MANITOBA PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM (MPNP)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE MANITOBA PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM (MPNP)?

The MPNP is an economic immigration program administered by the provincial government of Manitoba together with the federal government of Canada. The program is designed to attract people who are skilled workers to live and stay in Manitoba. Through this program, an individual can receive a nomination certificate from the Province of Manitoba and apply to become a permanent resident of Canada through Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).

The MPNP has different streams through which it is possible to apply for permanent residence. These streams include the Skilled Worker Overseas (SWO), Skilled Worker in Manitoba (SWM) and the Business Stream. This information sheet only provides information regarding the SWM stream for international student graduates of a Manitoba institution.

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH AN ISS IMMIGRATION ADVISOR:

E: <u>iss@uwinnipeg.ca</u> P: 204-786-9469

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to apply through the Skilled Worker in Manitoba (SWM) stream as an international student graduate you must:

- ✓ Have received a Letter of Advice to Apply (LAA);
- ✓ Have attended and completed an educational, vocational, or post-secondary program of at least 8 months (1 academic year), full-time studies in length (i.e.: Undergraduate degree) at an authorized institution in Manitoba (The University of Winnipeg is an authorized institution)¹
- ✓ Hold a valid Post-Graduation Work Permit² issued by IRCC;
- ✓ Have a permanent/long-term, continuous job offer from a Manitoba employer for whom you have been working
 for at least 6 months full-time while holding a Post-Graduation Work Permit;
- ✓ Intend to live and work in Manitoba as a permanent resident and can demonstrate this intention in your application;
- ✓ Have a connection to Manitoba through employment which is stronger than any ties that you may have to another Canadian province; and
- ✓ Meet minimum language requirements to fulfill the duties of your job (minimum of CLB 4³).

HOW TO APPLY

Applying for permanent residence through the Skilled Worker in Manitoba stream is a multi-step process:

STEP 1: Create an online account with MPNP online

You can create an online account via the MPNP website at www.immigratemanitoba.com (please see ISS's information sheet 'Submitting an Expression of Interest').

STEP 2: Create an Expression Of Interest (EOI) Profile, Receive EOI Ranking Points & Submit an EOI

After logging into your MPNP Online account, create an EOI profile and answer questions about your personal circumstances. The questions will assess your eligibility for the Skilled Worker in Manitoba Stream as well as the Skilled Worker Overseas stream. You will be given EOI Ranking Points based on factors including: language proficiency, age, work experience, education and adaptability. You may also have points deducted from your total score if certain risk factors apply to you. After providing all of the required information, submit your EOI.

STEP 3: Be selected in a 'Draw' and issued a Letter of Advice to Apply (LAA)

The MPNP will select the top candidates who have the most EOI Ranking Points in periodic 'draws'. These people will be issued a Letter of Advice to Apply (LAA). Those who are not selected and issued a LAA, may be selected in a future draw. An EOI profile remains active for 1 year. At the end of that period, if you have still not been selected in a draw, you would be required to submit a new EOI profile to be considered in a later draw.

STEP 4: Submit a full application to the MPNP within 60 days

Within 60 days of receiving your LAA, you must submit your full application to the MPNP through MPNP Online and upload all supporting documents. The application fee is \$500/family.

STEP 5: Receive Provincial Nomination & apply for permanent residence through Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

If your application to the MPNP is successful, you will receive a nomination certificate from the Province of Manitoba. With this nomination, you may apply for permanent residence to IRCC. If you meet all of the requirements of the MPNP and are not inadmissible⁴ to Canada, IRCC may issue you a permanent resident visa. The total fee (application fee and right of permanent residence fee) is \$1,040 for a single person with no dependents.

ABOUT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

How many EOI Ranking Points will I get?

EOI Ranking Points are given based on 6 different factors. Many international student graduates who meet the eligibility criteria for the Skilled Worker in Manitoba stream are expected to receive a high number of EOI Ranking Points. You can use the EOI Ranking Point Worksheet at the end of this document as a guide to see how many points you may receive. You may also wish to look at the EOI Ranking Point Example at the end of this document.

