

Caregiver Programs

Canada has the immigration programs for the people who have the background as caregivers. The programs are:

1. Home Child Care Provider Pilot Program
2. Home Support Worker Pilot Program

Used to be known as “Live-in Caregiver” program. However, since June 2019, this Live-in Caregiver program has been replaced with the 5 years new pilot programs that split into 2 streams: Home Child Care Provider and Home Support Worker.



Let's delve more into these two pilot programs:

1. Home Child Care Providers

Home child care providers help busy parents watch after children under 18 years of age. They also may be required to help out with household duties. Care can be provided either in the employee's own home or in their employer's homes.

The NOC code is 4411.

Among those who enter into this category are:

- Babysitter
- Au pair
- Live-in child caregiver
- Private home child caregiver
- Nanny
- Parent's helper

- Child caregiver in a public setting such as a gym or shopping centre

2. Home Support Workers

Home support workers are aimed to help senior citizens, people with disabilities and individuals going through rehabilitation. Responsibilities typically include preparing meals, feeding, bathing, changing dressings, administering medications and other routine housekeeping duties.

NOC code 3012: registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses;

Or

NOC code 4412: home support worker, live-in caregiver, personal care attendant.

Among those who enter into this category are:

- At-home attendant for persons with disabilities
- Family caregiver
- Home support worker
- Live-in caregiver for seniors
- Personal aide (home support)
- Personal care attendant (home care)
- Respite worker (home support)
- Doula
- Home visitor (infant care)

The opportunities from these new pilot programs:

- The caregiver applicant can come to work in Canada and bring along her family. The family members are also eligible to work or study while in Canada. After 2 years working as the caregiver in Canada, she and her family can apply for permanent residence.
- Effective since June 2019, the LMIA is not needed anymore for the caregiver. This makes it easier for the caregiver to get the job and become permanent resident.

Requirements:

1. Work experience

Though the applicant does not have qualifying work experience, she can still apply the Home Child Care Provider Pilot or the Home Support Worker Pilot as long as she meets the other eligibility requirements. However, she must gain 24 months of eligible Canadian work experience within 36 months before she and her family can proceed the application to become the permanent residents.

In case, the applicant has already acquired at least 24 months of eligible work experience in Canada as a home child care provider or home support worker, within the last 36 months at the time of applying, she can apply for permanent residence without needing to acquire further work experience under these pilots.

2. Language level

The minimum language skill is CLB 5 in English or NLCL 5 in French for all 4 language skills (writing, reading, listening, speaking)

3. Education requirement

- Completion of secondary school (ECA required for foreign education institutions)

- Home child care providers, parent's helpers, and foster parents may require completion of training program in child care or a related field.
 - Child care or household management experience may be required.
 - Demonstrated ability to perform work is usually required
 - First aid certification and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) training may be required
4. A valid full-time job offer from a Canadian employer in an eligible caregiver occupation with conditions:
- The applicant must demonstrate that they have obtained a job offer that is:
 - ✓ from a single Canadian employer
 - ✓ The employer cannot be an embassy, high commission or consulate in Canada.
 - ✓ The employer can comprise more than one individual (for example, Mr. and Mrs. Smith), but must constitute 1 single employer (that is, 1 single CRA business number).
 - for a position outside the province of Quebec
 - for full-time employment (full time means at least 30 hours of paid work per week)
 - non-seasonal
 - in a home child care provider or home support worker occupation
 - genuine and likely to be valid when the applicant is issued the initial OROWP (occupation-restricted open work permit)
 - The job offer must also describe the work and duties to be performed by the applicant. These duties must align with the actions described in the lead statement for the eligible occupation, as set out in the occupational descriptions of the NOC.
 - The main duties of the job cannot be for foster parent or housekeeper occupations.
5. The ability to perform the work
- If the applicant has provided proof of at least 24 months of eligible Canadian work experience in their initial application, they do not need to be assessed for their ability to perform the work.
 - Applicants who have not obtained at least 24 months of qualifying Canadian work experience must demonstrate that they are able to perform the work described in the lead statement of the occupational description of the NOC. Failure to do so may result in a refusal.

How the process works:

- You apply to either the Home Child Care Provider Pilot or the Home Support Worker Pilot, depending on which occupation you plan to work in.
- You submit a work permit application together with your permanent residence application.
- If you meet the requirements, you get a work permit to work in Canada temporarily.
- The work permit you get is an occupation-restricted open work permit (OROWP) and lets you work as a caregiver for any employer. The work permit will be valid for 3 years and will let the candidate work for any employer outside Quebec, in NOC 4411, or 4412).
- Get at least 24 months of work experience to qualify for permanent residence.
- You send the IRCC proof of your work experience once you have enough.
- The IRCC will make a final decision on your application for permanent residence.

Recent update : Home Child Care Provider Pilot (HCCP) is closed for 2022

The Home Child Care Provider Pilot (HCCP) is closed for the 2022 intake. As of January 17, 2022, the annual cap of 2,750 has reached and the program is now closed for new applications in 2022. The program will be reopened on 01 January 2023.

The Home Support Worker pilot is still open for 2022 and it has not reached the application cap of 2750 for 2022. You can still apply under the Home Support Worker pilot if you are eligible.