

OPPORTUNITIES ONTARIO: PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM

INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Your Opportunity to Settle in Ontario

You have studied in Canada and you have an opportunity to work in Ontario. Opportunities Ontario facilitates the immigration process and may expedite the permanent resident status process so that you can make Ontario your home.

WHAT IS OPPORTUNITIES ONTARIO: PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM?

Opportunities Ontario facilitates the immigration process so that employers can quickly obtain workers for professional, managerial and skilled trades positions. As an international student, you may consider this an opportunity to live and work permanently in Ontario.

Am I eligible?

Are you an international student completing your last semester, or have you graduated within the past two years? If so, you may qualify for Opportunities Ontario. Here's what you should know:

- at least half of your studies must have been completed at a publicly-funded Canadian college or university;
- you must have completed at least a two-year diploma or degree program, while studying full-time; and,
- one year post-graduate degree and certificate programs that require a previous degree are also eligible.

Job requirements:

To qualify, you must have an offer of permanent and full-time employment from an Ontario employer, for an approved position by Opportunities Ontario. The job must be in a managerial, professional or skilled trade occupation. The job offer does

not have to be related to your field of study. If you are on a scholarship that has specific conditions, you must meet these conditions before applying to Opportunities Ontario. For example, your scholarship may require that you return to your home country.

How does the application process work?

There are two steps:

Step 1: Employer application:

The employer applies for approval of a position. If approved, the employer receives a Nominee Application package.

Step 2: Individual application:

The employer gives you the Nominee Application package. You must complete and submit it, along with an application fee.

If your Nominee Application is approved, the Ontario government will:

- nominate you and your dependents for permanent resident status; and,
- support your application for a temporary work permit.

As an Ontario nominee, you must apply for permanent resident status within six months to Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Once nominated, an individual can get permanent resident status within nine to 12 months.

Advantages of being an Ontario provincial nominee:

- an employer-driven immigration process that facilitates permanent resident status;
- no point system or language testing;
- years of work experience are not needed;
- a work permit as soon as your application is approved; and,
- a permanent, full-time job in which your skills are put to work.

Where can I learn more?

Employer application forms and detailed information about Opportunities Ontario are available at www.ontario.ca/immigration.

You can contact:

Opportunities Ontario: Provincial Nominee Program

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Website:

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