

Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement

The Canada–Panama Free Trade Agreement (FTA) was signed in 2010 and came into force on April 1, 2013. Chapter 13 of the Canada–Panama FTA, Temporary entry for business persons, is similar to the temporary entry provisions set out in Chapter 16 of the North American FTA. However, only the provisions for business visitors and professionals are currently in force.

In addition, like the Canada–Peru FTA temporary entry provisions, the Canada–Panama FTA temporary entry provisions extend to permanent residents as well as to citizens. Therefore, proof of permanent resident status is also an accepted document for presentation in support of an application.

Note: Although the Canada–Panama FTA also contains provisions for traders and investors, intra-company transferees and spouses, these provisions are not currently in force. Panamanian citizens who are seeking to enter under these categories have to

- seek a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA);
- apply under the General Agreement on Trade in Services;
- seek access under Canada’s domestic regime.