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The Final Step: Securing Your Canadian Citizenship Citizenth Ahip

**Navigating the 2026 Rules, Bill C-3,
and the Path to the Oath**

Dara Immigration
Services (DIS)



An expansive guide for Permanent Residents and Families

www.daraimmigration.com



From Conditional Resident to Full Family Member

The Journey's Finale

Becoming a citizen is not just a bureaucratic hurdle; it is the triumphant finale of your immigration journey. It marks the transition from a resident with conditions to a full member of the Canadian family.

Key Privileges

- ✓ The right to vote in federal, provincial, and municipal elections.
- ✓ The ability to run for political office.
- ✓ Holding one of the world's most powerful passports.

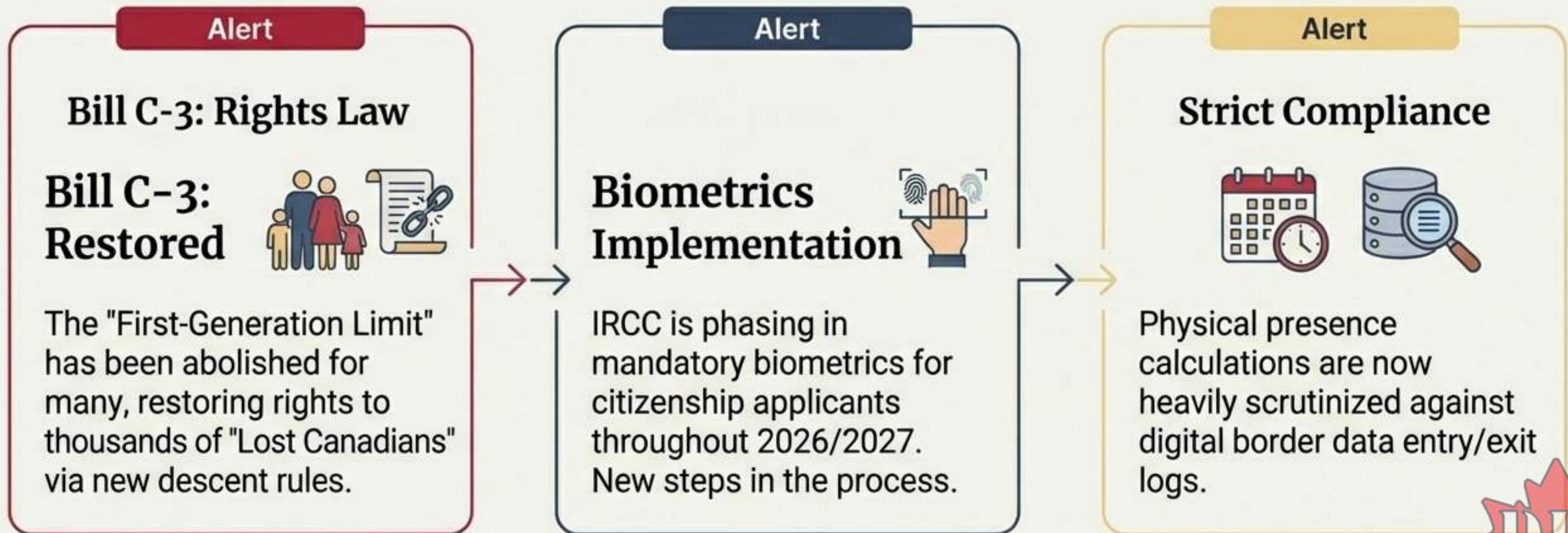
The Ultimate Security Upgrade: PR vs. Citizenship

	Permanent Residence (PR)		Canadian Citizenship
	<p>Status is Conditional: Can be lost due to serious criminality.</p> <p>Residency Obligations: Must monitor days spent outside Canada.</p> <p>Revocable: Status is not absolute.</p>		<p>Absolute Right of Entry: Guaranteed entry to Canada anytime.</p> <p>Permanent: Status cannot be revoked (unless obtained by fraud).</p> <p>No More Renewals: Citizenship never expires, regardless of time abroad.</p>

Global Mobility: Visa-free travel to 185+ countries and eligibility for high-level security clearance jobs.

The 2026 Landscape: What Has Changed?

2026 brings the most significant changes to citizenship law in a generation. The margin for error is slimmer than ever.



The 5 Pillars of Eligibility



PR Status

Must be a valid PR, not under review. Can apply with expired card if status is valid.



Physical Presence

Must be physically present in Canada for 1,095 days in the last 5 years.



Taxes

Filed income taxes for at least 3 years within the relevant 5-year period.



Language (18-54)

CLB 4 level in English or French. Proof via diplomas, LINC, or CELPIP/IELTS.



