Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 3, 2025 10:00:50 AM
From: [redacted] Représentants [redacted] ([redacted]
Sent: Wed, 16 Apr 2025 15:23:17
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Outside Canada Spousal Sponsorship - REP-A-2025-0836 - Due 30-Apr-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,
[redacted] **Immigration Representatives Mailbox.**
Please note that this mailbox is intended for general guidance and does not provide responses to case-specific inquiries but have provided the following information as guidance. If you have case specific questions about a file, you are encouraged to submit the IRCC Web form.
Please see our response to your question.
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As per the Complete Guide (IMM5289) for spousal sponsorships, a person can become a sponsor if they are :

- * at least 18 years old
- * a Canadian citizen, a person registered in Canada as an Indian under the Canadian Indian Act or a permanent resident,
- * living in Canada:
  - * if they are a Canadian citizen living outside Canada, they must show that they plan to live in Canada when their sponsored spouse, partner or dependent child becomes a permanent resident.
  - * You can't sponsor someone if you're a permanent resident living outside of Canada.
- * able to prove that you are not receiving social assistance for reasons other than a disability, and;
- * You must also be able to show that you can provide basic needs for:
  - yourself,
  - your spouse or partner,
  - your spouse or partner's dependent child(ren) (if applicable)
  - your dependent child(ren) (if you're sponsoring only your dependent child).

Therefore, a **Canadian citizen** sponsor may either reside in Canada or outside of Canada when sponsoring their spouse or partner; however if they are residing outside of Canada, they must show that they plan to live in Canada when their spouse or partner becomes a PR.

A **permanent resident** sponsor residing outside of Canada cannot sponsor someone. They must be living in Canada and complying with the requirements to be a PR in order to sponsor (see suspension of processing for situations that may impact the processing of the sponsorship application).

It is up to the applicant to choose which class or stream of application best fits their personal situation and circumstances. As outlined in the Complete Guide (IMM5289):

A spouse or common-law partner may be sponsored under the **Family Class** or under the Spouse or Common-Law Partner in Canada Class.

Apply under the **Family Class** if:

- the person you want to sponsor lives outside Canada
- the person you want to sponsor currently lives with you in Canada but doesn't plan to stay in Canada while the application is being processed
- you plan to appeal if the application is refused
- you're sponsoring your conjugal partner or dependent child

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Apply under the **Spouse or Common-Law Partner in Canada Class** if your spouse or common-law partner:

- lives with you in Canada
- has valid temporary resident status in Canada, or is exempt from needing this status under a public policy

For more detailed information about the requirements for these classes, see Part 7 of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations:*

- for requirements to sponsor a spouse or common-law partner under the Family Class, see *Part 7, Division 1*
- for requirements to sponsor under the Spouse or Common-Law Partner in Canada class, see *Part 7, Division 2*

We hope you find this information useful.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2025 12:14 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Cc:
Subject: Outside Canada Spousal Sponsorship

Dear Sir/Madam:

Can we file an "outland" (outside Canada) spousal sponsorship application even if the Canadian sponsor is moving to Canada now and the principal applicant (the person being sponsored) resides outside of Canada till the PR application will be approved?

Yours truly,

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