

# Physician Stream Application Guide

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Nova Scotia Nominee Program

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# Thank you for choosing Nova Scotia

Read this guide carefully to find out how you can apply to the Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP) through the Physician Stream. If you are accepted through this stream, you, your spouse, and your dependents may apply to the federal government for a permanent resident visa.

You may qualify for this stream if you meet these criteria:

- You have an approved job offer from the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) or the IWK Health Centre (IWK).
- Your skills and experience match one of the following National Occupational Classification (NOC) categories:
  - NOC 31100: Specialists in clinical and laboratory medicine
  - NOC 31101: Specialists in surgery
  - NOC 31102: General practitioners and family physicians

This stream is part of an economic immigration program. You may NOT use it as a way to immigrate to Canada for any of these reasons:

- family reunification
- protected persons
- humanitarian or compassionate grounds

# Is the Physician Stream right for you?

This stream is only for doctors who have an approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK and whose skills match NOC 31100, 31101 or 31102. Read the following 2 columns carefully to see if this stream is right for you.

<b>The Physician Stream may be right for you</b>	<b>The Physician Stream is NOT right for you</b>
The Physician Stream may be right for you IF you meet ALL of the criteria listed below	Do NOT apply to the Physician Stream if even ONE of the statements below applies to you
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You have received an approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK in one of these <u>National Occupational Classifications (NOC)</u>:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NOC 31100: Specialists in clinical and laboratory medicine</li> <li>- NOC 31101: Specialists in surgery</li> <li>- NOC 31102: General practitioners and family physicians</li> </ul> </li> <li>• You promise to live and work in Nova Scotia for <b>at least 2 years</b></li> <li>• You have a valid <u>Education credential assessment from the Medical Council of Canada</u> OR proof that you meet all the criteria required to obtain a licence to practise medicine in <u>Nova Scotia from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia</u></li> <li>• You have <u>proof that you are able to practise medicine in either English or French.</u></li> <li>• You have proof of your <u>immigration status</u> in the country where you are currently living, including Canada.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are currently living in a country in which you are NOT legally allowed to live.</li> <li>• You have applied to immigrate to Canada on compassionate or humanitarian grounds or to claim refugee status.</li> <li>• You have applied for refugee status in Canada and been refused.</li> <li>• You have received a removal order from IRCC or the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA).</li> <li>• You have unresolved custody or child support issues affecting one or more of your dependents.</li> <li>• You are currently studying at a Canadian post-secondary institution.</li> <li>• You received a scholarship or award that requires you to return to your home country upon graduation and you have not yet done so.</li> </ul>

# What you need to know BEFORE you apply

You must apply to 2 levels of government:  
provincial and federal

## **Level 1: Nova Scotia (provincial)**

First you apply to the Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP) Physician Stream. If you are nominated for this stream, we will email you a nomination certificate. At the same time we will send proof of your nomination to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).

### **Costs**

There is no application fee for the NSNP, but there may be costs related to your application. For example,

- translation costs if your required documents are in neither English nor French
- fees charged by a representative should you choose to hire one

## **Level 2: Canada (federal)**

Next, if you are nominated by the Province of Nova Scotia, apply to IRCC for your permanent resident visa. You may submit an application for yourself and include your spouse and dependents in the application.

### **Costs**

There is a fee to apply for a permanent resident visa. For current fees, see the fee list on the IRCC website.

## You are responsible for your application

It is up to you to provide ALL of the documents we require including those that you get from the NSHA or IWK, your spouse or common-law partner, and your dependents. You must also ensure that all documents are valid when you submit your application for this stream AND when you submit your file to IRCC. If you are missing documents or any document is invalid, we will refuse your application.

**Important!** You must tell us if your status changes at any time before you receive a permanent resident visa. For example:

- You no longer have an approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK.
- Your marital status has changed, for example you got married or divorced.
- You need to add a dependent child.

## Know which family members are allowed to immigrate with you

Family members who immigrate with you as part of the Physician Stream are called “dependents.” These are limited to the following:

- your spouse, that is, the person you are legally married to
- your common-law partner:
  - Your partner may be of the same or opposite sex.
  - You must have lived together like spouses for at least one continuous year.
  - If you were prevented from living together, you must provide proof of what prevented you from living together.
  - You must provide a Statutory Declaration of Common-Law Union.
- your children including adopted children:
  - children under the age of 22 and without a spouse or common-law partner
  - children over the age of 22, dependent on you financially since before turning 22, and unable to support themselves financially because of a physical or mental condition.

## We can help

We can connect you with organizations and programs to help you and your family settle in your new community. Find out more on our [website](#). You can also ask your contact at the NSHA or IWK about the information and support you may need.