Knowledge (18-54)

Pass a test on Canada's history, values, and institutions.



The Critical Calculation: The 1,095 Day Rule

1,095 Days / 5 Years

You must be physically present in Canada for 1,095 **days** out of the 5 years preceding your application.

Calculation Breakdown:



Standard Days:

Every day physically in Canada as a PR = 1 Day



Temporary Resident Credit:

Time as student/worker/visitor before PR = 50% credit (Max 365 days)

Pro Tip: Do not apply with exactly 1,095 days. Wait until you have 1,105+ days to buffer against calculation errors.

Bill C-3: Restoring Rights to “Lost Canadians”

Parent
(Born Abroad)



Child
(Born Abroad)



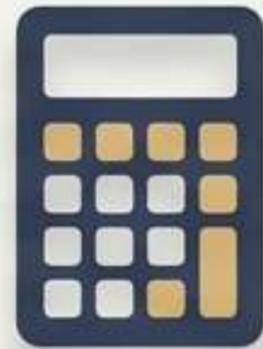
The Substantial Connection Test

Parent must have spent 1,095 cumulative days in Canada prior to the child's birth.

- **Old Rule:** Citizenship stopped here (First-Generation Limit).
- **New Rule (Bill C-3):** Citizenship passes down IF parent meets Substantial Connection.

The Application Process: Preparation & Submission

Phase 1: Getting Ready Inter



Calculate

Use the Online Physical Presence Calculator. Ensure travel dates match border records.



Gather Evidence

IDs, Language proof, Tax records. ***Bill C-3 applicants: Gather proof of parent's 1,095 days in Canada.***



Submit Online

Apply via the Cit-Portal. Upload high-quality color scans of PR card and IDs.

The Application Process: The Test & The Oath

Phase 2: The Finish Line



The Citizenship Test

- Occurs ~6-8 months after applying.
- Online, 20 questions.
- Pass mark: 15/20.
- Study 'Discover Canada' guide.



The Oath Ceremony

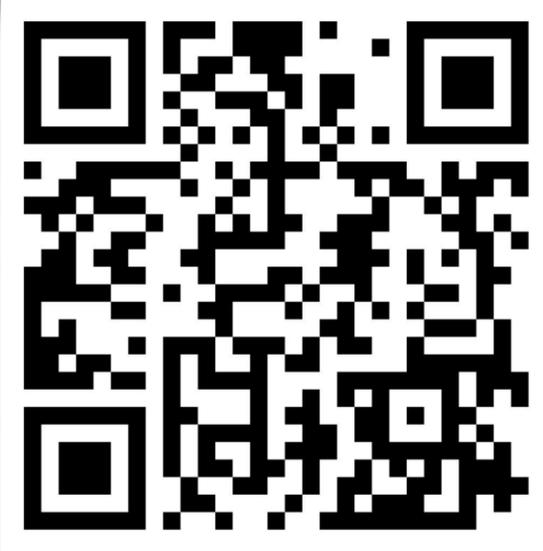
- Virtual or in-person ceremony.
- Recite the oath, sign the form, and receive your Citizenship Certificate.

2026 Investment & Timelines

Application Type	Total Fee (CAD)	Fee Breakdown
Adult Grant (18+)	Fee: ~\$650 CAD	Breakdown: \$530 Processing + \$119.75 Right of Citizenship
Minor Grant (<18)	Fee: \$100 CAD	Processing Fee Only
Proof of Citizenship (Descent)	Fee: \$75 CAD	For Bill C-3 Applicants

