

Part 4 | Invitations to Apply

I just want to very quickly share some information with respect to the various rounds of invitations up until July.

Invitations issued by economic immigration program as of July 6, 2015

Source: CIC Express Entry Mid Year Report

Round	Date	Comprehensive Ranking System Cutoff	Invitations Issued	Above 600 pts	Provincial nominees	Federal Skill Workers	Federal Skill Trades	Canadian Experience Class
1	Jan. 31	886	779	100%	13	432	163	171
2	Feb. 7	818	779	100%	17	167	221	374
3	Feb. 20	808	849	100%	0	0	0	849
4	Feb. 27	735	1,187	100%	24	114	409	640
5	Mar. 20	481	1,620	75%	43	500	336	741
6	Mar. 27	453	1,637	20%	3	1,187	103	344
7	Apr. 10	469	925	70%	24	329	159	413
8	Apr. 17	453	715	41%	35	389	87	204
9	May 22	755	1,361	100%	278	240	253	590
10	June 12	482	1,501	68%	150	526	104	721
11	June 26	469	1,575	40%	111	925	52	487
Total			12,928	70%	698	4,809	1,887	5,534

This [information in the table above] is coming from the CIC Express Entry Mid-Year Report, and what it does is to give you the breakdown of how many people were invited under the various streams. You can see that there were more Canadian Experience Class invitations than Federal Skilled Worker invitations to date. We've seen about 1800 or almost 1900 under the Federal Skilled Trades program as of July as well.

Then it also shows you what percentage were above 600 points - approximately 70% of those invitation letters were issued to people that had the 600 points, either based on an LMIA or provincial nomination certificate.

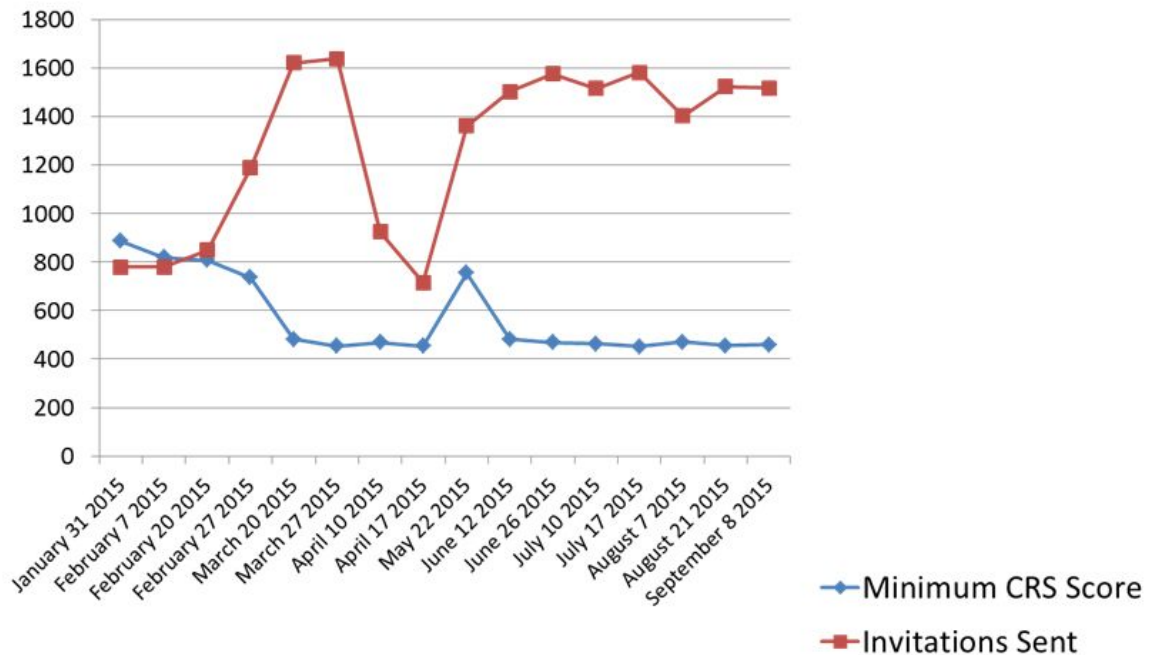
It also shows you the minimum ranking score that was required in order to be drawn. The initial few rounds were over 600 points, which is not surprising because you would have had a number of people with LMIA's already in Canada that would have been selected early on. Probably a lot were those that were disappointed when their applications got returned last fall when they tried to apply for Canadian Experience Class. We then see the

score start to dip down, and then we had about a month's break between rounds 8 and 9, and that's why that score jumped back up, because you would have had a higher number of applicants in the pool because they hadn't done a draw quite as frequently. And then level setting again, it went back down.

So it's just giving us a very small snapshot, keeping in mind these numbers are relatively small, of what's happening with the pool and how people are being selected.

