



Caps Announced for Federal Skilled Worker, Federal Skilled Trades and Canadian Experience Class

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On April 29, 2014, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (“CIC”) published Operational Bulletin 572, which provided guidance on the implementation of the twelfth set of Ministerial Instructions. These Ministerial Instructions established caps on the Federal Skilled Worker (“FSW”) Class, Federal Skilled Trades (“FST”) Class, and Canadian Experience Class (“CEC”). Further details appear below.

Limit on the Number of FSW Applications to be Processed

A maximum of 25,000 new, complete FSW applications will be considered for processing under the occupation list stream between May 1, 2014, and April 30, 2015, unless otherwise indicated in a future Ministerial Instruction. There is no limit on the number of new applications with offers of arranged employment that will be considered for processing.

Within the overall cap of 25,000 applications, a maximum of 1,000 complete FSW applications for each eligible occupation in Skill Type 0, or Skill Level A or B as per the 2011 version of the *National Occupational Classification* (“NOC”) will be considered for processing. The list of eligible occupations is as follows:

1. Senior managers – financial, communications and other business services (0013)
2. Senior managers – trade, broadcasting and other services, n.e.c. (0015)
3. Financial managers (0111)
4. Human resources managers (0112)
5. Purchasing managers (0113)
6. Insurance, real estate and financial brokerage managers (0121)
7. Managers in health care (0311)
8. Construction managers (0711)
9. Home building and renovation managers (0712)
10. Managers in natural resources production and fishing (0811)
11. Manufacturing managers (0911)
12. Financial auditors and accountants (1111)
13. Financial and investment analysts (1112)
14. Securities agents, investment dealers and brokers (1113)
15. Other financial officers (1114)

16. Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations (1123)
17. Supervisors, finance and insurance office workers (1212)
18. Property administrators (1224)
19. Geoscientists and oceanographers (2113)
20. Civil engineers (2131)
21. Mechanical engineers (2132)
22. Electrical and electronics engineers (2133)
23. Petroleum engineers (2145)
24. Information systems analysts and consultants (2171)
25. Database analysts and data administrators (2172)
26. Software engineers and designers (2173)
27. Computer programmers and interactive media developers (2174)
28. Mechanical engineering technologists and technicians (2232)
29. Construction estimators (2234)
30. Electrical and electronics engineering technologists and technicians (2241)
31. Industrial instrument technicians and mechanics (2243)
32. Inspectors in public and environmental health and occupational health and safety (2263)
33. Computer network technicians (2281)
34. Nursing co-ordinators and supervisors (3011)
35. Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses (3012)
36. Specialist physicians (3111)
37. General practitioners and family physicians (3112)
38. Dietitians and nutritionists (3132)
39. Audiologists and speech-language pathologists (3141)
40. Physiotherapists (3142)
41. Occupational therapists (3143)
42. Respiratory therapists, clinical perfusionists and cardiopulmonary technologists (3214)
43. Medical radiation technologists (3215)
44. Medical sonographers (3216)
45. Licensed practical nurses (3233)
46. Paramedical occupations (3234)
47. University professors and lecturers (4011)
48. Psychologists (4151)
49. Early childhood educators and assistants (4214)
50. Translators, terminologists and interpreters (5125)

In addition, a maximum of 500 applications will be considered for processing under a PhD student/graduate stream during the above period.

Limit on the Number of FST Applications to be Processed

A maximum of 5,000 new, complete FST applications will be considered for processing for the period between May 1, 2014, until April 30, 2015, unless otherwise indicated in a future Ministerial Instruction.

Within the overall 5,000 cap, a maximum of 100 complete FST applications for each eligible skilled trade occupation will be considered for processing. Pursuant to Subsection 87.2(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations*, eligible skilled trade occupations are restricted to occupations in the following categories listed in Skill Level B as per the 2011 version of the NOC:

1. Major Group 72, industrial, electrical and construction trades;
2. Major Group 73, maintenance and equipment operation trades;
3. Major Group 82, supervisors and technical occupations in natural resources, agriculture and related production;
4. Major Group 92, processing, manufacturing and utilities supervisors and central control operators;
5. Minor Group 632, chefs and cooks; and
6. Minor Group 633, butchers and bakers.

Caps apply irrespective of whether an application is made with a qualifying offer of employment or a certificate of qualification from a provincial or territorial apprenticeship authority.

Limit on the Number of CEC Applications to be Processed

A maximum of 8,000 new, complete CEC applications will be considered for processing for the period between May 1, 2014, until April 30, 2015, unless otherwise indicated in a future Ministerial Instruction. Within the overall 8,000 cap, a maximum of 200 complete CEC applications for each eligible occupation in Skill Level B as per the 2011 version of the NOC will be considered for processing. Work experience in the following six ineligible occupations cannot be used to qualify for processing:

1. Unit Group 1221, administrative officers;
2. Unit Group 1241, administrative assistants;
3. Unit Group 1311, accounting technicians and bookkeepers;
4. Unit Group 6211, retail sales supervisors;
5. Unit Group 6311, food service supervisors; and
6. Unit Group 6322, cooks.

There is no sub-cap on CEC applications for occupations in NOC Skill Type 0 or Skill Level A, but these occupations are subject to the overall cap of 8,000 new, complete applications.

Processing of Existing Applications

The Ministerial Instructions do not apply to FSW, FST and CEC applications received before May 1, 2014. All FSW, FST and CEC applications received by the Centralized Intake Office before this date will continue to be considered for processing subject to the program requirements and Ministerial Instructions in effect at the time of application receipt. ■