

Our Decision

The McCrea team has been pouring over the new PR Pathways announced by IRCC on 12 April 2021 (the Pathways), 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 Pathways will open on 6 May 2021, 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);
- the Pathways will open for application filing **at noon ET on 6 May 2021**, and the guide and forms that applicants will require to make those applications were not published until after **3pm ET on 5 May 2021 – they are now accessed [here on IRCC's website](#)**;
- lawyers do NOT have the option of filing applications in the Pathways through their IRCC “representative portals”. Rather, applicants will be required to create their own individual portals on the new platform referenced above. Lawyers will only be able to link to pending applications that have already been filed*;
- because the guides and forms were published less than 24 hours prior to program launch, we weren't able to prepare/review them or 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 fear that any delay in collecting/verifying 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 prejudice our clients, since filing within minutes of launch may prove critical. As such, we are recommending that prospective applicants do the following:

- **immediately:** download/review the [program guide](#), [download/complete all of the forms](#);
- **at noon ET on 6 May 2021:** IRCC's application portal will be launched, and you will need to create an individual login account on that portal before you can begin application drafting. From there, you will be asked to upload your forms and supporting documents and submit your application (you should do so as quickly and accurately as possible). The number of positions still available in the applicable program quota will apparently be displayed on the page, **but note that your place is not reserved until you click submit on your completed application.** Be sure to print/save copies along the way.
- if any questions arise during application preparation, proceed with the filing, especially if the number of spaces is depleting rapidly, but then book a consultation with one of our lawyers for assistance communicating with the department after the fact, or if you would like our assistance monitoring the progress of your application.

* Note that our previous version of this bulletin indicated that applications in the new Pathways would be filed using the MyCIC portal. IRCC has since clarified that they will be using an entirely NEW platform for filings in the Pathways, and that this platform will not be launched until either 5 or 6 May 2021.



Documents to Gather

We recommend that you begin prepping these items as soon as possible, as they will take some time to complete and gather.

- Required for all streams:
 - o A completed [IMM0008 form](#) for the principal applicant (with all dependents listed, whether they are seeking permanent residency or not). N.B.: a new version of this form was issued on **5 May 2021**, and it is this new version that must be uploaded to the application;
 - o A completed [Schedule A form](#) for the principal applicant, spouse and each dependent child over the age of 18 (whether those dependents are seeking permanent residency or not);
 - o A completed [Additional Family Information form](#) for the principal applicant, spouse and every dependent child over the age of 18 (whether those dependents are seeking permanent residency or not);
 - o A completed [Supplementary Information form](#);
 - o A completed and signed [IMM0130](#) form for the principal applicant;
 - o Scanned birth certificates for the applicant's spouse and every dependent child under the age of 22, plus translation[†], if applicable;
 - o Scanned copies of passport ID pages for the principal applicant, spouse and every dependent child under the age of 22;
 - o Scanned copies of current status documents for the principal applicant, spouse and every dependent child under the age of 22 who are currently 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 applying in the "French-speaking" streams;
 - o Police clearance certificates for all countries where the principal applicant, spouse and dependent children above the age of 18 have resided for 6+ consecutive months in the last 10 years EXCEPT Canada, with translations, as required. If these clearances can't be obtained in time, we recommend uploading proof that they have been ***applied*** for and that the originals will be sent later (if possible, any evidence of delayed processing of these clearances should be uploaded);
 - o Digital photos of all immediate family members under age 22 (taken with a mobile phone should suffice);
 - o Proof of a completed immigration medical examination for the principal applicant, spouse and any dependent children under the age of 22 (whether accompanying or not) are deemed mandatory. N.B.: applicants will not likely be able to book these in advance of launch given demand (unless you have completed one already, and it is less than a year old). However, you should at least **book an up-front medicals with a panel physician in advance of launch**, and provide proof of doing so with your application (or at least a letter stating when the appointment is booked); and
 - o A marriage certificate, if applicable, with translation;
 - o For those in a common-law relationship with their spouse, a signed/notarized [Statutory Declaration of Common Law Union](#), plus proof of cohabitation for at least one full year, plus translations, as applicable;

[†] Wherever translations are referenced in this list, but not possible to obtain given the short timelines, we recommend providing a google translation, and then uploading a letter indicating that a more formal translation will be provided at a later date.



- Divorce certificates, as applicable, with translations;
 - Death certificates for a former spouse, as applicable, with translations;
 - Proof of employment in Canada (we recommend 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); and
 - For those seeking to immigrate with a child whose second parent is not already in Canada and not part of the permanent residence application, a signed/notarized [Declaration of Non-Accompanying Parent/Guardian for Minors Immigrating to Canada](#), or alternate proof of custody.
- Required in the international graduate stream:
- Copy of the certificate of completion from the school, and proof that the applicant completed a qualifying credential as described in the policy;
 - Copies of study permits to prove that the applicant was authorized to study throughout the qualifying program;

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

Best of luck!