Refugee Claim Process (Regular Entry by Land, Sea, Air)

For more information about the Canadian asylum process visit: www.cic.gc.ca

Immigration officers check documents of refugee claimants to make sure they are complete and true. Fingerprints and photographs are taken. Background checks are carried out by national and international police to ensure claimants are not a danger to Canada. Immigration officers interview refugee claimants.

First-level tribunal hears refugee claim to determine if claimant has a fear of persecution or risk of torture or risk to life.

Immigration officers decide a person is not allowed to enter Canada because of security, crime, health, finance, human or international rights violation, for providing information that is not true or failure to comply with the law and refer the person to a judge.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge conducts hearing to decide if claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration officer decides a person is allowed to enter Canada and proceed to refugee hearing.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Application for Permanent Residence.

Convention refugee or protected person status.

Higher level courts or tribunal review claims submitted by unsuccessful claimants if they have a right to appeal or when the government appeals a successful refugee claim.

Application for Canadian Citizenship.

Removed from Canada.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration officers decide refugee claimant does not meet the criteria for referral to the Immigration and Refugee Board.

Officers decide refugee claim does not meet the criteria for referral to the Immigration and Refugee Board.

Removed from Canada.

Border officers interview refugee claimants and assess referral to the Immigration and Refugee Board if they meet certain requirements.*

Border officers interview refugee claimants and assess referral to the Immigration and Refugee Board if they meet certain requirements.*

Immigration officers check documents of refugee claimants to make sure they are complete and true. Fingerprints and photographs are taken. Background checks are carried out by national and international police to ensure claimants are not a danger to Canada. Immigration officers interview refugee claimants.

First-level tribunal hears refugee claim to determine if claimant has a fear of persecution or risk of torture or risk to life.

Immigration officers decide a person is not allowed to enter Canada because of security, crime, health, finance, human or international rights violation, for providing information that is not true or failure to comply with the law and refer the person to a judge.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge conducts hearing to decide if claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration officer decides a person is allowed to enter Canada and proceed to refugee hearing.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Application for Permanent Residence.

Convention refugee or protected person status.

Higher level courts or tribunal review claims submitted by unsuccessful claimants if they have a right to appeal or when the government appeals a successful refugee claim.

Application for Canadian Citizenship.

Removed from Canada.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration officer decides a person is allowed to enter Canada and proceed to refugee hearing.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Application for Permanent Residence.

Convention refugee or protected person status.

Higher level courts or tribunal review claims submitted by unsuccessful claimants if they have a right to appeal or when the government appeals a successful refugee claim.

Application for Canadian Citizenship.

Removed from Canada.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration officer decides a person is allowed to enter Canada and proceed to refugee hearing.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Application for Permanent Residence.

Convention refugee or protected person status.

Higher level courts or tribunal review claims submitted by unsuccessful claimants if they have a right to appeal or when the government appeals a successful refugee claim.

Application for Canadian Citizenship.

Removed from Canada.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration officer decides a person is allowed to enter Canada and proceed to refugee hearing.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

Application for Permanent Residence.

Convention refugee or protected person status.

Higher level courts or tribunal review claims submitted by unsuccessful claimants if they have a right to appeal or when the government appeals a successful refugee claim.

Application for Canadian Citizenship.

Removed from Canada.

If claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada, claimant proceeds to refugee hearing.

*Asylum claimants are rejected if: they have already been granted protection in Canada or in another country, their claim was rejected in Canada previously, they were previously found unqualified, they are under a removal order, they withdrew or abandoned their claim, they arrived to Canada through the United States without making a claim there first (land border entries only) or they committed serious crimes or violations of human rights.
Refugee Claim Process (Irregular Entry by Land from the US)

For more information about the Canadian asylum process visit: www.cic.gc.ca

Asylum seekers arriving from the U.S. and entering Canada between the official land ports of entry make a refugee claim.

If captured by police they are turned over to border and immigration officers to assess referral to a first-level decision-maker (Immigration and Refugee Board) if they meet certain requirements. *

Land border or immigration officers interview refugee claimants and assess referral to a first-level tribunal (Immigration and Refugee Board) if they meet certain requirements. 

Claimant undergoes health checks to address any immediate health concerns.

Immigration officers check documents of refugee claimants to make sure they are complete and true. Fingerprints and photographs are taken. Background checks are carried out by national and international police to ensure claimants are not a danger to Canada. Immigration officers interview refugee claimants.

Immigration officers decide a person is not allowed to enter Canada because of security, crime, health, finance, human or international rights violation, for providing information that is not true or failure to comply with the law and refer the person to a judge.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge conducts hearing to decide if claimant is allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Immigration and Refugee Board judge decides claimant is not allowed to enter and remain in Canada.

Asylum claimants are rejected if: they have already been granted protection in Canada or in another country, their claim was rejected in Canada previously, they were previously found unqualified, they are under a removal order, they withdrew or abandoned their claim, they arrived to Canada through the United States without making a claim there first (land border entries only) or they committed serious crimes or violations of human rights.

Removed from Canada to the U.S.

Removed from Canada.

Application for Permanent Residence.

Application for Canadian Citizenship.

Convention refugee or protected person status.

Higher level courts or tribunal review claims submitted by unsuccessful claimants if they have a right to appeal or when the government appeals a successful refugee claim.
Refugee Claim Process (Made within Canada)

For more information about the Canadian asylum process visit: www.cic.gc.ca

Asylum seekers are rejected if:
- They have already been granted protection in Canada or another country, their claim was rejected in Canada previously, or they were previously found unqualified.
- They are under a removal order, they withdrew or abandoned their claim, or they arrived to Canada through the United States without making a claim there first (land border entries only).
- They committed serious crimes or violations of human rights.