

Although there are fundamental changes to the Canadian immigration system (the most fundamental changes since 1976), there are also very positive new opportunities that never existed before. Some of those opportunities are:

- At least one year of continuous full-time or equivalent paid work experience in the past 10 years in one of the 29 qualifying occupations.
- Selection of the Independent/Skilled Worker immigrants will be based on the transferability and adaptability of their skills — not their occupation.
- Education and actual work experience will no longer need to correspond – you can have a degree/diploma in a given field but may have working experience in an related filed – you will be given credit for both.
- Technical college diplomas, trade certificates, and apprenticeships are no longer disadvantaged in comparison to university degrees.
- Credit is now given for work experience that was done before, during, or after graduation from a post-secondary learning institution – under the old system, only work that was done after graduation was considered.
- Applicants can be awarded additional points if they can demonstrate previous full-time study or work in Canada, a job offer from a Canadian employer, establish they have a close family member in Canada.
- Credit is given to the principle applicant for his partner's educational level

- Common-law partners and same-sex partners may now apply as a family units, without having to be married
- Common-law partners, conjugal partners (long distance relationship) and same sex partners can be sponsored, without having to marry their sponsor.

Please do not assume that you will not qualify under the new immigration regulations. We can help. If you have applied under the old system and did not qualify, please resubmit your online assessment form, so that we may reassess you under the new guidelines.