## You may use a representative

There are 2 kinds of representatives: paid and unpaid. Both can help you to complete and submit your application. When you appoint a representative, you do 2 things:

- You authorize us to share information about your application with them.
- You authorize them to act on your behalf.

### Unpaid representatives

As the name suggests, unpaid representatives do NOT charge for their services. Your representative could be a family member, a friend, or someone else.

### Paid representatives

Paid representatives charge a fee for their services. If you are using a paid immigration representative, they must be authorized. Authorized representatives must be one of the following:

- An immigration consultant who is a member in good standing with the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants (CICC). Visit the [CICC website](#).
- A lawyer or paralegal who is a member in good standing of a Canadian law society, barristers' society, or barreau, or a law student under the supervision of a recognized lawyer. Visit the [Federation of Law Societies of Canada](#) website for links to law societies across Canada.
- A notary public who is a member in good standing of the Chambre des notaires du Québec or a law student under their supervision. Visit the [Chambre website](#).

You don't need to use a representative to prepare and submit an application. If you choose to use a representative—paid or unpaid—they must complete an [NSNP 50 – Use of a Representative form](#). You must submit this form with your application.



**Warning!** We strongly recommend that if you choose to hire a representative, you choose one from the categories listed above. We do NOT deal with unauthorized representatives. Also, if your representative is NOT authorized, you may not have the ability to hold them accountable if they make an error or give you bad advice.

## Misrepresentations disqualify you for 5 years

What is misrepresentation? Misrepresentation happens when you or someone else involved in your application does one of these things:

- is not truthful about one or more of the eligibility criteria
- leaves out information we need to assess your application

The people involved in your application include yourself or an immigration representative if you decide to use one, representatives from the NSHA or IWK, your spouse, and your dependents.

**Important!** If you are refused for misrepresentation, you will NOT be allowed to apply to any immigration stream for 5 years.

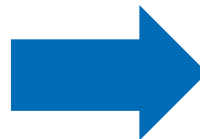
## There are no guarantees

Submitting an application and meeting the eligibility requirements for the Physician Stream do NOT guarantee that your application will be processed and assessed.

Even if you are successful and receive a nomination certificate, we cannot guarantee that you will receive a work permit or permanent resident visa. IRCC has its own application process. They are the only ones who can issue these documents. NSOI does not issue work permits or permanent resident visas nor can we advise you about how to apply for these things.

### Responsibilities of NSOI

- assess nominee applications
- issue letters of support for work permits (if applicable)
- issue nomination certificates



### Responsibilities of IRCC

- assess work permits (if applicable)
- assess permanent resident applications
- issue permits and visas

**Important!** NSOI-issued letters of support or nomination certificates do NOT guarantee approval by IRCC.

## Criteria may change; streams may close

We may stop accepting applications for a period of time. We call this “closing” or “suspending” the stream. If we close or suspend the Physician Stream before we review your application, we may not consider it even if you submitted it before we closed the stream.

There may be a delay between the time we receive your application and when we can process it. During that time, criteria may change. We will assess your application based on the criteria in place at that time. Check [our immigration website](#) regularly to stay up-to-date with all changes.

## Decisions are final; there are no appeals

If we decide to refuse your application for the Physician Stream, our decision is final. There is no appeal process.

## We may withdraw your nomination

We may withdraw your nomination at any time before you receive a permanent resident visa and before you arrive in Canada for any of these reasons:

- You no longer meet the eligibility requirements of the Physician Stream, for example, you no longer have an approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK.
- The Government of Canada has advised us that some information in your application for permanent residency is false.
- IRCC finds that you, your spouse, or a dependent is not allowed to immigrate to Canada.

## You may withdraw your application

You may withdraw your application without penalty at any time before you receive a nomination certificate. There is one exception. You may NOT withdraw your application without penalty if we know or suspect that you have NOT been truthful or have left out important information in your application.

# Gather the documents you need

You will need a number of documents to complete your application. You will have to complete some of these documents yourself. Some will have to be completed by the NSHA or IWK. You will also have to get documents from third parties such as educational institutions and governments. Begin to gather these documents as soon as you know that you will apply for the Physician Stream. It may take some time to gather all the documents you need.

## ***Important!***

- All documents must be valid on the dates of your applications to both NSOI and IRCC.
- All documents must be PDF files.
- Documents with images must be scanned in colour.
- Text-only documents may be scanned in black and white.
- The total size of all documents attached to an online application must be no more than 50 megabytes (MB).
- The total size of all documents attached to a single email must be no more than 30 megabytes (MB).
- Each file name must be no more than 50 characters.
- All documents must be clear enough to read.
- Scanner resolution must be 300 dots per inch (dpi).

***Warning!*** We may close your application if documents are missing, unsigned, unclear, or have been enhanced or edited.

## Documents in languages other than English or French

Documents in languages other than English or French must be translated by a certified translator.

