Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

Archived: June 2, 2025 10:16:33 AM
From: [redacted] / Representants [redacted] ([redacted])
Sent: Thu, 6 Feb 2025 16:23:25
To:
Cc [redacted] Representatives / [redacted]
Subject: TR: Inquiry About PR Card Applications from an Old Permanent Residents - REP-2025-0329 - Due 28-Feb-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 responses to your questions below in red:

1. 1. My question is would these categories of PR Card applicants have any issues obtaining a PR Card through this process, in light of the fact that these applicants have never applied to renew their permanent residency status, since the date they became PRs?

No, clients who became permanent residents (PRs) prior to 2002 will not have any additional issues obtaining a PR card due to the fact that they have never been issued a PR card before. As mentioned on our website, these clients can submit an application for their first PR card by submitting an application for a PR card similar to other PRs who are applying to renew or replace their cards. PR status does not expire and clients do not lose their status when their card expires. Pursuant to section 46 of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, a PR only lose their status if they go through an official process such as: an adjudicator determines they are no longer a PR after an inquiry or a permanent resident travel document (PRTD) appeal, they voluntarily renounce their status, a removal order is made and comes into force or they become a Canadian citizen. Even if a client doesn't meet the residency obligation (A28), they are still a PR until an official decision is made on their status and the appeal period is over.

2. 2. Are these category of PR Card applicants subject to limited scrutiny, when it comes to the requirement of renewing PR Cards before they expire, as they were never issued PR Cards in the first place?

No, clients who were landed prior to 2002 are subject to the same level of examination as any other PR submitting an application for a PR card. They must submit a completed application and pay fee the same as all other PRs.

3. 3. More generally, when reviewing PR Card applications from old PRs, who have never applied for a PR Card and a PR Card renewal, what requirements or criterion is the reviewing officer assessing to approve them for a PR Card?

Clients who were landed prior to 2002 are subject to the same requirements and criteria as all other PRs submitting an application for a PR card. Guide IMM 5445 – Applying for a PR card outlines the eligibility criteria for a PR card and the residency obligation all applicants must meet in order to be issued a PR card. Please see our website for more information about PR status determinations and how IRCC officers determine if residency requirements are met or not.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

De :
Envoyé : 30 janvier 2025 17:26
[redacted] : Immigration [redacted] ntatives [redacted] Représen [redacted] immigration (IRCC) <[redacted]>
Objet : Inquiry About PR Card Applications from an Old Permanent Residents

Dear Officer [redacted] the Immrep mailbox,

I understand that this mailbox is not for case-specific questions and is designed for general guidance and answering of general questions. Based on my review of the IRCC guidelines, I do feel that my question falls within the general category, even though they are about a specific category of Permanent Residency Card applicants.

As you know PR Cards only started being issued to Permanent Residents (PRs) in June of 2002. For all foreign nationals, who became PRs before that, there were no PR Cards issued. This category of PRs have been advised in IRCC Guide IMM 5445, screenshot enclosed and link below, that they can use the same application process to apply for their first ever PR Card.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

1. 1. My question is would these categories of PR Card applicants have any issues obtaining a PR Card through this process, in light of the fact that these applicants have never applied to renew their permanent residency status, since the date they became PRs?
2. 2. Are these category of PR Card applicants subject to limited scrutiny, when it comes to the requirement of renewing PR Cards before they expire, as they were never issued PR Cards in the first place?
3. 3. More generally, when reviewing PR Card applications from old PRs, who have never applied for a PR Card and a PR Card renewal, what requirements or criterion is the reviewing officer assessing to approve them for a PR Card?

You'll automatically get your first PR card by mail once you have become a permanent resident. This is part of the immigration process. You don't need to apply for your first PR card. However, if you didn't provide your mailing address and photo as required within 180 days of immigrating, you'll need to apply for your first PR card. If you became a permanent resident before June 28, and never applied for a PR card, you can use this application to apply for your first PR card.

Link: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/guide-5445-applying-permanent-resident-card-card-first-application-replacement-renewal-change-gender-identifier.html

[redacted] in advance.

Cheers,