Am I guaranteed to receive a Letter of Advice to Apply (LAA)?

There is no guarantee that you will receive a Letter of Advice to Apply and be able to submit a full application to the MPNP. The MPNP will have periodic draws where those with the highest number of EOI Ranking Points will be given a LAA. If you are not immediately given a LAA, you may be selected at a later date. Your EOI Profile will remain active for 1 year, which means that anytime within that period, you could be drawn and issued a LAA.

What is the minimum number of EOI Ranking Points required?

There is no minimum number of EOI Ranking Points required. However, in order to ensure that you will be 'drawn' and issued a LAA, you want to try to achieve the highest number of EOI Ranking Points possible. Each time a draw occurs, MPNP will post the lowest EOI Ranking Point score for that particular draw on the MPNP website

(http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/category/mpnp-notices/eoi-draw/). You can review this website to see how your EOI Ranking Points compare with the lowest ranked candidates issued a LAA. Remember that the number of people who

have submitted an EOI is always changing and therefore, the number of points you may need to be issued a LAA may change.

What type of information should I provide in my EOI?

You should provide accurate, truthful responses to all questions. Remember, you only get points based on your <u>current</u> situation. This means that if you have not graduated yet, you cannot receive points for the education you are currently undertaking. Likewise, if you have not completed a recent, authorized language test, you cannot receive points for your language skills in the EOI. If your information changes, you can update your EOI with the most current information. **IF YOU PROVIDE INCORRECT INFORMATION ON YOUR**

NOTE: Only provide current, true information on your EOI that you will be able to demonstrate with documentation. IF YOU PROVIDE INCORRECT INFORMATION ON YOUR EOI, YOU COULD BE FOUND GUILTY OF MISREPRESENTATION AND INELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT A FUTURE APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE FOR TWO YEARS.

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How do I know if I need to submit the results from a language test?

You are required to submit language tests results with your EOI if you are currently working in a job which is classified as 'lower or semi-skilled'. Lower or Semi-Skilled jobs are those which are classified in the National Occupation Classification (NOC) as skill level C or D. Although language tests are not required from all applicants, many applicants submit the results

REMEMBER: Make sure all of the information in your EOI profile is accurate and up-to-date. Make sure to update your EOI if there any changes in family, address, education, job circumstances, etc.

from a recent language test in their EOI in order to score points for language in the EOI Ranking Points. If you do not submit results from an authorized language test, you will not receive points under the language category of the EOI Ranking Point, which may reduce your chances of succeeding in the draw and receiving a LAA. For more information on language requirements, please see the MPNP website: http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/apply-to-mpnp/language/.

Which language tests are accepted?

If you provide the results of a language test with your EOI, you must submit language test results which are no more than 2 years old. The CELPIP-General and IELTS-General are the accepted English language tests. For more information on language requirements, please see the MPNP website: http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/apply-to-mpnp/language/.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the application fee?

There is no application fee for submitting an EOI. However, you must pay a \$500 application fee per family if you submit a full application to the MPNP. If you are successful in receiving a Certificate of Nomination from the province (Step 5), you will be required to pay a processing fee of \$550 to Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) with your application for permanent residence (additional fees apply if you are including family members in your application). If granted permanent residence by IRCC, you will also be required to pay the Right of Permanent Residence Fee, which is \$490 (additional fees apply if you are including family members in your application).

What types of documents will I need to provide?

