



CANADIAN CERTIFIED IMMIGRATION CONSULTING INC.

CCIC NEWS

March 21, 2019



Canada invites 3,350 Express Entry candidates to apply for permanent residence

Cut-off score drops two points in March 20th Express Entry invitation round

The Government of Canada issued 3,350 invitations to apply for Canadian permanent residence to Express Entry candidates in a draw held March 20. The cut-off Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score in yesterday's draw was 452, a reduction of two points over the minimum score in the previous Express Entry draw held on March 6th.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has now issued a total of 21,200 Invitations to Apply (ITAs) in 2019 through the Express Entry system. This is an increase of 6,700 over the 14,500 ITAs that Canada had issued at this same point in 2018 - a year that saw IRCC issue a record 89,800 invitations to Express Entry candidates.

It is expected that IRCC will set a new ITA record this year given Canada's higher 2019 and 2020 admissions targets for the three Federal High Skilled economic immigration categories managed by the Express Entry system - the Federal Skilled Worker Class, Federal Skilled Trades Class and Canadian Experience Class. Candidates who meet the eligibility requirements for these categories are entered into the Express Entry pool and issued a ranking score based on factors such as their age, education, work experience and proficiency in English or French. IRCC then invites a set number of the highest-scoring candidates to apply for Canadian permanent residence through regular draws from the pool.

The cut-off CRS score has now dropped twice over the last two invitation rounds, which may have resulted from the fact IRCC only allowed two weeks to elapse between draws in both instances. Larger draw sizes can also have an impact on the cut-off CRS score. Given IRCC's higher admissions targets for 2019 and 2020, it is possible that we will see bigger draws in the second quarter of the year and the cut-off score continue to fall.

Contact CCIC today to find out if you are eligible to enter the Express Entry pool.



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