A Guide for Physicians

Immigration Application Process

We greatly value our physicians in Nova Scotia, and recruiting new physicians is a priority for our province. We appreciate that you want to be challenged in your professional lives while still enjoying an amazing quality of life.

There’s room for everyone in Nova Scotia to feel at home, in a place that welcomes you to share your ideas, use your skills, and pursue your passion. This makes Nova Scotia one of the most enjoyable places to live in Canada. For the most up-to-date information on immigrating to Nova Scotia and copies of our application guides and forms, visit novascotiaimmigration.com

Physician Stream

Receive a job offer from the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) or the IWK. Return of service may be required. This must indicate your eligibility for licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia (CPSNS).

Gather required documents, and submit complete application to the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration (NSOI).

Receive nomination from NSOI.

Apply for temporary work permit through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).

Apply for Permanent Residency through IRCC.

Processing time approximately 18 - 24 months. Please consult IRCC’s website for processing times.

Labour Market Priorities

Complete language test and Education Credential Assessment (ECA).

Create Express Entry Profile through IRCC

Receive a job offer from the NSHA or the IWK. Return of service will be required. Must indicate your eligibility for licensure with CPSNS.

Receive Letter of Interest

Gather required documents, and submit complete application to NSOI.

Receive nomination from NSOI.

Apply for temporary work permit through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).

Apply for Permanent Residency through IRCC.

Processing time approximately 6 months. Please consult IRCC’s website for processing times.

Please note that this is an overview of our pathways, and that more detail is required with your application. Also note that immigration is a shared responsibility between the federal government (IRCC) and provincial government (NSOI). NSOI has no authority over areas that are within federal jurisdiction.

Nova Scotia Office of Immigration:
immigration@novascotia.ca
www.novascotiaimmigration.com/move-here/physician
1-902-424-5230

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada:
www.canada.ca/immigration-refugees-citizenship
1-613-944-4000
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Document Overview

**Physician Stream**
- Application Form
- Approved opportunity from NSHA or IWK, return of service may be required.
- Proof of eligibility for licensure in NS
- Passports / Travel Documents / Visas
- Documents for accompanying family (ie marriage certificate, birth certificate)
- Proof of education and medical training

**Labour Market Priorities Stream**
- Express Entry profile
- Education Credential Assessment (ECA)
- Language Test(s)
- Letter of Interest
- Application Form
- Approved opportunity from NSHA or IWK, return of service required.
- Proof of eligibility for licensure in NS
- Passports / Travel Documents / Visas
- Documents for accompanying family (ie marriage certificate, birth certificate)

*NOTE:*
Obtaining a temporary work permit under either stream has a separate process through IRCC. Please visit their website for more information.

The federal government requires further documentation when applying for permanent residency. This may include documentation such as:

**Physician Stream**
- PR Application
- Identity documents

**Labour Market Priorities Stream**
- PR Application
- Identity documents
- Education Credential Assessment (ECA)
- Language test(s)
- Work Experience documentation
- Job offer documents
- Proof of funds

*NOTE:*
This document is an overview, please refer to NSOI’s and IRCC’s websites for complete information and requirements.