You are not required to submit any supporting documents with your EOI application. However, if you receive a LAA you will be required to provide supporting documents which support any claim that you have made on your EOI. In addition, you can expect that you will need to provide scanned copies of the following documents when submitting a full MPNP application:

- Birth certificate(s) for you and any family members;
- Letter of Employment/Employment Offer from current employer(letter must be on company letterhead, signed by the employer and must confirm the completion of a minimum of six months of continuous full-time work, salary/wage information, length of job offer and details of the position and duties);
- Proof of employment from any other job for which you have claimed points under EOI;
- Degree/diploma/certificate and final transcripts from The University of Winnipeg and any other educational program completed, including high school;
- Passport (Picture page, details page, entry stamps and visas if country of residence differs from country of citizenship) for you and any family members;
- Post-Graduation Work Permit;
- Current & previous Canadian Study Permits, Work Permits, and/or Visas for you and any family members;
- Proof of language ability (see http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/mpnp-for-skilled-workers/language);
- Proof of settlement funds (i.e.: bank statements, proof of additional assets or debts).
- Marriage certificate and/or other proof of marital/common-law partner status;
- Degree/diploma/certificate and final transcripts for any educational program completed by spouse/partner; and
- Birth certificates, custody agreements, adoption papers, etc. and passports if you have dependents;

If you are successful in obtaining a Certificate of Nomination from the Province of Manitoba, you will be required to submit additional documents, or copies of documents, as well as new forms, to Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to support your application for permanent residence. Some of the documents you may be asked to provide include:

- Police certificates/checks from every country where you have lived since the age of 18;
- Photos meeting IRCC specifications;
- Proof of identity, such as a birth certificate or national identity document;
- Proof of language ability (see http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/apply-to-mpnp/language/);
- Passport; and
- Medical exam by a IRCC authorized panel physician.

All documents in a language other than English or French must be accompanied by a certified translation⁶. Please check the MPNP or IRCC website for a complete list of required documents.

How long does the process take from the time that I submit a full MPNP application?

The application processing time varies depending on individual circumstances. MPNP does not post any processing times on their website. You will be notified by email about whether you have been 'nominated' by the province for permanent residence. For information on processing times for step 5 of the application process (submitting an application for permanent residence to Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), please visit the IRCC website:

http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/times/perm/provincial.asp. In many cases, it can take 1-2 years from the start of the application process until obtaining permanent residence.

What type of work experience do I need in order to submit an EOI?

The MPNP Skilled Worker in Manitoba stream does not require that you have work experience in a specific field, level, or occupation. As long as you meet the general eligibility criteria outlined on page 1 of this document, you can apply.

What is considered 'full-time employment' in the MPNP?

Full-time employment constitutes a minimum of 30 hours/week. Shift work, in which you may have variable hours each week, can be considered if you can demonstrate that you have an average of 30 hours/week over a six month period.

Does the work that I did before I received my Post-Graduation Work Permit count towards the 6 months of required work experience?

Work completed while studying full-time and holding a Study Permit does not count towards the minimum 6 months of full-time work experience required. Also, work completed while undertaking an internship while on a Co-op Work Permit does not count towards the minimum required work experience. Only work which you completed after meeting all of the requirements of your academic program can be counted towards the 6 month total. For example, some students are eligible to begin working full-time after they have received their final grades and have applied for a Post-Graduation Work Permit. Although it may take a month or more to receive their Post-Graduation Work Permit any work completed during this period by such students could be counted towards the minimum 6 months of work experience required to apply for the MPNP.

What if I want to include a family member in my MPNP application?

Only spouses, common-law partners, or dependent children⁷ can be added to your application as family members. You cannot include parents, grandparents, siblings, or other relatives as family members in your MPNP application. Additionally, it is important that you are honest and tell MPNP/IRCC about the existence of your spouse, common-law partner, and/or dependent children regardless of whether or not you hope or intend for them to immigrate to Canada. You will need to provide documentation attesting to your relationship to each of your family members, as well as other applicable documents if submitting a full MPNP application.

Who is not eligible to apply to the MPNP?