Date	Minimum Score	Invitations
January 31 2015	886	779
February 7 2015	818	779
February 20 2015	808	849
February 27 2015	735	1,187
March 20 2015	481	1,620
March 27 2015	453	1,637
April 10 2015	469	925
April 18 2015	453	715
May 22 2015	755	1,361
June 12 2015	482	1,501
June 26 2015	469	1,575
July 10 2015	463	1,516
July 17 2015	451	1,581
August 7 2015	471	1,402
August 21 2015	456	1,523
September 8 2015	459	1,517
TOTAL:		20,467

Since June there's been 5 additional rounds and, again, in terms of invitation numbers we're seeing consistently around the 1500 mark, so 1500 people are being pulled in each of the rounds. The scores again have hovered between that 450 and 470 range. You'll notice we haven't broken through 450 yet and there's a reason for that - because there are so many people sitting just below, it would be a significant number.



And this just shows you again, apart from a couple of blibs, that we've been fairly consistent in terms of the score that's required - it has sat around that 450 range as the minimum score. And then the number of invitations sent, around sitting around that 1500 mark for the last several months.

So it will be interesting to see whether these trends continue and if those levels shift up and down as they start to select more people through the express entry system.

So, each round of the invitations is governed by specific ministerial instructions. Most of the rounds have been happening on Fridays, not sure why they picked Fridays but it's been Fridays! One exception - there was a long weekend where they pulled on a Tuesday. So if you're working on submitting a profile during the course of a week, it's worthwhile to push to try to get that submitted by Friday because there may be a draw that evening. I had one yesterday that we submitted yesterday morning and got an invitation letter that night - so the client was very pleased that it was a quick process. Keep that in mind, Fridays do seem to be the day.

For a while it was around 9 o'clock eastern. The ministerial instructions come out the same day as the draws and the information contained in those includes the minimum score for the draw, the effective date and the number of invitations issued during that round.

- **ITA is an auto-generated letter issued through MyCIC or Representative Portal**
- **Confirms PR stream and CRS criteria upon which the invitation is made with overall points score**
- **Valid for 60 days**
- **Candidate may decline the invitation or submit e-APR**

So the actual invitation to apply, as I mentioned previously, it is an autogenerated letter that's issued through the portal. It confirms the permanent resident stream that the person is being invited under, as well as the comprehensive ranking score criteria upon which they were issued that invitation.

It's valid for 60 days which means they have 60 days to gather the rest of their documents required for second stage, and actually complete the online application and submit that.

At the point that someone receives a letter of invitation, they have the option either to submit the online application for permanent residence, or they can decline that invitation letter if their not ready to apply or circumstances have changed and they no longer meet that comprehensive ranking score.

So they can decline the invitation and we have had circumstances where we've had to do that. So thats a conversation to have with your client in between stages to make sure that everything has stayed consistent. But if they do decline a specific invitation, their profile goes back into the pool and they would be considered eligible for potential future draws - but there's no guarantee that they're going to get pulled again. So you have to make sure that if your declining that you have that conversation with your client.

Q: Will you be advised that there's an invitation to apply directly through email or are you required to login to the portal and verify messages.

A: The answer is yes, you do get an email notification that theys an update and it does usually include the express entry number (the profile number) in that email. And then you would log back into your portal site to actually print the letter of invitation and it's there in a PDF in the system.

To decline an invitation, if you login to your portal once an invitation letter is approved, you'll see under the applicant's name (if you search by either the name of their express entry number) there's a button that says, "Decline Invitation". Be careful you don't hit that by mistake!

I've had some people do that! I've also have clients come back to us because they had submitted a profile and then accidentally withdrew that profile as well. It is just a button and if you hit that potentially you're declining that invitation on behalf of your client. So just be careful, whether it's yourself or if you have a paralegal or someone else working with you. Just make sure they understand the implications of clicking on that button and be careful what you're doing when you're logging into your portal because that can have implications.

Q: How do you fix it if you make that mistake?

A: You start over! Unfortunately that's been the reponse we've been getting from CIC, if you withdraw a profile or decline an invitation your not going to be able to reactivate. So if you decline if's your clients profile goes back into the pool, and for the remainder of the 12 months that their profile is active, and if their selected again in the next pool if their high ranking. If they're high ranking, chances are theyll just get another invitation in the next draw, but if something changes, say they lost a job offer or their work permit expires in between, then they might not have that option.

Q: If you accidentally hit that decline button, do you get a second chance to verify yes or no

A: I'd have to go back and double check to be honest, but I'd be cautious because I think you actually do withdraw with that first click.

There may not be implications - if they're high ranking and go back into the pool they would just get an offer through the next draw, but if there is a change in circumstance that's when it can be problematic.