



Caregiver Connections Education and Support Organization (CCESO)

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Newsletter

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New Regulations on Canadian Citizenship Application

(Extracted from Citizenship Immigration Canada News)

As of October 11, 2017, permanent residents in Canada can apply for [Canadian citizenship](#) — a process known as naturalization — more easily and sooner than before, following the implementation of key measures contained in Bill C-6, which was passed into law last June 2017.

Permanent Residents who spent time in Canada as a foreign worker, international student, or protected person before transitioning to permanent residence may apply for Canadian Citizenship.

International adoption cases, citizenship is a status that may only be obtained *after* an individual becomes a permanent resident of Canada.

PREVIOUS REGULATIONS	NEW REGULATIONS
Applicants had to be physically present in Canada for four out of six years before applying for citizenship.	Applicants must be physically present in Canada for three out of five years before applying for citizenship.
Applicants had to file Canadian income taxes, if required to do so under the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , for four out of six years, matching the physical presence requirement.	Applicants must file Canadian income taxes, if required to do so under the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , for three out of five years, matching the new physical presence requirement.
Applicants had to be physically present in Canada for 183 days in four out of the six years preceding their application.	This provision is repealed. Applicants no longer have to meet this requirement.
Time spent in Canada prior to becoming a permanent resident did not count towards the physical presence requirement for citizenship.	Applicants may count each day they were physically present in Canada as a temporary resident or protected person before becoming a permanent resident as a half-day toward meeting the physical presence requirement for citizenship, up to a maximum credit of 365 days.
Applicants between 14 and 64 years had to meet the language and knowledge requirements for citizenship.	Applicants between 18 and 54 years must meet the language and knowledge requirements for citizenship.

Canadian citizens enjoy all the rights that come with that status, including the right to leave and re-enter Canada without needing to accumulate residency days, as well as the right to vote and stand for political office. Citizens may also apply for a Canadian passport, one of the most valuable passports globally.

Evaluating eligibility

Readers can find out if or when they may be eligible to apply for Canadian citizenship using the [CanadaVisa Citizenship Calculator](https://www.canadavisa.com/canadian-citizenship-eligibility-calculator.html) at <https://www.canadavisa.com/canadian-citizenship-eligibility-calculator.html>.

Reprinted**SUCCESS STORY**

By
Thess Rebutan

First, let me tell you what happened when I went to CCESO in 2009. I met Genie who assisted me in doing my tax return for the year 2008. I felt I was underpaid, but I did not know then how to claim back the money owing to me by my employer. Genie explained to me that I could claim that money back through the Ministry of Labour. However, I did not want to appear to the Ministry of Labour as I was afraid it might affect my future PR application. I also feared losing my job.

Genie then provided me another route to take, but discussed with me the possible consequence by sending my complaints directly to Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). She cautioned me that I might in fact lose my job. She did suggest looking for another employer first before submitting my complaint to CRA just to be prepared. She felt strongly that CRA needs to know about this kind of employer so they are aware that this employer is a tax avoider and that there might be more of this type under their hands.

When she computed my tax return, there was a difference in my salary from my contract and the T4. She then helped me write a letter, but she made sure the letter and other supporting documents were reviewed first by other members of CCESO before sending it to CRA. As a result, ***my employer received a call from CRA and I lost my job two (2) months after the letter was sent.***

In 2010, I went back to CCESO with my 2009 T4. Genie then computed my tax and again she helped me write a letter to CRA reiterating the discrepancies in the T4 & my contract, Within that year I received a form (formal complaint form) to be filled out from CRA with all the documents I submitted to them minus the T4. I returned the filled-out form and did not hear from CRA for a while.

In October 2012, I received the full amount of the money I claimed, a call from my previous employer (who was a Doctor) and a new T4. I was so happy all due to the help and support I got from CCESO I could not believe that I got all the money owed to me. Genie humbly told me that it was my courage and the sacrifice I made which also taught my employer a lesson! I obviously chose a difficult route, but prepared myself for the possible consequences and it was worth it!

I urge caregivers, domestic workers and all workers to seek out help if you need it and CCESO will be there for you.

Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that?

We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves.

We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained.

- Marie Curie