

Immigration and Citizenship Law G.Dip

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

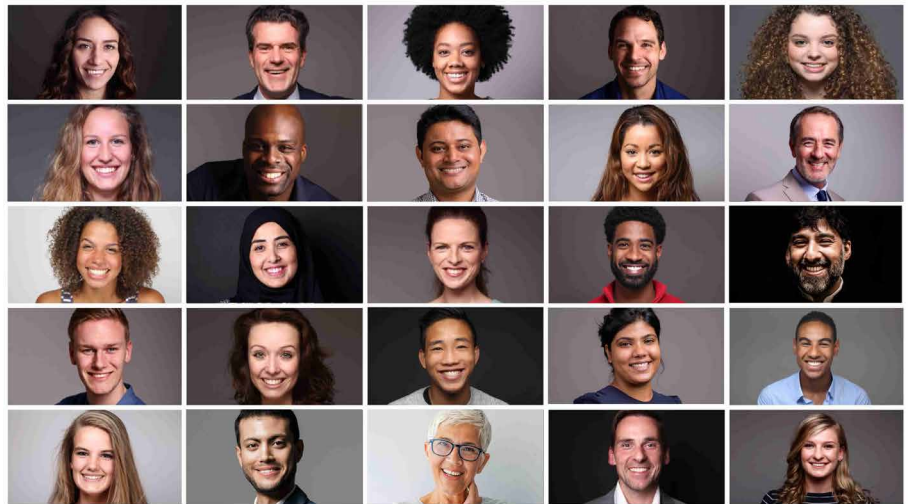
Why Graduate Studies in Immigration and Citizenship Law?

Immigration remains central to Canada's economy and vibrant social fabric. Over eight million foreign-born individuals enrich our communities, and global mobility continues to shape Canada's future. Developed by internationally recognized immigration law experts and seasoned practitioners, the Graduate Diploma in Immigration and Citizenship Law (GDipICL) 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?

Delivered online at Queen's University, one of Canada's leading universities, the GDipICL program is the only English-language pathway to be eligible for the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants' Entry-to-Practice Exam (EPE). Queen's University is a dynamic, academically acclaimed research and teaching institution with world-class researchers in immigration law and migration theory. Our team of course instructors contribute a range of backgrounds, expertise and perspectives to the program, ensuring students receive



the highest level of academic excellence.

Program Details

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:

- Immigration consultants
- Paralegals
- Lawyers seeking specialized training in immigration law
- 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
- Diplomatic services and consular support professionals

Program Structure

The GDipICL program offers two study plans for September and January admission cycles: full-time and part-time. Full-time students will complete 9 courses over 3 consecutive terms in under 12 months, while part-time students will complete 9 courses over 6 consecutive terms in 24 months.

Applicants select their preferred study plan via the application. Study plans are preset for all students and students are enrolled in courses automatically.



Courses

- ICL 810 Foundations of Canadian Immigration Law (6-week foundations)
- 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

Completion Requirements

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

Tuition

Tuition for the program is assessed on a per-term, per-course basis. You can find the most up-to-date fee information on the Office of the University Registrar [website](#).

Financing

Queen's Law has partnered with Windmill Microlending and RBC to offer students tuition financing opportunities tailored to your needs (subject to application approval). Visit our [Tuition and Financing page](#) for more details about these funding opportunities, tuition amounts per course, flexible payment options, the GDipICL Bursary, and more.



Law Professor and Academic Director Sharry Aiken engaging with students at a recent convocation

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.

Guided and supported by Law Professor and [Academic Director Sharry Aiken](#), this program integrates substantive academic knowledge with practical skills required for success in 21st century practice.

Admission Requirements

The Graduate Diploma in Immigration and Citizenship Law offers three admission pathways that recognize diverse academic and professional journeys:

- A Standard pathway for applicants with a bachelor's degree and the equivalent of a B average
- An Access pathway for candidates whose prior opportunities were limited but who have significant relevant experience
- An Academic Qualifying pathway that supports applicants in upgrading their academic record before entry.

For detailed eligibility and application requirements, visit the [program's admissions page](#) to learn more. Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as application dates are firm.

Before you Apply

1. Take the [GDipICL Self-Assessment](#).
2. Register for a webinar or a virtual 1-on-1 appointment via our [Recruitment Events webpage](#).
3. Confirm you meet all admission requirements using the [admissions page](#) on our website.
4. Apply through the [School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs](#).

Continuing Professional Development

The GDipICL program offers single course enrolment for practitioners seeking continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities. Enroll in up to four courses as an interest student to gain valuable upgrading and new skills as well as CPD credit. For more information, contact immigrationdiploma@queensu.ca.