

The Atlantic Immigration Pilot Project

January 2017

Atlantic Immigration Pilot Project

- Council of Atlantic Premiers and federal Atlantic Ministers announced an Atlantic Growth Strategy on July 4, 2016. Pilot was launched January 2017.
- As part of this strategy an Atlantic Immigration Pilot was announced that will see an additional of 2,000 immigrants across Atlantic Canada per year for 3 years.
 - NB's target is an additional 640 to 850 newcomers, plus families, per year.

Objectives of Immigration Pilot

- Increased allocation of immigrants per year.
 - Ensuring that the Province maintains its unique linguistic balance
- Intended to help address key labour market needs.
- Focused on retention
 - Increased involvement of employer

Pilot Program Pathways

- Atlantic High-Skilled Class
 - NOC O,A,B
- Atlantic Intermediate-Skilled Class
 - NOC C
- Atlantic International Graduate Class
 - Has a 2 year diploma from publicly funded institution in Atlantic Canada
 - No work experience required

Foreign National Eligibility Criteria

- **Job Offer:** Permanent full-time job offer
- **Education:** Canadian high-school equivalent demonstrated by an educational credential assessment (ECA)
- **Language:** Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) level 4 (demonstrated by test) in one of the two official languages
- **Work Experience:** One year of work experience in a related occupation
 - International graduates who have received a two-year diploma from a publicly funded institution in the Atlantic Provinces would not require work experience

Employer Responsibilities

- Demonstrate their labour market need.
- Recruit and provide a fulltime job offer at comparable industry wage.
- Work with settlement agencies, community, and other stakeholders to support settlement and retention of the new employee and their families.
 - Includes developing an individualized settlement plan per foreign national employee and their family
 - Foster a welcoming workplace

Process

1. Employers complete “Employer Designation Application”
2. Employer, settlement agency, and community work together to ensure “critical success factors” of retention are in place
3. Employers to recruit and provide job offer to foreign national
4. Employer and foreign national apply to Province for “Endorsement” and attach individualized settlement plan
5. Foreign National applies to Canada to become permanent resident
6. Foreign national begins work and receives settlement services
7. Measuring and Reporting