

The Application Process

Step #1 Conduct your Exploratory Visit to Manitoba.

Note: The MPNP-B advises you to review and understand the eligibility requirements carefully. The FSRI is a special rural economic initiative under the auspices of the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program for Business (MPNP-B). Although the FSRI does not employ an adaptability matrix that awards points for English or French language capabilities, the FSRI recognizes language capabilities in either of Canada's two official languages as an important adaptability skill that can accelerate your ability to become economically established in rural Manitoba. If you feel that you will be unable to demonstrate your adaptability, specifically relating to your practical farming skills, experience and technical knowledge of technological based farming practices which will transfer directly to Manitoba's current primary production farm industry, the MPNP-B does not recommend that you apply to the FSRI Program. Potential applicants with farming backgrounds who are unable to demonstrate that they meet the FSRI criteria are encouraged to review the MPNP-B criteria. Please refer to FAQ #7 to 12 for further information.

You must visit Manitoba for a period of not less than five business days (excluding the days of arrival and departure), to conduct extensive farm business and rural lifestyle-related research. Although an Exploratory Visit to Manitoba must be for a minimum of five business days, longer visits are recommended as they provide the applicant with a better opportunity to explore Manitoba.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the necessary travel documents (such as Visitor's Visa) required for travel to Manitoba, Canada.

Step #2 Submit your Farm Strategic Recruitment Initiative Nomination Application

Once you have completed your Exploratory Visit, you can submit your complete Nomination Application together with all supporting documents and the non-refundable application processing fee of CDN \$2,500. **The fee must be paid in the form of a Bank Draft payable in Canadian Dollars to the Manitoba Development Corporation.**

Step #3 Attend an interview with MPNP-B Program Officer

After the Nomination Application and application fee has been received, you may be requested to participate in an interview. You will be contacted by the FSRI to make these arrangements once your file is being processed.

Step #4 Assessment of the Farm Strategic Recruitment Initiative Nomination Application

Once a complete Nomination Application has been received along with the non-refundable processing fee a confirmation letter acknowledging receipt of your application will be sent to you. The FSRI Nomination Application will be assessed according to FSRI and MPNP-B criteria. If your Nomination Application is refused, you will not be refunded your application processing fee.

(NOTE: Processing does not begin on incomplete applications.)

Step #5 Complete a Deposit Agreement

If you are approved for nomination, you will be instructed to sign a Deposit Agreement and send a deposit of CDN\$75,000 to Manitoba Development Corporation.

Step #6 Submit an Application for Permanent Residence to the CIC Central Intake Office (CIO) in Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada

Upon receipt of a signed Deposit Agreement and deposit of CDN \$75,000, you will be instructed to submit your original Permanent Resident application to the Central Intake Office (CIO) in Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada. The MPNP-B will send a Nomination Certificate directly to that office indicating that you have been nominated by the MPNP-B. Upon further screening, the CIO will forward the application to a designated Canadian Visa Office abroad that will provide instructions on medical examinations, security clearances and, upon favourable results, issue the Permanent Residence Visa.

Step #7 Immigrate to Manitoba

Upon arriving in Manitoba as a Permanent Resident, it is mandatory that you contact the Business Immigration and Investment Branch within 30 days to schedule an appointment to meet with a Business Settlement Officer.

Step #8 Establish your Eligible Farm Business in rural Manitoba and Request a Refund of Deposit

An applicant must establish his/her business and fulfill the investment requirements as outlined in his/her Deposit Agreement within two years of landing. Once the investment in the farm business area he/she proposed has been verified, the CDN\$75,000 Cash Deposit will be returned to the applicant.

IMPORTANT:

Do not complete this application kit unless you have completed your Exploratory Visit. Applications received from individuals who have not made an Exploratory Visit to Manitoba will not be interviewed and their applications will be returned unprocessed.

To apply to the FSRI, the applicant must:

- 1) Complete the forms. Please refer to our Document Checklist which has complete details of the forms and documents required to be enclosed with the application.
- 2) Collect all documents, as outlined in detail in the Document Checklist. It is an applicant's responsibility to submit all supporting documents. If documents are missing, not translated or unclear, your application may be returned and not assessed. Translated documents **must** be notarized.
- 3) Review and organize your completed forms and supporting documents in the same order as set out in the Document Checklist to ensure you have a complete application package.
- 4) Please collate your pages and secure them with one paper clip.
 - Do not bind your application or put the pages in a ring binder.
 - Do not enclose individual pages in plastic, envelopes or folders.
 - Do not tie, sew, bolt or glue the pages together.
 - Only staple documents together which have multiple pages.
 - Do not send multiple copies of identical documents.

- Do not send booklets, brochures or leaflets with your application that were collected during an Exploratory Visit.
- 5) PHOTOCOPY all your completed forms and supporting documents and attach the labels from the Document Checklist Tag Sheet.
- 6) Submit your completed application package.
(DO NOT FAX or E-MAIL THE APPLICATION PACKAGE.)
MAIL TO: Business Immigration and Investment Branch
Manitoba Labour and Immigration
600 - 259 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 2A9
- 7) The Nomination Application will be reviewed and you will be contacted by letter, fax or electronic mail (e-mail) with the results. Further clarification and/or documentation may be requested.
- 8) Decisions on applications are final. There is no appeal process. However, this does not preclude applicants from applying again after one year (or two years for cases of misrepresentation), provided the reasons for refusal of the initial application have been addressed.

If your Application for Nomination is approved by Manitoba, you will be required to make a good-faith deposit of CDN\$75,000 to the Government of Manitoba, and sign a Cash Deposit Agreement guaranteeing that you will live in Manitoba and start or purchase a farm business in Manitoba within two years of obtaining your Permanent Resident status. The deposit will be refunded without interest when the investment described in the Deposit Agreement is made, the farm business is operational and the Nominee is actively involved in the operation of the farm business / operation from within Manitoba.

After the deposit of CDN\$75,000 and signed Deposit Agreement are received by Manitoba, you will be provided with instructions on how to submit the appropriate forms, documents and federal processing fees to a **Centralized Intake Office – Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)** P.O. BOX 1450, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada B1P 6K5. www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/canada/sydney.asp

Further instructions will be sent directly to you from the Canadian Visa Office regarding health and security checks. The Canadian Visa Office may require additional documentation at that time. In some cases, you may be required to attend an interview.

Upon arrival in Manitoba, you must contact the Business Settlement Office of the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program for Business (MPNP-B), (Canada 001-204-945-1872), for general settlement support in establishing your business. Once the business has been established, you may request the release of your CDN\$75,000 deposit. At any time during this process, you are encouraged to contact the MPNP-B for further information or clarification, or to advise on a change in personal situation or contact information.