- Submit a copy of the original document AND a copy of the certified translation.
- Submit proof from the translator of their certification.

**Warning!** These people are NOT allowed to translate your documents:

- members of your family
- anyone who works for the paid representative you have hired to help you with your application

If your documents are NOT translated by a certified translator, we may NOT accept your application.

## Documents related to your application to the Physician Stream

- proof of your approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK

You must have an approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK in one of these National Occupational Classifications (NOC):

- NOC 31100: Specialists in clinical and laboratory medicine
- NOC 31101: Specialists in surgery
- NOC 31102: General practitioners and family physicians

Your job offer must be written on official NSHA or IWK letterhead and must meet these criteria:

- It is signed and dated by a person authorized to hire doctors at the NSHA or IWK.
- You have signed and dated the job offer to show that you have accepted it.
- It shows that you meet all the criteria required to obtain a licence to practise medicine in Nova Scotia from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia.
- It shows that you meet all the criteria required to apply for privileges and credentials with the NSHA or the IWK.

**Note:** This job offer also serves as proof that you have the ability to practise medicine in either English or French.

## Documents related to your education and training

- copies of certificates, diplomas, degrees, or transcripts that prove that you meet all the criteria required to obtain a licence to practise medicine in Nova Scotia from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia

OR

- a copy of your Educational credential assessment (ECA) report from the Medical Council of Canada

### What is an ECA?

An ECA proves that your certificate, diploma, degree, or other proof of education is real and as valid as if it were earned in Canada.

When you submit your ECA, be sure that it meets these criteria:

- It was issued by the Medical Council of Canada.
- It meets the IRCC format and content requirements.
- It was issued within 5 years of the date that we receive your application AND of the date that you apply for permanent residence.
- It shows that your certificate, diploma, degree, or other proof of education is as valid as if it were earned in Canada.

**Important!** You must include your proof of education OR your ECA report (if you need one) in your application for the Physician Stream. Do NOT request that your ECA report be sent directly to us. Keep a copy of it for your records and future use.

## Documents about you and your family

### Passports

You, and everyone immigrating with you, must have a valid passport. The expiry date of all passports should be at least 2 years from the date of your application. Do NOT include the original passports in your application. Instead, include copies of pages that show these things:

- the passport number
- the date of issue and expiry
- the photo of the passport holder
- the name of the passport holder as well as their date and place of birth
- any changes to the passport holder's name, date of birth, or other identifying information
- any changes to the passport's expiry date
- any visas or visits to Canada

### Documents related to your spouse and children if they are immigrating with you

Include the documents that apply to you:

- a copy of your marriage certificate
- a copy of a Statutory Declaration of Common-Law Union
- copies of birth certificates for dependent children
- copies of adoption papers for dependent children
- copies of custody documents for children younger than 19
- proof of permission allowing children under 19 to come with you to Canada

### Documents related to your immigration status

Include the documents that apply to you:

- **If you currently live in Canada**, include a copy of proof of your legal status in Canada. Ensure that your proof is valid when you submit your application.
- **If you currently live in a country of which you are NOT a citizen**, include a copy of proof of your legal status in that country.
- **If you have applied to immigrate to Canada before**, include copies of every letter you have received from the Canadian government or any provincial or territorial government regarding each application.

**Important!** If you are in Canada on a work permit, your work permit must be valid when you submit your application.

# The application process

## 1. Apply to the NSNP Physician Stream

Go to [novascotia.ca/ensnp](https://novascotia.ca/ensnp) to submit your application

You must complete the eNSNP 100 form online and ensure that you include all the documents we need.

## 2. We assess your application

We review your application looking for 2 things:

- that you meet all of our eligibility criteria
- that your application includes all the documents we ask for in this guide

**Note:** We may need to interview you as part of our evaluation. This interview will take place in person and in Nova Scotia.

**Important!** We will refuse your application for these reasons:

- You failed to include even one of the required documents in your application.
- You do NOT meet the basic eligibility requirements for the Physician Stream.

## 3. You will either be nominated or refused

### If you are nominated

If you meet the Physician Stream criteria, we will email a nomination certificate to you or your representative. The certificate expires 6 months after the date of nomination. We will also send proof of your nomination directly to IRCC. You need to apply for this visa within 6 months of receiving your nomination certificate.

### If we decide to refuse your application

We will refuse your application if you do NOT meet the criteria for the Physician Stream. We will NOT refuse you right away. Instead, we will email you or your representative a letter explaining our concerns or requesting further information. You have **10 business days** to submit new information for us to consider. **After 10 business days** we will re-assess your application, including the new information. We will then make our final decision and email it to you or your representative.

We may extend this 10-day time limit in rare circumstances if you request it. For example, we may extend it if you were in hospital or had a death in the family.

