

Appendix A: Points Grid - Expression of Interest

The International Graduate Entrepreneur Points Grid is a key component of the IGE Stream. The points assessment allocates points for language, education, work experience, adaptability, age and Nova Scotia economic priorities. Please refer to the International Graduate Entrepreneur Stream Document Checklist in Appendix B for detailed instructions on the forms and supporting documents required to earn assessment points.

Minimum Criteria:

All applicants are required to be operating a business for at least one continuous year in Nova Scotia, with 33.33 percent ownership of the business and have an active day-to-day, on-going management role in the business.

Factor 1: Language

First official language	Points				Points (minimum of 20 points from first official language; maximum 35)	Documentation required
	Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing		
CLB level 9 or higher	7	7	7	7	28	English language: CELPIP – General test or IELTS- General training test
CLB level 8	6	6	6	6	24	
CLB level 7	5	5	5	5	20	
Note: You can only get 7 points in total for basic-level skills in your second official language, and only if you have a score of at least CLB 5 in each of the four language abilities in your first official language.						French: TEF or TCF Language test must be taken no more than two years prior to the date the EOI is submitted.
Second official language						
At least CLB 5 in all of the four abilities					7	

Factor 2: Education

Education	Points (maximum 25)	Documentation required
Completion of a Nova Scotia post-secondary diploma for a two-year program	12	Canadian educational credential Proof of your completed Canadian educational credential(s) can include copies of your: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • post-secondary education documents (certificates, diplomas or degrees) • Transcripts for successfully completed post-secondary studies
Completion of a Nova Scotia post-secondary degree or diploma for a program of three years or longer	15	
Two or more Canadian post-secondary degrees or diplomas (at least one must be for a program of at least three years completed at a Nova Scotia institution)	17	
Nova Scotia university degree at the Master's level	22	
Completion of a Nova Scotia university level entry-to-practice professional degree.	22	
Occupation related to the degree must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOC 2016 Skill Level A, and • Licensed by a provincial regulatory body 		
Nova Scotia university degree at the Doctoral (PhD) level	25	

Factor 3: Work Experience

In addition to operating the business for at least one continuous year in Nova Scotia applicants can score points if they have work experience in one of the following categories:

Work Experience	Points (maximum 15)	Documentation required
3 to 5 years of work experience in the last 10 years at NOC 0, A or B level	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resume • Employment Letters • Reference Letters • Record of Employment
Greater than 5 years of work experience in the last 10 years at NOC 0, A or B level	15	

Applicants are awarded points if they have a history of work experience in an occupation that corresponds to the National Occupational Classification (NOC) 2016 Skill Type 0, Skill Level A or B. In order to prove this experience, applicants must provide a reference letter from previous employers explicitly stating how the applicant performed the duties described in the specific occupation under the specific NOC. Visit noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/home.aspx to find the corresponding NOC Code and a detailed description of the duties involved with that occupation.

You need to demonstrate that you:

- Performed the actions described in the lead statements for the occupation as set out in the occupational description of the NOC 2016, and
- Performed a substantial number of the main duties, including all of the essential duties, of the occupation as set out in the occupational description of NOC 2016.

The reference letters should:

- Be written on company letterhead
- Be signed by a person occupying a position of authority and must include that person's name and title
- Show company's full address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and website addresses
- Be stamped with the company's official seal (if applicable)
- indicate the specific period of your employment with the company
- indicate the positions you have held during the period of employment and time spent in each position
- state your main responsibilities and duties in each position including number of employees supervised.
- state your annual salary plus benefits in each position,
- state the number of hours worked per week in each position, and
- the number of hours worked in total for each position.

Factor 4: Adaptability

Adaptability	Points (maximum 10)	Documentation required
<p>Your spouse or partner's language level Your spouse or common-law partner has a language level in either English or French at <u>CLB 4 level</u> or higher in all four language abilities (speaking, listening, reading and writing)</p>	5	<p>English language: CELP/IP – General test or IELTS- General training test</p> <p>French: TEF or TCF</p> <p>Test must be taken no more than two years prior to the date the EOI is submitted.</p>
<p>Your spouse or partner's past study in Nova Scotia Your spouse or common-law partner finished at least two academic years of full-time study (in a program at least two years long) at a secondary or post-secondary school in Nova Scotia. Full-time study means at least 15 hours of instruction per week, and must have remained in good academic standing (as defined by the school) during the period of full-time study in Nova Scotia.</p>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study permits • Academic transcript • Certificate, diploma or degree you received for completing the program
<p>Your spouse or common-law partner's past work in Nova Scotia Your spouse / partner did at least one year of full-time work in Nova Scotia on a valid work permit or while authorized to work in Canada.</p>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter(s) of reference from past Nova Scotia employer(s) • A copy of any T4s if available • A copy of employment authorization
<p>Relatives in Nova Scotia You, or, if it applies, your spouse or common-law partner, have a relative, either a parent, grandparent, brother/sister, aunt/uncle, niece/nephew, who is living in Nova Scotia for at least one continuous year, 19 years or older, and a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.</p>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of relationship • Proof of status • Proof of residency in Nova Scotia

Factor 5: Age

Age	Points (maximum 10)	Documentation required
21-39	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth certificate, • Passport, or • National Identity Card
40-44	7	
45-55	5	
56+	0	
Applicants are eligible for points on the basis of the applicant's age at the time of submission of EOI.		

Factor 6: Nova Scotia Economic Priorities

Nova Scotia Economic Priorities	Points (maximum 5)	Documentation required
Export-oriented business	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSNP 500
Business location outside of Halifax County	5	
Purchasing an Existing Business	5	
<p><i>Export-oriented business:</i> Applicants will receive points if their business is an export-oriented business.</p> <p><i>Proposed business located outside of Halifax County:</i> Applicants may claim points under this criterion if their business in another county other than Halifax.</p> <p><i>Purchasing an Existing Business:</i> Applicants may claim points in this section if they have acquired 33.33% of an existing business in Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia based business must have been in continuous operation in Nova Scotia by the same owner for the previous five (5) years.</p>		