting registrations in the second week of January 2025.
 - The Doctorate stream will open for direct applications starting the second week of January 2025.

Eligible Post-Secondary Institutions and Programs

- **What degrees will be eligible for the Bachelor's or Master's streams?**
 - All degrees must be from a B.C. post-secondary institution that is authorized to grant degrees. Please see the [B.C. government's website for information about authorized post-secondary institutions in B.C.](#)
- **What degrees will be eligible for the Doctorate stream?**
 - Doctoral degrees must be granted by a public university in B.C.
 - PhD students who have been admitted to candidacy at a B.C. public university can also apply for the Doctorate stream.
- **Will there be a list of approved programs for the new student streams?**
 - The BC PNP will not have a list of programs of study for the new streams.
 - Recent graduates from degree programs in any field may be eligible for the new student streams if they meet the specific criteria for these streams.
- **Will Distance Education and Location of Education criteria change?**
 - No, distance education learning programs either from abroad or from within Canada are not eligible.

Certificate/Diploma Programs

- **Will graduates of non-degree programs be able to apply for the Bachelor's stream?**
 - No, the Bachelor's stream is for graduates of bachelor's degree programs from eligible post-secondary institutions.
 - If they qualify, graduates of non-degree education programs, including certificates, diplomas, associate degrees, or post-graduate diplomas, may register/apply for one of the other BC PNP streams, such as Skilled Worker, Health Authority and Entry Level and Semi-Skilled (ELSS).
 - Recent graduates with a certificate or diploma in early childhood education from a B.C. public institution and who have a job offer as a certified ECE can apply to the Skilled Worker stream and have their education counted instead of that stream's two-year experience criteria.

Applicable Policies

- **I have just graduated from a post-secondary institution in B.C. How will I know what policies will apply to me?**
 - Current program policies for the BC PNP's Skills Immigration streams are found in the 'BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide.' This guide is published on the [Guides, forms, reports and documents](#) page.
 - Applicants must meet all program criteria that are in place when their registration (if applicable) and application is submitted to the BC PNP.
- **What if the policy changes after I apply but before I receive a decision on my application?**
 - Once you have submitted your application, you will not be affected by any policy changes that are introduced after that date. The BC PNP will assess your application according to the policies that were in place on the date that you applied.
 - The only applications that will be affected by policy changes are applications that are submitted after the new policies are published in the BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide. This guide is found on our [Guides, forms, reports, and documents](#) page.
- **Will any applicants be 'grandfathered' under the previous policies after the new streams are launched?**
 - No, after the new policies are published in the BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide there will be no bridging or 'grandfathering' of applicants under the previous policies.

Job Offers

- **Will the job offer for the Bachelor's and Master's streams be limited to a certain 'list' of positions?**
 - The new streams for recent graduates will not be limited to a list of eligible occupations.
 - Job offers for the Bachelor's and Master's stream will be required to be in NOC TEER 1, 2, or 3. NOC TEER 0 occupations will not be eligible for either the Bachelor's or the Master's streams.

- The Bachelor's stream will require an indeterminate, full-time job offer unless the job offer is in a priority technology occupation; job offers in a priority technology occupation need to be full-time and at least one year in duration.
- The Master's stream will require a full-time job offer of at least one year in duration.
- All job offers will need to meet program criteria as explained in the [BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide](#).
- The BC PNP will continue to issue targeted invitations to apply to qualified candidates with a job offer in a program priority.

Language Proficiency Criteria

- **What will the language proficiency levels be?**
 - A minimum of Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 8 is currently being planned for the new streams.
 - The minimum language proficiency will also be increased for the Skilled Worker and Entry Level and Semi-Skilled (ELSS) streams of the BC PNP.
 - Further details will be announced in January 2025, when the updated BC PNP Skills Immigration Program Guide is published.

Registration Information

- **What is the difference between a BC PNP 'registration' and an 'application'?**
 - A registration is a preliminary step in which you provide the BC PNP with information that the program uses to determine which candidates should be invited to apply.
 - The information you provide in a Skills Immigration registration is used in a points-based system to help the BC PNP manage applications. This system ranks applications, selects candidates and issues invitations to apply.
 - If you receive an invitation, you must submit your BC PNP application within 30 calendar days.
 - A registration can be submitted without paying a fee. When an application is submitted, the application fee must be paid, and all required documents must be submitted.

- Submitting a registration to one of the Skills Immigration streams does not guarantee that you will be invited to apply.
- **What are the points based on?**
 - Registration scores are based on **human capital** and **economic** factors.
 - Human capital factors include directly related work experience, education and language proficiency in English or French.
 - Economic factors include the wage of the B.C. job offer and its location in B.C.
- **I have a bachelor's degree from a B.C. post-secondary institution. Will I have to compete against people with B.C. master's degrees?**
 - No, there will be separate streams for each degree level.
 - Bachelor's stream candidates will be considered alongside other bachelor's candidates, and master's stream candidates will be considered alongside other master's candidates.

Accepted Documents

- **What if I completed my program of study in B.C., but I don't have my degree yet?**
 - For both the International Graduate and the International Post-Graduate streams, students must have completed their program of study at the time of application to the BC PNP.
 - You must submit one of the following with your application:
 - A copy of your degree.
 - A letter from your B.C. university confirming the completion of all required courses.
 - A copy of your official transcript showing the date that you completed all requirements of the degree program.