



CANADIAN CERTIFIED IMMIGRATION CONSULTING INC.

CCIC NEWS

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Canada's Parents and Grandparents Program opens briefly to expressions of interest

IRCC was aiming to accept 27,000 Interest to Sponsor forms

Canada's Parents and Grandparents sponsorship program closed to expressions of interest from eligible Canadian citizens and permanent residents after opening briefly on January 28.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) said it would accept 27,000 Interest to Sponsor forms on a first-in, first-served basis this year as a first step in the annual application cycle for its [Parents and Grandparents Program](#), known as the PGP.

The form was only available for several minutes before IRCC announced that it had received enough submissions and ended the intake. They immediately began to receive much criticism across social media, calling this new system of first-come first-served unjust and inaccessible. Last year's intake was based on a lottery system and remained open for almost a month.

IRCC tweeted that those who successfully submitted the Interest to Sponsor form should receive an email within 24 hours confirming receipt.

Submitting the Interest to Sponsor form and the required proof of status in Canada document is not an application but it is the mandatory starting point for those who want to participate in the PGP.

Following the removal of duplicate submissions, invitations to apply to the PGP will be issued in the order the Interest to Sponsor forms are received until IRCC reaches its 2019 target of 20,000 complete applications.

Prior to this morning's opening, IRCC had announced that at least one round of invitations will be held, with the possibility of others, until its target of 20,000 complete applications is met.

The fact IRCC had a higher quota for Interest to Sponsor forms than it does for complete applications reflects the reality that not all invitations result in an application and not all applications end up meeting the program's completeness and eligibility requirements.

IRCC said it may open the interest to sponsor form again in 2019 if it needs more potential sponsors.