



[Canada.ca](#) › [Immigration and citizenship](#) › [Work in Canada](#) › [Get a work permit](#) › [Work in Canada temporarily](#)

# Open work permits for family members of foreign workers

## Sections

- Who can apply
- [When you can apply](#)
- [How to apply](#)
- [How we process your application](#)

## Who can apply

### ⚠ Changes to eligibility

As of January 21, 2025, the [eligibility requirements have changed](#) for open work permits for family members of workers.

If you applied before January 21, 2025:

- We'll continue to process **all** applications that were received before January 21, 2025.
  - Applications received before January 21, 2025 will be processed under the previous eligibility criteria.
- If your open work permit was already approved and hasn't expired, it stays valid.

Your family member's eligibility depends on

- whether you're on a pathway or have already applied for permanent residence
- what type of worker you are in Canada
  - any high-skilled occupations in TEER 0 or 1
  - [select high-skilled occupations in TEER 2](#)
  - [select high-skilled occupations in TEER 3](#)

#### ▼ Select high-skilled occupations in TEER 2

22100 – Chemical technologists and technicians

22101 – Geological and mineral technologists and technicians

22110 – Biological technologists and technicians  
22111 – Agricultural and fish products inspectors  
22112 – Forestry technologists and technicians  
22113 – Conservation and fishery officers  
22114 – Landscape and horticulture technicians and specialists  
22210 – Architectural technologists and technicians  
22211 – Industrial designers  
22212 – Drafting technologists and technicians  
22213 – Land survey technologists and technicians  
22214 – Technical occupations in geomatics and meteorology  
22220 – Computer network and web technicians  
22221 – User support technicians  
22222 – Information systems testing technicians  
22230 – Non-destructive testers and inspectors  
22231 – Engineering inspectors and regulatory officers  
22232 – Occupational health and safety specialists  
22233 – Construction inspectors  
22300 – Civil engineering technologists and technicians  
22301 – Mechanical engineering technologists and technicians  
22302 – Industrial engineering and manufacturing technologists and technicians  
22303 – Construction estimators  
22310 – Electrical and electronics engineering technologists and technicians  
22311 – Electronic service technicians (household and business equipment)  
22312 – Industrial instrument technicians and mechanics  
22313 – Aircraft instrument, electrical and avionics mechanics, technicians and inspectors  
32100 – Opticians  
32101 – Licensed practical nurses  
32102 – Paramedical occupations  
32103 – Respiratory therapists, clinical perfusionists and cardiopulmonary technologists  
32104 – Animal health technologists and veterinary technicians  
32109 – Other technical occupations in therapy and assessment  
32110 – Denturists  
32111 – Dental hygienists and dental therapists  
32112 – Dental technologists and technicians  
32120 – Medical laboratory technologists  
32121 – Medical radiation technologists

32122 – Medical sonographers  
32123 – Cardiology technologists and electrophysiological diagnostic technologists  
32124 – Pharmacy technicians  
32129 – Other medical technologists and technicians  
32200 – Traditional Chinese medicine practitioners and acupuncturists  
32201 – Massage therapists  
32209 – Other practitioners of natural healing  
42102 – Specialized members of the Canadian Armed Forces  
42202 – Early childhood educators and assistants  
72010 – Contractors and supervisors, machining, metal forming, shaping and erecting trades and related occupations  
72011 – Contractors and supervisors, electrical trades and telecommunications occupations  
72012 – Contractors and supervisors, pipefitting trades  
72013 – Contractors and supervisors, carpentry trades  
72014 – Contractors and supervisors, other construction trades, installers, repairers and servicers  
72020 – Contractors and supervisors, mechanic trades  
72021 – Contractors and supervisors, heavy equipment operator crews  
72022 – Supervisors, printing and related occupations  
72023 – Supervisors, railway transport operations  
72024 – Supervisors, motor transport and other ground transit operators  
72025 – Supervisors, mail and message distribution occupations  
72100 – Machinists and machining and tooling inspectors  
72101 – Tool and die makers  
72102 – Sheet metal workers  
72103 – Boilermakers  
72104 – Structural metal and platework fabricators and fitters  
72105 – Ironworkers  
72106 – Welders and related machine operators  
72200 – Electricians (except industrial and power system)  
72201 – Industrial electricians  
72202 – Power system electricians  
72203 – Electrical power line and cable workers  
72204 – Telecommunications line and cable installers and repairers  
72205 – Telecommunications equipment installation and cable television service technicians  
72300 – Plumbers  
72301 – Steamfitters, pipefitters and sprinkler system installers  
72302 – Gas fitters