If you have a spouse/common-law partner who is a permanent resident or citizen of Canada, you are not eligible to apply for permanent residence through the MPNP. Likewise, refugee claimants (or those involved in a federal appeal or removal process) and live-in caregivers cannot submit an application to the MPNP. Individuals who have an active immigration application with another provincial nomination program or who have been refused by the MPNP within the last 6 months are also ineligible to apply to the MPNP. Please contact an ISS immigration advisor for more information.

I plan to move to another province. Can I still apply to the MPNP?

No. The MPNP is for individuals who plan to settle in Manitoba. If you intend to move to another province and not settle in Manitoba, you are not eligible for the MPNP. If you are planning to live outside of Manitoba, consider applying through one of the other economic immigration streams such as the Federal Skilled Worker Class or the Canadian Experience Class. Potentially, you might also be eligible to apply under another province's Provincial Nominee program.

What if I change my job or address after submitting my EOI or full MPNP application?

You must update your EOI if there are any changes in family status, employment, contact information, etc. by logging in to *MPNP Online*. If you have already submitted a full MPNP application, it is important to contact the MPNP by email or *MPNP Online* to discuss your individual situation to find out how a change in employment or other life circumstances could impact your application. As all application results are mailed to the address that you indicated when you applied, it is very important to notify MPNP of any change in address. Each application and any changes in individual circumstances are assessed on a case by case basis by the MPNP staff.

If I receive the nomination from the MPNP, am I guaranteed permanent residence?

The final decision on whether you will be issued a permanent resident visa is made by IRCC. When you submit your application for permanent residence to IRCC (step 5), they will look at your *bona fides* (do you have the intention to stay

in Manitoba) as well as any medical, security, or other inadmissibility concerns. If IRCC believes that you are unlikely to settle in Manitoba or are inadmissible for any reason, IRCC can refuse your application.

What if my Post-Graduation Work Permit will expire before I become a Permanent Resident?

If your Post-Graduation Work Permit will expire soon and you have received a Nomination Certificate from the MPNP, you may be eligible to apply for a new Work Permit through IRCC with a Work Support Letter from the MPNP. For more information, please contact MPNP or speak with an ISS Immigration Advisor.

What if I have questions?

- Free MPNP information session every Thursday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. at MPNP offices (7th floor, 213 Notre Dame Ave). Call 204-945-2806 to reserve your place at the information session.
- Email: immigratemanitoba@gov.mb.ca. The MPNP does not respond to any questions by telephone. MPNP does not accept inquiries regarding the status of an application following submission.
- MPNP website: <u>www.immigratemanitobca.com.</u>
- IRCC website: www.cic.gc.ca. (For information on other economic immigration programs, such as the Express Entry (Canadian Experience Class, Federal Skilled Worker Program, Federal Skilled Trades Program) or the Start-Up visa program).
- ISS Staff. You can book an appointment with a staff member by emailing iss@uwinnipeg.ca or calling 204-786-9469.

CLB EQUIVALENCY CHART

| International English Language Testing System (IELTS) General Training – Test score equivalency chart | | | | | Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) General 2014 Test score equivalency chart for reports issued on or after April 1, 2014 | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|---------|----------|--|-----------|---------|---------|----------|
| CLB Level | Listening | Reading | Writing | Speaking | CLB Level | Listening | Reading | Writing | Speaking |
| 9+ | 8.0-9.0 | 7.0-9.0 | 7.0-9.0 | 7.0-9.0 | 9+ | 9+ | 9+ | 9+ | 9+ |
| 8 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 7 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| 6 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 5 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 4 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