Processing Estimates

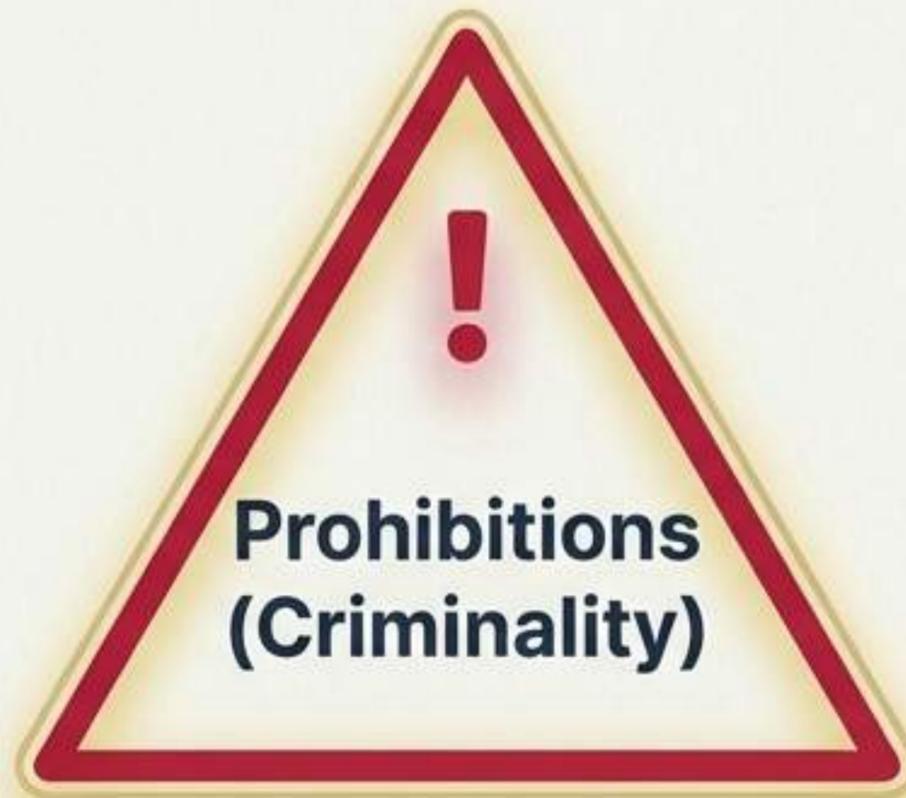
- Routine Grant: ~13 Months
- Proof of Citizenship: ~9-10 Months



Common Pitfalls: Why Applications Are Refused



Missing a single day (1,094 days) results in refusal. IRCC cross-references data with CBSA and US CBP. Forgotten weekend trips cause failures.



You cannot apply while serving a sentence, on probation, or on parole. You must wait until the sentence is fully served.



The 'Intent to Reside' clause is repealed. You do NOT need to promise to live in Canada after the Oath. You can move abroad immediately.

Expert Strategies for a Smooth Process

Travel Journal **Merriweather Bold,** **Crimson Red**

Keep a detailed log of all travel dates. Your personal calculator must match official border data exactly.

Test Anxiety **Merriweather Bold,** **Slate Navy**

Don't panic. If you fail the first test, you are automatically scheduled for a second attempt (4-8 weeks later).

PR Card Strategy **Merriweather Bold,** **Soft Gold**

Only renew your PR card if you plan to travel. You can apply for citizenship with an expired card, but cannot re-enter Canada on a commercial flight without a valid one.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I leave Canada after submitting?

A: Yes. You must maintain PR residency status (2 years in 5) until the Oath, and return for the test/ceremony, but you don't need to stay in Canada during processing.

Q: Is Dual Citizenship allowed?

A: Yes. Canada permits multiple citizenships. You only need to renounce your previous passport if your home country forbids dual status.

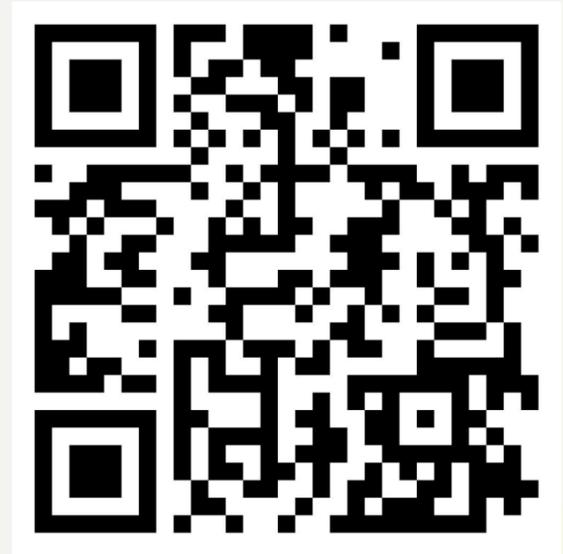
Q: What if I fail the test?

A: Retakes are available. You get a second chance, followed by an interview option.



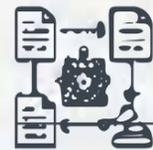
Why Choose Dara Immigration Services?

We don't just file forms; we safeguard your legacy.



Forensic Audit:

We analyze your travel history against potential border data to prevent the '1-day error'.



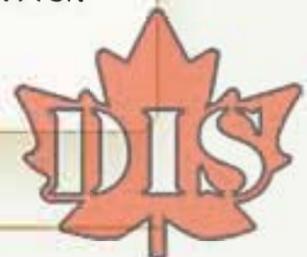
Bill C-3 Experts:

We help reconstruct the 'Substantial Connection' proof for descent applicants.



Peace of Mind:

Citizenship is the finish line. We ensure you don't trip in the final meter.



Secure Your Canadian Legacy



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