

ATLANTIC IMMIGRATION PILOT: Process for LMIA-Exempt Work Permits

In order to obtain an LMIA-exempt work permit:

- Provinces will do a completeness check to ensure that the following has been provided:
 - A job offer from a designated employer;
 - An endorsement application, which includes a needs assessment & settlement plan signed by the employer and the recruited candidate; and
 - A copy of the commitment by the recruited candidate to submit an eligible permanent residence application within 90 days of applying for an LMIA-exempt work permit (Note: In order to meet this commitment, temporary resident applicants should have already initiated the process to obtain an Educational Credential Assessment (ECA) and scheduled language tests).
- Provinces issue a Referral Letter to the employer or recruited candidate and inform them that they will need to provide this letter with their application for a work permit.
- Employers who want the recruited candidate to come to Canada via an LMIA-exempt work permit will have to first enrol in the [Employer Portal](#) (obtain a GCKey).
 - [Employer Portal Enrolment Guide](#)
 - [Employer Portal User Guide](#)
 - [Employer Portal FAQs](#)
- Employers will then have to submit offers of employment in the Employer Portal for *each* LMIA-exempt candidate they wish to hire as part of the Atlantic pilot, using the LMIA exemption code C18.
- Employers will have to pay the employer compliance fee (\$230) for each offer of employment submitted through the Employer Portal. Once the fee is paid, the employer will receive the Offer of Employment Number (A#####) in the Portal and must give this number to the recruited candidate. The candidate **must** include this number on their work permit application.
- Recruited candidates must [apply for a work permit](#) using:
 - their provincial Referral Letter,
 - the commitment to apply for permanent residence form IMM 5654 Undertaking for an Application for a Work Permit Exempted from a Labour Market Impact Assessment as part of the Atlantic Immigration Pilot, and
 - the work permit application form, including the Offer of Employment number with their work permit application.
- They will also need proof that they meet the requirements of the job being offered to them by the employer and as submitted via the Employer Portal. Where required, recruited candidates

will obtain police certificates and undergo medical examinations as part of their work permit applications.

- Once recruited candidates have submitted their work permit application, the recruited candidates will have 90 days to submit a complete application for permanent residence. This is [a separate application process](#).

Spouses of recruited candidates can apply for an open work permit if the recruited candidate is employed in a position listed as Skill Type 0, Skill Level A or Skill Level B in the [2016 National Occupation Classification](#) (NOC). If eligible, they must submit their application to CPC-E.

All applicants may check the estimated processing time for their application at the following link: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/times/index.asp>