| Assessment Factor | Ranking Points | My Ranking Points |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Factor 1: Language Proficien | су | |
| First Official Language | | |
| CLB 8 or higher | 25 per band | x= |
| CLB 7 | 22 per band | x= |
| CLB 6 | 20 per band | x= |
| CLB 5 | 17 per band | x= |
| CLB 4 | 12 per band | x= |
| CLB 3 or lower Second Official Language | 0 | |
| CLB 5 or higher (overall) | 25 | |
| MAXIMUM POINTS/TOTAL | 125 | |
| Factor 2: Age | | |
| 18 | 20 | |
| 19 | 30 | |
| 20 | 40 | |
| 21 to 45 | 75 | |
| 46 | 40 | |
| 47 | 30 | |
| 48 | 20 | |
| 49 | 10 | |
| 50 or older | 0 | |
| MAXIMUM POINTS/TOTAL | 75 | |
| Factor 3: Work Experience | | |
| Less than 1 year | 0 | |
| 1 year | 40 | |
| 2 years | 50 | |
| 3 years | 60 | |
| 4 years or more | 75 | |
| Fully recognized by provincial licensing body | 100 | |
| MAXIMUM POINTS/TOTAL Factor 4: Education | 175 | |
| Masters degree or Doctorate | 125 | |
| Two post-secondary programs of at least 2 years each | 115 | |
| One post-secondary program of three years or more | 110 | |
| One post-secondary program of two years | 100 | |
| One-year post-secondary program | 70 | |
| Trade certificate | 70 | |
| No formal post-secondary education | 0 | |
| MAXIMUM POINTS/TOTAL | 125 | |
| Factor 5: Adaptability | | |
| Close relative in Manitoba | 200 | |
| Previous work experience in Manitoba (6 months or more) | 100 | |
| Completed post-secondary program in Manitoba (2 years or more) | 100 | |
| Completed post-secondary program in Manitoba (one year) | 50 | |
| Close friend or distant relative in Manitoba | 50 | |
| Ongoing employment in Manitoba for 6 months or more with long term job offer from | 500 | |
| the same employer | 500 | |
| Invitation to Apply under the Strategic Initiative Immigration destination is outside of Winnipeg | 50 | |
| MAXIMUM POINTS/TOTAL | 500 | |
| Factor 6: Risk Assessment | | |
| Close relative in another province and no close relative in MB | 0 | |
| | -100 | |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | -100 | |
| Work experience in another province | | |
| Work experience in another province Studies in another province | -100 -100 0 | |
| Work experience in another province | -100 | |

http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/immigrate-to-manitoba/general-mpnp-policies/eligible-dependants/. Please note that the federal regulations regarding dependent children have also changed in October 2017.

ⁱ Individuals, who have graduated from a Canadian institution outside of Manitoba, may be eligible to apply under this stream if they meet the eligibility criteria listed below AND after completing 1 year of full-time continuous work in Manitoba and with a permanent, full-time job offer from the same Manitoba employer. Individuals who have solely completed English as a Second Language or French as a Second Language Studies are not eligible to apply under this stream of the MPNP.

² In some circumstances, foreign nationals may be eligible to apply through this stream with a work permit obtained through a positive LMIA.

³ Language tests are only mandatory if your work experience is in an occupation classified as NOC C or D. However, many applicants provide valid language tests in order to secure EOI Ranking Points.

⁴ If you are 'inadmissible', it means that you are not allowed to enter Canada. There are many different reasons that someone might be inadmissible. For example, if someone has had a criminal conviction, lied on an immigration application, or has a serious medical condition he or she could be inadmissible and not eligible to enter Canada. To find out more about inadmissibility, please see this information page: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/infORmation/inadmissibility/index.asp.

⁵ For more information regarding misrepresentation, please visit: http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/immigrate-to-manitoba/general-mpnp-policies/truthful-and-correct-information/.

⁶ MPNP will accept translated documents by a certified English/French translator or any person other than the principal applicant's spouse, a member of the principal applicant's family, or a paid third party that has assisted and prepared the application to the MPNP. For more information, please see: http://www.immigratemanitoba.com/document-translation/?preview=true.

⁷ Dependent children are defined as a child who depends on their parent for financial and other support and is: under 22 years old, and does not have a spouse or partner; or is 22 years old or over, and has dependent largely on the parent's financial support since before the age of 22 because of a physical or mental condition. For more information, please see: