Why study immigration and citizenship law?

Immigration is at the heart of Canadian culture and industry. Over seven million foreign-born individuals call this country home, and over the next several years, we will welcome many more. Developed by leading immigration practitioners and academics from across Canada, the Graduate Diploma in Immigration and Citizenship Law sets a new standard for immigration practitioners.

This program is designed for individuals who are looking to enter Canada’s immigration sector, as well as those seeking to enhance their skills and understanding of the immigration system to advance in their existing professions.

Why Queen’s?

The Graduate Diploma is offered by the Faculty of Law at Queen’s University, one of Canada’s leading law schools.

Queen’s Law is a dynamic, academically acclaimed research and teaching institution.

Our nationwide team of course instructors contribute a range of backgrounds, expertise and perspectives to our program, ensuring students receive the highest level of academic excellence.

Courses

- ICL 810 Foundations of Canadian Immigration Law
- ICL 820 Ethics and Professional Responsibility
- ICL 830 Temporary Entry
- ICL 840 Economic Immigration
- ICL 850 Family Class Immigration
- ICL 860 Refugee Protection & Trauma-Informed Client Service
- ICL 870 Enforcement – Inadmissibility, Detention and Removal
- ICL 880 Citizenship
- ICL 890 Immigration Practice Management

Program structure

The Graduate Diploma consists of nine courses delivered over three terms in under 12 months.

Part-time options are available on a limited basis.
Program details

Who is it for?
The Graduate Diploma merges theory and practice to prepare students for a number of vital roles in the immigration sector, as well as functions that support organizations on immigration and citizenship matters. These include:

- Prospective immigration consultants
- Paralegals
- Advisors and recruitment specialists at universities and colleges
- Human resources professionals
- Leaders in immigrant settlement organizations
- Constituency assistants for members of federal, provincial, and territorial legislatures
- Immigration and border policy analysts and program specialists in government agencies
- Business development leads at law firms

Requirements

- Students must complete all nine courses with a minimum grade of B- to graduate.

Cost & financing

Tuition
Tuition for the program is assessed on a per-term, per-course basis. In accordance with University policies and procedures, tuition and course fees are subject to change, and may be updated or adjusted at any time. Please visit https://immigrationdiploma.queenslaw.ca/Tuition-and-Financing for more information.

Financing
Queen's Law has partnered with RBC to offer a student line of credit tailored to your needs (subject to credit approval). Visit our website for more details about financing and flexible payment options.

Study, interact and collaborate.
The Graduate Diploma is designed and delivered entirely online, with live tutorials that feature direct interaction with instructors who are leading experts in the field, as well as digital collaboration platforms to encourage peer-to-peer learning through simulations and discussion forums.

Students will acquire foundational knowledge, build their professional skills, and navigate this rapidly evolving sector in a dynamic, experiential learning setting.

Developed by internationally-recognized immigration law experts and seasoned practitioners, this program integrates substantive academic knowledge with practical skills required for success in 21st century practice.

Admission requirements

1. A Bachelor’s degree from a recognized university (or equivalent institution*)
   A complete application must include official, up-to-date transcripts for all current and previous study. Queen's University graduates do not need to submit a transcript.

2. A minimum of a B average or equivalent in the bachelor's degree.

3. Applicants whose native languages do not include English will need to earn satisfactory standing in an English Language Proficiency Test as part of the application process, and before final acceptance is granted.

4. Identify two referees who will submit letters of reference. At least one academic reference is required for students who have graduated from their most recent degree studies less than five years prior to application. The second reference may be either a professional reference or an academic reference.

5. Personal statements of interest outlining your motivations to apply for the program, and your career goals once you graduate. Each statement is a maximum 250 words and are completed within the application.

* Applicants with a degree from a post-secondary institution that is not a recognized university will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Note: Queen's University School of Graduate Studies is committed to enhancing diversity in graduate education, which includes ensuring mechanisms for applications from prospective students who may not have had opportunity and advantage equal to others to be considered. Visit our website to learn how to apply as an “access” candidate.

Application guide

1. Gather required documents (listed above)
2. Confirm you meet all requirements at https://immigrationdiploma.queenslaw.ca/admissions
3. Apply for full- or part-time studies at the School of Graduate Studies: https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/prospective-students/how-apply

Contact
Visit our website at https://immigrationdiploma.queenslaw.ca/ for more information, or contact our Admissions team at immigrationdiploma@queensu.ca for other questions.