

# Hard-to-Fill Skills Pilot Closure

As of August 30, 2024, the Hard-to-Fill Skills (HFS) Pilot will be closed. No additional Job Approval Forms or SINP applications will be accepted. Forms and applications that were submitted prior to this date will be honoured and processed to completion. The other [program categories and sub-categories](#) of the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program remain open.

## 1. Why is the HFS Pilot being closed?

The Hard-to-Fill Skills Pilot is being closed to maintain positive settlement and retention outcomes for newcomers. Further, this closure supports ongoing efforts to streamline, simplify and eliminate duplication under existing Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) immigration pathways.

## 2. When will the closure take effect?

The closure will take effect on August 30, 2024.

## 3. My employer has already submitted a Job Approval Form for me. What happens to it now?

Job Approval Forms submitted before August 30, 2024, will be processed to completion using the guidelines in place at the time of submission.

## 4. I have already submitted my application. What happens to it now?

Candidate applications submitted with a valid Candidate-Specific Job Approval Letter (JAL) will be processed to completion using the guidelines in place at the time of submission.

## 5. What are my options if I planned to apply but have not done so yet?

You may explore other available immigration pathways, such as the SINP's Skilled Worker with Existing Work Permit, Health Talent or Agriculture Talent Pathway. Our [Program Selector](#) can be used to help you identify alternative pathways for you based on your occupation.

## 6. Will there be any compensation or assistance provided to those affected by the closure?

Separate information sessions will be held to support immigrant applicants and recruiting employers impacted by this change. Additional information about these sessions will be shared in September 2024.

**7. Can I appeal the decision to close this immigration pathway?**

The decision to end this pilot is final. No appeals can be made to delay this closure or extend the term of this pilot program.

**8. Will this closure affect my current visa or residency status?**

Current visa or residency statuses are unaffected by this change.

**9. How does this closure impact employers who rely on this immigration pathway for hiring?**

Employers will need to explore alternative pathways for hiring foreign workers, such as the SINP's Skilled Worker with Existing Work Permit, new Health Talent Pathway or Agriculture Talent Pathway. Please contact the SINP at [employerservices@gov.sk.ca](mailto:employerservices@gov.sk.ca) or 1-833-613-0485 for assistance.

**10. Where can I find more information or get help (Candidate)?**

For more information, you can email [immigration@gov.sk.ca](mailto:immigration@gov.sk.ca) or call 1-833-613-0485.