Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 3, 2025 8:48:20 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Fri, 4 Apr 2025 13:28:27
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: RE:EXPRESS ENTRY: Clarification Russian PCC issued by Consulate - REP-B-2025-0129 - Due 22-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.
***
If the applicant has applied to the appropriate office using the instructions provided on IRCC's webpage, and yet receives in response a document that does not have the expected title, please submit it, along with an explanation, to the IRCC processing office for review and further instruction. An officer will make a final determination as to whether the document provided is sufficient for IRCC's purposes.

We hope this is of assistance.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 4, 2025 1:43 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Cc:
Subject: RE:EXPRESS ENTRY: Clarification Russian PCC issued by Consulate

> **CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the Government of Canada. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.
> **ATTENTION:** Ce courriel provient de l'extérieur du gouvernement du Canada. Ne cliquez pas sur les liens et n'ouvrez pas les pièces jointes sauf si vous reconnaissez l'expéditeur et sachez que le contenu est sûr.

Dear Sir/Madam:

According to IRCC's website (https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/medical-police/police-certificates/how/russia.html), Express Entry applicants who have lived in Russia are required to obtain a document named "Reference certificate (Spravka o nalichii (otsutstvii) sudimosti ("Statement of the presence (absence) of convictions and (or) facts of criminal prosecution or termination of criminal prosecution.")"

However, the same web page also states that applicants who are outside of Russia should apply for their "reference certificate/ Spravka o nalichii (otsutstvii) sudimosti" at a local Embassy.

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We would like to confirm with you whether police clearance certificates issued by a local Embassy would still be considered acceptable by IRCC even if the title of the document issued by the Embassy does not include the exact title mentioned on IRCC's web page. For ease of reference, please see an excerpt below from a PCC received in [redacted] document is titled "Police Clearance Certificate" instead of "reference certificate/ Spravka o nalichii (otsutstvii) sudimosti". Our opinion is that as long as the applicant followed the instructions from IRCC and applied in person at the Consular Section of their nearest Embassy, it should be considered acceptable despite not having the same title at the top. Please confirm if our understanding is correct.



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How to get a police certificate – Russia

If you need to give your fingerprints for a police certificate, this **isn't** the same as giving your biometrics (fingerprints and photo) for an application.

Name of the document you need

Reference certificate (*Spravka o nalichii (otsutstvii) sudimosti* ("Statement of the presence (absence) of convictions and (or) facts of criminal prosecution or termination of criminal prosecution.")

Police certificate and IRCC requirements

You must provide a police certificate when you apply for:

- permanent residence
- citizenship
- some temporary residence programs

Check your application package or instructions for details.

How to apply

If you live in Russia

- Apply in person to **either**
  - your regional Information Centre of the Ministry of Internal Affairs ***or***
  - at your local Multifunctional Service Centre (available in Russian only)
    - You can also give a representative power of attorney to apply on your behalf.
- You can apply online via the Government Service Portal (Gosuslugi) (available in Russian only).

If you live outside of Russia

- Apply in person to the Consular Section of your nearest Embassy of Russia.
  - You may also give a representative power of attorney to apply on your behalf.
- Apply via a representative to the Main Information and Analytical Centre in Moscow (website available in Russian territory only).
  - You **must** give the representative power of attorney to apply on your behalf.

Special considerations

The Embassy accepts only original paper police certificates. Printouts of online search results and electronic certificates are not acceptable.

The police certificate must indicate all names you have used while in Russia.