



# Canada wants entrepreneurs!

Canada's new Start-Up Visa is the first of its kind in the world, linking immigrant entrepreneurs with experienced private sector organizations that have expertise in working with start-ups.

Canada wants entrepreneurs. Unlike programs in other countries, we do not provide "temporary" or "conditional" status. Successful applicants to this program will be able to immediately apply for permanent residence if they secure a commitment from a designated Canadian private sector organization.

Do you want to build a dynamic company that can compete on a global scale? It starts in Canada.



[cic.gc.ca/startup](http://cic.gc.ca/startup)

## The Canadian advantage

### *Canada is open for business to the world's start-up entrepreneurs*

There are many reasons why Canada is the best place to build your business:

**Strong economic growth:** *Forbes* magazine rates Canada as the best country in the G-20 with which to do business. Canada has the strongest fiscal position in the G-7 and among the best fiscal prospects in the G-20.

**Low taxes and low business costs:** Canada offers a low-cost and low-tax environment so your business can thrive. Canada's overall tax rate on new business investment is significantly lower than that of other G-7 countries. KPMG ranks Canada as the most tax competitive country in the G-7.

**Excellence in research and innovation:** Canada offers a winning environment for research and innovation, including world-leading research and development (R & D) infrastructure, scientific talent and innovation incentives. Combined federal and provincial credits can return to foreign investors, on average, up to 30 percent of their R & D investment in Canada.

**Top quality of life:** Canada's top quality of life provides a great backdrop for the success of individuals, families and globally engaged companies. According to the World Bank, in 2011 Canadians enjoyed nearly the highest standard of living in the G-20. Canada is home to a highly educated, flexible and multicultural work force.



## How can I qualify?

Before applying, you will need to secure a commitment from a designated Canadian angel investor group, venture capital fund or business incubator to support your business idea.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada has collaborated with Canada's Venture Capital & Private Equity Association, the National Angel Capital Organization and the Canadian Association of Business Incubation to identify the participating private sector organizations. A list can be found online at [cic.gc.ca/startup](http://cic.gc.ca/startup).

To apply for the Start-Up Visa, contact one of these organizations and convince them your business idea is worth supporting.

Once you have a commitment, then you can apply to Citizenship and Immigration Canada to immigrate through the program.

In addition to passing standard health and security criteria, you will need to demonstrate your ability to communicate in either English or French, that you have completed one year of study at a post-secondary institution, and that you have enough money to live on while establishing your business.

## For more information

Citizenship and Immigration Canada's website at [cic.gc.ca/startup](http://cic.gc.ca/startup) is your first stop for eligibility information about the Start-Up Visa and other Citizenship and Immigration Canada programs. All the forms and guides needed to complete your application are available online.

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