

### *Our Decision*

The McCrea team has been pouring over the new PR Pathways announced by IRCC on 12 April 2021, and have come the decision that we **will not be accepting retainers to prepare and file applications in these pathways on program launch day**. Here is what we considered in making this decision:

- the New Pathways open on 6 May, and will comprise only **40k places** in the International Graduate stream, and **50k places** in the Temporary Worker stream (leaving aside those with French language proficiency). We are unclear exactly when on 6 May the Pathways will open, but we expect it could be as early as midnight UTC on that date;
- we have been learned that lawyers will NOT have the option of filing these applications through their IRCC “representative portals”. Rather, applicants must e-sign and file through their individual MyCIC portals, and lawyers will only able to link to their portals after filing;
- the program guides have not yet been published. As such, we don’t know what is going to be required, nor the answers to many of the most pressing eligibility questions. The soonest these materials will land in our hands is three days before program launch;
- If the guides are only published at launch (as we now suspect) – we won’t know what to request in advance, and likely will have no opportunity to get clients’ pre-approval on contents before submission; and
- When IRCC opened a similar program in recent history (for parents and grandparents), 30k spots were snatched up in 5 minutes or less, so we are concerned about significant volume at program launch, and are worried that a delay in collecting/verifying client information could cause clients to lose a spot in their desired program.

### *Our Recommendation*

For the reasons cited above, we have decided that handling applications on a “full representation” basis will potentially prejudice our clients, since filing within minutes of launch may prove critical. As such, we are recommending that prospective applicants do the following:

- create their own portals (IRCC is creating a separate portal for this stream), and then log in before midnight UTC on 6 May to await program launch;
  - gather the documents listed below before program launch;
  - once guides are published, read them before quickly/accurately preparing the actual application and submitting it as quickly as possible, being sure to print/save copies along the way;
  - prepare and include a letter to the department explaining any ambiguities in the prepared application, and upload it with the application (accuracy and clarity is more important than grammar and spelling);
  - if any questions arise during application preparation, book a consultation with one of our lawyers for assistance communicating with the department after the fact, or to have us monitor application progress.
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## Documents to Gather

What follows is our best guess as to what you will likely require, but as we have said, we can't promise that this list is correct or complete because no checklist or guide has yet been published. We have listed current IRCC forms, but it is entirely possible that applicants will be asked to input contents into a single electronic form. That said, completing these forms will elicit all the information you will likely require on the day:

- Both streams:
  - o Complete an [IMM0008 form](#) for the principal applicant (with all dependents listed, whether they are seeking permanent residency or not);
  - o Complete (and sign) [Schedule A forms](#) for the principal applicant and each dependent child over the age of 18 (whether those dependents are seeking permanent residency or not);
  - o Complete (and sign) [Additional Family Information forms](#) for the principal applicant and every dependent over the age of 18 (whether those dependents are seeking permanent residency or not);
  - o Scan birth certificates for every immediate family member under the age of 22 (or at least a google translations and a note that official translation will be sent later);
  - o Scan copies of passport ID pages for every immediate family member under the age of 22;
  - o Current status documents for the principal applicant and all immediate family members in Canada;
  - o Official CELPIP/IELTS report for the principal applicant showing band scores at or above CLB 5 (for International Graduates stream) or CLB 4 (for Temporary Workers stream);
  - o Official TEF/TCF results for anyone claiming French proficiency;
  - o Police clearance certificates for all countries where the principal applicant, spouse and dependent children have resided for 6+ consecutive months in the last 10 years EXCEPT Canada. If these clearances can't be obtained in time, we recommend uploading proof that they have been **applied** for;
  - o Digital photos of all immediate family members under age 22 will likely be required (taken with a mobile phone should suffice);
  - o Proof of a completed immigration medical examination for the principal applicant, spouse and any dependent children (whether accompanying or not) may be required. Applicants may wish to book up-front medicals with a [panel physician](#) in advance of 6 May, but if this is not possible, we recommend uploading a letter stating when the appointment is booked; and
  - o A marriage certificate, if applicable, with certified translation.
- If applying in the international graduate stream:
  - o Copy of the certificate of completion from the school, and proof that the applicant completed a qualifying credential as described in the policy;
  - o Copies of study permits to prove that the applicant was authorized to study throughout the qualifying program;
  - o Proof of employment in Canada (including copies of the principal applicant's work permits, employer's address and start date);



- If applying in the temporary worker stream:
  - o Proof of employment in Canada (including copies of the principal applicant's work permits, and a letter of employment including employer's address, start date, detailed job description, salary and hours of work).

We will do our best to continue posting any further updates or information as it becomes available.

Best of luck!