72310 – Carpenters  
72311 – Cabinetmakers  
72320 – Bricklayers  
72321 – Insulators  
72400 – Construction millwrights and industrial mechanics  
72401 – Heavy-duty equipment mechanics  
72402 – Heating, refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics  
72403 – Railway carmen/women  
72404 – Aircraft mechanics and aircraft inspectors  
72405 – Machine fitters  
72406 – Elevator constructors and mechanics  
72410 – Automotive service technicians, truck and bus mechanics and mechanical repairers  
72411 – Auto body collision, refinishing and glass technicians and damage repair estimators  
72420 – Oil and solid fuel heating mechanics  
72421 – Appliance servicers and repairers  
72422 – Electrical mechanics  
72423 – Motorcycle, all-terrain vehicle and other related mechanics  
72429 – Other small engine and small equipment repairers  
72500 – Crane operators  
72501 – Water well drillers  
72600 – Air pilots, flight engineers and flying instructors  
72601 – Air traffic controllers and related occupations  
72602 – Deck officers, water transport  
72603 – Engineer officers, water transport  
72604 – Railway traffic controllers and marine traffic regulators  
72999 – Other technical trades and related occupations  
82010 – Supervisors, logging and forestry  
82020 – Supervisors, mining and quarrying  
82021 – Contractors and supervisors, oil and gas drilling and services  
82030 – Agricultural service contractors and farm supervisors  
82031 – Contractors and supervisors, landscaping, grounds maintenance and horticulture services

▼ **Select high-skilled occupations in TEER 3**

33100 – Dental assistants and dental laboratory assistants  
33101 – Medical laboratory assistants and related technical occupations  
33102 – Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates  
33103 – Pharmacy technical assistants and pharmacy assistants

33109 – Other assisting occupations in support of health services  
43100 – Elementary and secondary school teacher assistants  
43204 – Operations Members of the Canadian Armed Forces  
53200 – Athletes  
53201 – Coaches  
73100 – Concrete finishers  
73101 – Tilesetters  
73102 – Plasterers, drywall installers and finishers and lathers  
73110 – Roofers and shinglers  
73111 – Glaziers  
73112 – Painters and decorators (except interior decorators)  
73113 – Floor covering installers  
73200 – Residential and commercial installers and servicers  
73201 – General building maintenance workers and building superintendents  
73202 – Pest controllers and fumigators  
73209 – Other repairers and servicers  
73300 – Transport truck drivers  
73301 – Bus drivers, subway operators and other transit operators  
73310 – Railway and yard locomotive engineers  
73311 – Railway conductors and brakemen/women  
73400 – Heavy equipment operators  
73401 – Printing press operators  
73402 – Drillers and blasters - surface mining, quarrying and construction  
83100 – Underground production and development miners  
83101 – Oil and gas well drillers, servicers, testers and related workers  
83110 – Logging machinery operators  
83120 – Fishing masters and officers  
83121 – Fishermen/women

If your family member is not eligible to apply for an open work permit, they may be eligible to apply for [another work permit](#). If they don't plan to work, they may be eligible to [visit](#) or [study](#).

**Answer a few questions to find out if your [family member](#) is eligible to apply for an open work permit.**

**\* Have you applied for permanent residence through an economic immigration program or pilot listed below? (required)**

► **Eligible economic class permanent resident programs or pilots**

Yes

No

When to apply ➡

**Date modified:**  
2025-01-31