#### **If we refuse your application**

We will notify you or your representative by email. This decision is final. There is no appeal process.

#### **We may extend your nomination**

You can ask us to extend your nomination period beyond 6 months. This will give you more time to apply to IRCC for your permanent resident visa. You must provide evidence as to why you need the extension and include any supporting documents we ask for.

We allow you only one such extension. This extension will expire 6 months after the original expiry date. We do NOT grant extensions after one year from the original nomination date. After one year, you will have to re-apply to the program.

### **4. Ask for a Letter of Support for your Temporary Work Permit**

After you have been nominated by the Province of Nova Scotia, you can request a Letter of Support from our office (NSOI). This letter replaces the Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) from Service Canada. You can use this letter to apply for a temporary work permit or to renew your existing work permit with IRCC. A work permit lets you work in Nova Scotia while IRCC processes your application for a permanent resident visa.

Work permits can only be renewed within 3 months of their expiry date. IRCC will only approve a renewal if your passport will continue to be valid for the duration of the renewed permit.

### **5. Apply to IRCC for permanent residence**

After you receive your nomination certificate, apply to IRCC for a permanent resident visa.

Send your application to:

IRCC Centralized Intake Office – Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) –  
Non-Express Entry Applications  
PO Box 1450  
Sydney, NS B1P 6K5  
CANADA

You, your spouse or common-law partner, and your dependents must meet all of IRCC's requirements. This includes medical, security, and criminal background checks. IRCC may also ask you to attend an in-person interview.



## **6. IRCC issues permanent resident visas**

If you, your spouse or common-law partner, and your dependents meet all of IRCC's eligibility requirements, IRCC will issue all of you Confirmation of Permanent Residence.

## **7. Tell us when you become a permanent resident**

Contact us within 30 days of your arrival in Nova Scotia. Send us these documents:

- a copy of the Confirmation of Permanent Residence
- your Nova Scotia contact information including
  - your current address
  - your phone number
  - your email address

# Document checklist

Check your documents against the list below. Be sure that you have all the documents we have requested in this guide. We may ask you for more information if we need it.

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
<b>NSNP FORMS</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>eNSNP 100</b> – Online application at <a href="https://novascotia.ca/ensnp">novascotia.ca/ensnp</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NSNP 50</b> – Use of a Representative (optional. Use only if a representative has helped you to complete and submit your application). See <a href="#">You may use a representative</a> . <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NSNP 60</b> – <a href="#">Authority to Release Personal Information</a> (optional. Use only if you want us to send your application information to someone other than yourself or your representative). <p>The person you choose will have access to information about your application but they will NOT be able to act on your behalf.</p>	<p>Applicant</p> <p>Any <u>dependents</u> aged 19 and older</p>
<b>Documents Related to the Physician Stream</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> A copy of your approved job offer from the NSHA or IWK <p>See <a href="#">Documents related to your application to the Physician Stream</a></p>	<p>Applicant</p>

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
<b>Education and Training</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> copies of certificates, diplomas, degrees, or transcripts that prove that you meet all the criteria required to obtain a licence to practise medicine in Nova Scotia from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia OR <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of your valid Education credential assessment (ECA) from the Medical Council of Canada See <a href="#">Documents related to your education and training</a> .	Applicant
<b>Immigration status</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of passport pages as described under <a href="#">Passports</a> in this guide <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of proof of legal status for the country where you are currently living, including Canada <input type="checkbox"/> Previous temporary residence permits, if applicable and available <input type="checkbox"/> Letters from previous attempts to immigrate to Canada See <a href="#">Documents related to your immigration status</a> .	Applicant Spouse or common-law partner <a href="#">Dependents</a>

Forms, Criteria, and Supporting Documents	Who must provide the document
<b>Accompanying family members (if applicable)</b>	
<p>Copies of these documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Birth certificates for dependent children</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Marriage certificate</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Declaration of Common-Law Union</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Custody documents and permission for the child to come to Canada</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adoption papers</li> </ul> <p>See <u>Documents related to your spouse and children</u> if they are immigrating with you</p>	<p>Applicant</p> <p>Spouse or common-law partner</p>

# Questions?

**Call** (902) 424-5230 or toll free in Nova Scotia 1-877-292-9597

**Email** [immigration@novascotia.ca](mailto:immigration@novascotia.ca)

**Write to**                      **Labour, Skills and Immigration**  
Immigration and Population Growth  
PO Box 697  
Halifax, NS B3J 2T8  
CANADA

**Visit online** [novascotiaimmigration.ca](http://novascotiaimmigration.ca)

**Visit in person**      **Labour, Skills and Immigration**  
Immigration and Population Growth  
1505 Barrington Street, 4th Floor (Maritime Centre)  
Halifax, NS B3J 3K5  
CANADA

Find Nova Scotia Immigration on the following social media websites:

