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MANITOBA CANADA



MANITOBA / CANADA

PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM – BUSINESS STREAM

Looking for a steadily top-rated country ranked among the best in the world in terms of quality of life, education, civil liberties, government transparency, and economic freedom? You have chosen right – Canada is not only stable contestant in all those categories, it is also diverse and rich in society, history, and nature. And, for many, it is the country that for years shaped the immigrant investor map.

Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program – Business Stream

The provincial government of Manitoba has implemented an immigration program intended to attract individuals with business experience or farm ownership experience who intend to establish or purchase a business or farm in the province.

Manitoba is a Canadian province with a population of 1.282 million. It is located west of Ontario and its capital is Winnipeg (population 663,615). It is generally a farming province but also enjoys prosperous business opportunities in other sectors. Living and business costs are lower here than in more populated provinces.



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Why Canada

Canada is one of the most popular destinations for investor immigrants wishing to relocate. Are you thinking about becoming a Permanent Resident with a path to citizenship? Then look no further. Our expert team can help you through your application to become a Canadian permanent resident.

Canada Residency Benefits

- High rankings on major international comparative surveys
- G8 and NAFTA member
- Unspoiled environment with strict environmental controls
- World-class Canadian healthcare system, one of the best in the world
- Excellent Canadian education system, one of the most respected in the world
- Cultural, ethnic and religious tolerance entrenched in the constitution
- One of the safest countries to live in, offering a high quality of life
- One of the most valued passports for international travel

Eligibility

- The applicant should meet the net worth requirement of \$CDN 350,000
- Be willing to make a good faith deposit of \$CDN 100,000 which will be refunded once the permanent residence visa has been issued and the applicant has landed in Canada and successfully operated the proposed business in Manitoba for 2 years with an investment of at least \$CDN 150,000
- Be able to verify the source of funds



- The applicant should demonstrate business or farm ownership for a minimum of three years in the preceding five year period. Non-business owners are accepted if they occupy a senior management position in a successful company
- Score a minimum of 60 points as per the Adaptability matrix

Total processing time until the permanent residence visa has been issued is approximately three years. Processing time is subject to change.

Immediate Benefits

- An unconditional Canadian Visa
- Permanent resident status upon arrival in Canada
- The possibility of Canadian Citizenship, four years after arrival.
- Possibility to arrive in Canada under a work permit while PR application is in process

Citizenship Requirements

Investors and their family members who have lived in Canada for three out of four years (1,095 days) preceding the application, have adequate knowledge of English and/or French, have no criminal record and have acquired knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, as well as an understanding of Canada's history, values, institutions and symbols, are eligible to apply for citizenship.



Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program – Business Stream Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. What is the Provincial Nominee Program for Business?

A. The Provincial Nominee Program for Business (PNP-B) is a component of an immigration program that was created through an agreement between the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba. The purpose of this program is to attract exceptional business persons who are able and willing to make an investment in and actively manage a new or existing business or farm in the Province of Manitoba. The PNP-B accelerates the immigration process for you by providing a Nomination Certificate to allow for faster processing by the Government of Canada of your immigration application.

How much net worth must I have to qualify as a business immigrant under the program?

A. Business immigrants are required to have a legally earned or obtained net worth of at least CDN\$350,000 and be willing to invest at least CDN\$150,000 of their net worth into a new or existing business or farm in which they will be actively involved.

Q3. How much does the program require me to invest in Manitoba?

A. The amount of investment you make in Manitoba will be dictated by the type of business you establish, what size it is, whether it will be a new business or an existing business or an existing business in which you become an active partner. Depending on the size of the business or farm the investment may be in the hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars. However, the investment amount must not, under any circumstances, be lower than \$150,000. This does not include the \$100,000 deposit.



Q4. If I am invited for an exploratory visit, will I automatically be nominated by Manitoba?

A. Receiving an invitation for an exploratory visit does not guarantee that the program will issue a Nomination Certificate. The program bases its decision on many factors in addition to the minimum net worth and management experience criteria.

Q5. Must I make an exploratory visit to Manitoba before submitting my application?

A. Yes. Exploratory visits are mandatory for a minimum of seven (7) days. This visit will allow you to identify and assess potential business opportunities as well as experience Manitoba's quality of life.

Q6. Do my documents have to be translated by a certified translator?

A. All documents must be accurately translated into English or French. Education and employment documents that are translated must be certified to be correct if they are not prepared by a professional translator. Copies of the documents written in the original language must also be included. If nominated, the Canada Visa Office may require all translations to be certified.

Q7. I do not understand English or French. Will you provide an interpreter to help me with the Exploratory Visit interview?

A. You must advise our office at least three weeks prior to your arrival to Manitoba that you will require an interpreter. Our office will provide an interpreter to assist you during your interview with a Program Officer.



Q8. If I obtain an invitation letter from your office, will I be guaranteed a Visitor's Visa to come to Canada?

A. Although the invitation letter is intended to assist interested potential applicants in their application for a visitor's visa to Canada, the granting of visitor visas is the sole responsibility of the Federal Government's Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada. The Provincial Nominee Program for Business will extend invitation letters to applicants meeting the basic requirements for a visit, but this does not guarantee a Visitor's Visa.

