



Government of
Saskatchewan
Immigration Branch

Guide for Supporting Family Members in Saskatchewan

SASKATCHEWAN IMMIGRANT NOMINEE PROGRAM (SINP) FAMILY MEMBERS CATEGORY

Applicants to the SINP Family Members Category must have a relative who has been living in Saskatchewan for at least one year. They must be willing to provide applicants with assistance during the immigration process and after they arrive in Saskatchewan. These relatives are called **supporting family members**.

Supporting family members can be the applicant's parents, sisters/brothers, daughters/sons, aunts/uncles, nieces/nephews, grandparents, first cousins, step-family members or in-laws of the same relationship.

For more information, please contact:

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I. What is the SINP?

The Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) is an immigration program that the province administers. It operates under an agreement with the federal government. This program can provide a quicker means of entry into Canada; it allows Saskatchewan to nominate applicants to the federal government for landed immigrant status. The SINP offers:

- Applicant selection based on the province's economic and labour force needs;
- Application processing times that are faster than other federal immigration classes; and
- Provincial immigration officers who can explain the program and help applicants.

What is the SINP Family Members Category?

The SINP created the Family Members Category for immigrant families living in Saskatchewan who want to help their family members live and work in the province. Supporting family members must provide settlement assistance to applicants and their dependents, which may include financial support.

How the SINP Works

Two-Step Immigration Process

Step 1: Principal applicant applies to the SINP office for nomination.

- The SINP immigration branch reviews their application.
- If approved, the SINP immigration branch will:
 - Send a nomination certificate to Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC); and
 - Send a nomination letter to the principal applicant explaining how to forward your application to the appropriate CIC visa office.

Step 2: Principal applicant applies to CIC with their SINP nomination.

- CIC considers their application after they receive the nomination certificate from the SINP.
- CIC does health, security and criminal reviews of the principal applicant and their family members, and then issues visas to them.

II. Who Can be a Supporting Family Member in Saskatchewan?

To be a supporting family member, you must:

1. Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada at the time that the principal applicant submits their application to the SINP;
2. Prove you have lived in Saskatchewan for at least one year;
3. Prove your family relationship to the applicant;
4. Be financially self-supporting (have not received financial support through the Saskatchewan Assistance Plan, Employment Insurance, or the Resettlement Assistance Program within the last six months); and
5. Provide proof of funds, if you are providing settlement funds for the applicant.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

Agreeing to be a supporting family member is a big responsibility. You are promising to ensure that:

1. **All pre-arrival costs of the principal applicant and their accompanying dependents are paid.** This includes Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) processing fees, permanent residence fees, medical and transportation costs, and any other pre-arrival costs;
2. **The principal applicant their accompanying dependents have everything that they need as soon as they arrive in Canada.** This includes shelter, food, clothing, goods and services necessary for daily living in Saskatchewan, dental care, eye care, and other health care needs not provided by Saskatchewan Health. It also includes anything else that they may need so that they will not have to apply for social assistance benefits; and
3. **The principal applicant receives all information concerning their application for SINP nomination.** After the applicant submits their application to the SINP, the supporting family member will receive all the written correspondence from the SINP to the applicant.

IV. Required Forms and Documents

As the Supporting Family Member for the principal applicant, you must provide them with **all** of the following, which they will submit with their application to the SINP:

1. **SINP-500-22 Family Members Category Affidavit of Support**. You must complete and sign this form. The applicant will submit it with their application to the SINP. The purpose of this form is to declare that you meet all of the eligibility criteria as the applicant's supporting family member. By signing it, you are also promising to help the applicant with all aspects of settlement in Saskatchewan.

This form **must** be notarized by a Notary Public or Commissioner of Oaths.

2. **Documents that prove your relationship to the applicant**. These can include:
 - birth certificates or passports showing the names of common family members;
 - marriage certificates showing the names of common family members; or
 - a government issued family registry.

When documents are in a language other than English, you must submit a photocopy of the original document and a photocopy of the English translation.

You may require several documents to prove your family relationship (e.g. if the applicant is your first cousin). If this is the situation, provide a letter or family tree, in addition to the official documentation (birth certificates, etc.). The letter or family tree should clearly show your relationship to the principal applicant.

3. **Photocopies of your Canadian permanent resident or citizenship card, or your Canadian passport.**
4. **Proof that you have lived in Saskatchewan for the past year** (e.g. photocopies of your Saskatchewan Health card, tax returns, etc.)
5. **Proof that you have been self-supporting** (e.g. statement of income from employer, tax returns, etc.)

V. Important Terms

The following definitions will help you to understand this guide:

Affidavit – A sworn statement in writing. It is a written promise that this is your statement.

Certified Copy – An authorized photocopy of a document. To have documents certified, you must take your original documents and a photocopy of each document to an authorized person in your community. They need to sign on your copies that the copies are true representations of the original, print their name and position, and if possible, stamp it with their official stamp. Authorized persons include Notary Publics and Commissioners of Oaths.

Commissioner of Oaths – A public official who is present when you make an oath (or sign an affidavit). They sign on your copies that they are true and correct, print their name and position, and if possible, affix an official stamp.

Family Registry – (also called a family register or household register) This is a registry used in many countries to record family information. It is a central place for recording family legal events, such as births, deaths, and marriages.

Family Tree – A family tree is a drawing that shows the family connections between individuals. It lists individuals' names, dates of birth, marriage, and death. Family members are connected by lines to show marriages and family relationships.

Immigration Representative – Someone who has your permission to conduct business for you with Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Representatives can be either paid or unpaid. An unpaid representative is a person or organization that does not charge a fee to represent you. This could be a friend or family member. A paid representative must be either a lawyer or a consultant who is registered with the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC).

In-laws – Relatives by marriage (e.g. your wife's father is your father-in-law).

Nominate – The term used by the Province of Saskatchewan to describe the selection of individuals for the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program dependent on health, security, and criminality screening by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Notary Public – (also called a notary) This is a public official who verifies that documents are real and/or official. They sign on your copies that they are true and correct, print their name and position, and if possible, affix an official stamp.

Oath – a promise that a statement is true.

Permanent Resident – This is a person who lives legally in Canada as a landed immigrant but is not yet eligible to apply for Canadian citizenship or does not have Canadian citizenship yet.

Self-supporting – Supporting family members must be self-supporting. This means that they have not received financial support through the Saskatchewan Assistance Plan, Employment Insurance, or the Resettlement Assistance Program within the last six months.

Settlement Funds – If the principal applicant does not have an offer of permanent employment from a Saskatchewan employer, they must intend to find work in Saskatchewan and prove that they have enough money to live in the province after arrival (\$10,000 for the principal applicant and \$2,000 for each additional accompanying family member). Funds can come from the principal applicant, their spouse, their supporting family members or a combination of sources.

SINP Family Members Category – The SINP created the Family Members Category for immigrant families living in Saskatchewan who want to help their family members live and work in the province. Supporting family members must provide settlement assistance to applicants and their families, which may include financial support.

Supporting Family Member in Saskatchewan – Supporting family members are relatives of the principal applicant. They must be living in Saskatchewan for at least the past year, and they must be willing to give settlement support, including financial support, to the principal applicant. Supporting family members include: parents, sisters/brothers, daughters/sons, aunts/uncles, nieces/nephews, grandparents, first cousins, step-family members or in-laws of the same relationship.