



Provincial Immigration Programs for Entrepreneurs

Provincial Requirements Overview

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INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THE GUIDE

This guide serves as a reference for reviewing entrepreneur pathways under Canada's Provincial Nominee Programs, which are administered and assessed independently by each province or territory.

It outlines general eligibility and structural requirements at the provincial stage only.

Meeting minimum criteria **does not guarantee nomination**, as applications are assessed holistically based on business viability, economic impact, and alignment with provincial priorities.

HOW THIS GUIDE CAN HELP

The guide supports initial assessment of PNP entrepreneur options by highlighting key eligibility thresholds and structural differences between provinces.

It allows readers to compare programs efficiently and identify jurisdictions that may align with their business background and financial profile.

WHAT THIS GUIDE COVERS

Each province is presented on a separate page with standardized eligibility requirements for easy comparison:

- Minimum business or management experience
- Language requirements (CLB levels)
- Net worth thresholds
- Minimum investment amounts
- Ownership and control requirements
- Job creation obligations
- Additional procedural requirements, such as exploratory visits or third-party net worth verification

IMPORTANT NOTES

This guide outlines **general eligibility requirements** only.

Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee nomination, as applications are assessed holistically based on business viability, economic impact, and alignment with provincial priorities.



INTRODUCTION

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The explanatory notes below are provided to clarify the interpretation of commonly used requirements and are presented separately to avoid repetition across provincial sections.

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

May include experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

English or French. For reference, **CLB 4** is generally equivalent to **IELTS 4.0–4.5**.

03 NET WORTH

May include real estate, business interests, shares, vehicles, and other legally acquired assets that must be verifiable.

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Includes eligible business expenses such as rent, equipment, marketing, salaries, and professional advisory fees.

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

Refers to the minimum ownership stake and the requirement for active management and day-to-day operational control of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Requires at least one full-time position of a **minimum of 30 hours per week** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.



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BRITISH COLUMBIA

British Columbia offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or purchase a business in the province and actively participate in its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 4** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

In an urban centre: min **CAD 600,000**
In a rural area: min **CAD 300,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

In an urban centre: min **CAD 200,000**
In a rural area: **CAD 100,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33.3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- In an urban centre: exploratory visit is not required but strongly recommended.
- In a rural area: a community visit and referral are required before registration.
- A net worth verification may be required and, if requested, must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



ALBERTA

Alberta offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who intend to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 4** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 300,000**,

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CAD 100,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **51%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit to Alberta is required.
- A net worth verification may be required and, if requested, must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



MANITOBA

Manitoba offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively manage its day-to-day operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 5** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 500,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

In an urban centre: min **CAD 250,000**
In a rural area: **CAD 150,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33.3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit is not required but strongly recommended.
- A net worth verification is required and must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



QUEBEC

Quebec offers an entrepreneur pathway for experienced business owners and managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively participate in its operations. The program is administered separately from federal and other provincial nominee programs.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **2 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 7** in French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 600,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CAD 150,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **25%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.



NEW BRUNSWICK

New Brunswick offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **2 years** of business ownership or senior management within 5 years.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 4** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 500,000**.

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CAD 150,000** in eligible investments.

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

Active involvement in business operations required.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A recent exploratory visit to New Brunswick may strengthen an application and is considered a priority selection factor.
- A net worth verification is required and must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 5** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

In an urban centre: min **CAD 600,000**
In a rural area: min **CAD 400,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

In an urban centre: min **CAD 150,000**
In a rural area: min **CAD 100,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33.3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit is not required but strongly recommended.
- A net worth verification is required and must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Prince Edward Island offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 4** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 600,000**,

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CAD 150,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33,3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit to Prince Edward Island is required.
- A net worth verification is required and must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Newfoundland and Labrador offers an entrepreneur stream under its Provincial Nominee Program for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the province and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **2 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 5** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 600,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CAD 200,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33.3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit to Newfoundland and Labrador is required.
- A net worth verification is required and must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



YUKON

Yukon offers an entrepreneur stream for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the territory and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 7** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

Minimum **CAD 500,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CAD 300,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33.3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit to Yukon is required.
- A net worth verification is required and must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The Northwest Territories offers an entrepreneur stream for experienced business owners and senior managers who plan to establish or acquire a business in the territory and actively manage its operations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

01 BUSINESS OR MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Minimum **3 years** of experience as a business owner or in a senior management role.

02 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum **CLB 4** in English or French.

03 NET WORTH

In an urban centre: min **CAD 500,000**
In a rural area: min **CAD 250,000**

04 INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT

In an urban centre: min **CAD 200,000**
In a rural area: min **CAD 100,000**

05 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

At least **33.3%** ownership of the business.

06 JOB CREATION

Creation of at least **one full-time position** for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An exploratory visit to the Northwest Territories is required.
- A net worth verification may be required and, if requested, must be conducted by a province-authorized accounting firm.



CONCLUSION

BEYOND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Provincial Nominee Programs are designed to support long-term economic development at the regional level. For this reason, entrepreneur streams are assessed as an evaluation of whether a proposed business can realistically operate within a province's economic environment.

While minimum requirements establish a **baseline** for consideration, provincial authorities place significant weight on factors such as the credibility of the business concept, the applicant's ability to execute it in practice, and its potential contribution to the local economy over time.

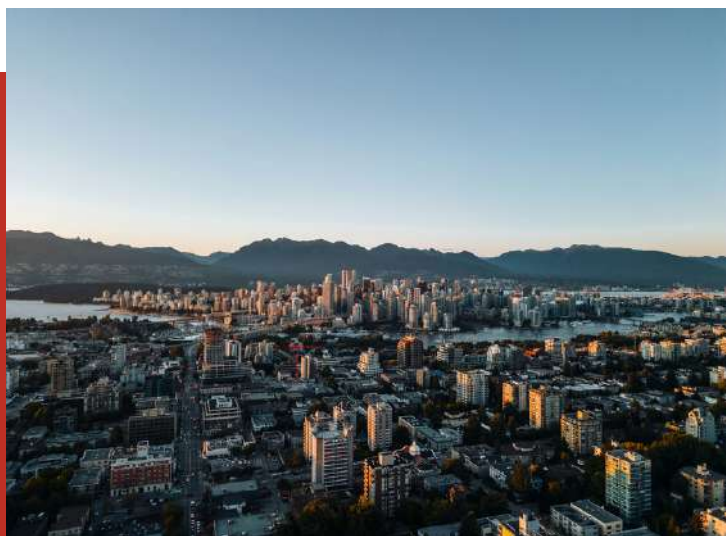
In this context, meeting eligibility thresholds should be viewed as an **entry condition** rather than a determining factor. Provincial assessment remains discretionary, forward-looking, and closely tied to evolving regional priorities and market needs.

USING THIS GUIDE STRATEGICALLY

This guide supports a structured review of PNP entrepreneur options across Canada by presenting provincial requirements in a consistent format.

It helps highlight meaningful differences between programs and frame early discussions around feasibility, alignment, and positioning.

Successful outcomes ultimately depend on the alignment between an applicant's business profile and provincial priorities, and this guide serves as a foundation for that analysis rather than a substitute for case-specific assessment or professional judgment.



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US.

Thank you for taking the time to read this guide.
We hope the information provided proves useful as you explore Canada's Provincial Entrepreneur Stream and consider your next steps in the business immigration process.