Q9. I have never owned a business. Does this affect my chances of qualifying?

A. An applicant must have a minimum of three (3) years experience at owning and managing a successful business or three (3) years minimum experience at an executive level within a successful business. Mid level managers or professionals without executive level or ownership/management experience will not be considered.

Q10. What kind of businesses will not be considered?

A. Investments into a business operated primarily for the purposes of deriving passive investment income are not eligible. Please contact our office for further consultation on this matter.

Q11. Why is a Deposit Agreement required?

A. The *Deposit Agreement* is intended to ensure that the commitment expected by Manitoba from the participants in its PNP-B is respected, that their businesses or farms are operational and they are living and actively managing them in Manitoba.



Q12. When do I deposit the CDN\$100,000?

A. After you have been nominated, you will be given detailed instructions regarding the deposit of the CDN\$100,000 to the Province of Manitoba.

Q13. When is the CDN\$100,000 Deposit released?

A. You have 2 years from the date of landing to fulfill the requirements of the *Deposit Agreement*. Once you have met the terms and conditions specified in your Deposit Agreement, your CDN\$100,000 deposit will be returned to you in full. Deposits are released to the applicant only at their current address or may be wired to the applicant's account upon request. Any changes to the Deposit Agreement must be discussed and approved by the program's Business Settlement Office before proceeding with any other business.

Q14. If I am approved for the Provincial Nominee Program for Business, what is my next step?

A. If you are approved as a Provincial Nominee, a *Certificate of Nomination* will be issued in your name (and your eligible dependents, if applicable) and you will receive a letter from the program which will provide detailed instructions about the deposit and the forwarding of Federal Immigration forms and Federal processing fees to the appropriate Canadian Visa Office that serves your area.

Q15. What are the factors that may delay processing my application, and how long will it take for me to receive my immigration visa?

A. There are several factors that can delay processing of your application. These may include, but are not limited to: not having completed an exploratory visit; the need for an interview with the Canadian Embassy; incorrectly completed or unsigned application forms and/or cheques; missing documents; unclear photocopies; documents not accompanied by a certified English or French translation; failure to provide an accurate mailing address or change of address;



verification of information and documents provided or a change in family situation; a medical condition which may require additional tests or consultations; and a criminal or security problem.

Application processing involves both federal and provincial jurisdictions. While processing in Manitoba may take only a month to two, it is not possible to determine how long it will take a federal visa office to finalize the processing of the same application as their work load varies extensively. Based on current experience, processing times at federal visa offices may range from 10 to 15 months.

Q16. May I change my plans for my business venture after I arrive in Manitoba?

A. You may do so **only with the approval of the** program's Business Settlement Office. You will be required to contact the Business Settlement Office for counseling and guidance as soon as you think you may have difficulty fulfilling, and/or need to change, your business plans.

Q17. What if I need more time than the two years after landing to establish my business?

A. An extension may be granted depending on your circumstances and what kinds of activities you had undertaken within the two-year period. Extensions are not automatically granted unless requested for with an adequate explanation as to why the extension should be granted.

Q18. What if I am unable to proceed with my business venture in Manitoba?

A. If the business intent or project does not go ahead, or another approved project involving comparable levels of investment and employment is not undertaken, your CDN\$100,000 deposit may be retained by the Province of Manitoba.



Q19. If my application is declined, can I appeal the decision, or if not, can I apply again?

A. The decision that the program makes is final. Such a decision will not prevent you from submitting another application at a later date. However, before submitting your next application, please ensure that all of the issues that caused your first application to be declined are fully addressed.

Q20. If I already have applied for immigration under a Federal Government Program, or under any other Provincial Nominee program, can I still apply under the program?

A. You may apply under the program only if your other application was filed with the Federal Government's Immigration Program even if that application is still waiting for a decision. Your application under the program will not be accepted if you already have a pending application with any of the other provinces of Canada.

Q21. What fees will I have to pay?

A. The Provincial Nominee Program for Business does charge a processing fees of CDN\$2000. If you are nominated, you will be responsible for all federal immigration processing and the Right of Permanent Residency Fees. You will receive detailed instructions on payment of these fees after you are nominated.

Q22. Can I start to dispose of my assets before getting my permanent resident visa?

A. Do not quit your job or dispose of any assets until Citizenship and Immigration Canada has provided you with a Permanent Resident Visa.



Q23. How are applications assessed to determine if it meets the program requirements?

A. The program's assessment system uses a multi-step process for reviewing applications for nomination. A preliminary assessment of the exploratory visit application is conducted by a Pre-Screening Officer to determine if the application appears to meet the net worth and business experience criteria. Once the full application is received subsequently, the file is comprehensively assessed by a Business Immigration Officer. The third step is for the recommendation of the officer to be reviewed by an Assessment Review Team comprised of senior management of the program. This three-step process ensures that the application is reviewed by multiple officers of the program so that each application is assessed fairly.

Q24. Can I still apply if I have been refused under an immigration program of another province?

A. Yes you can still apply.





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