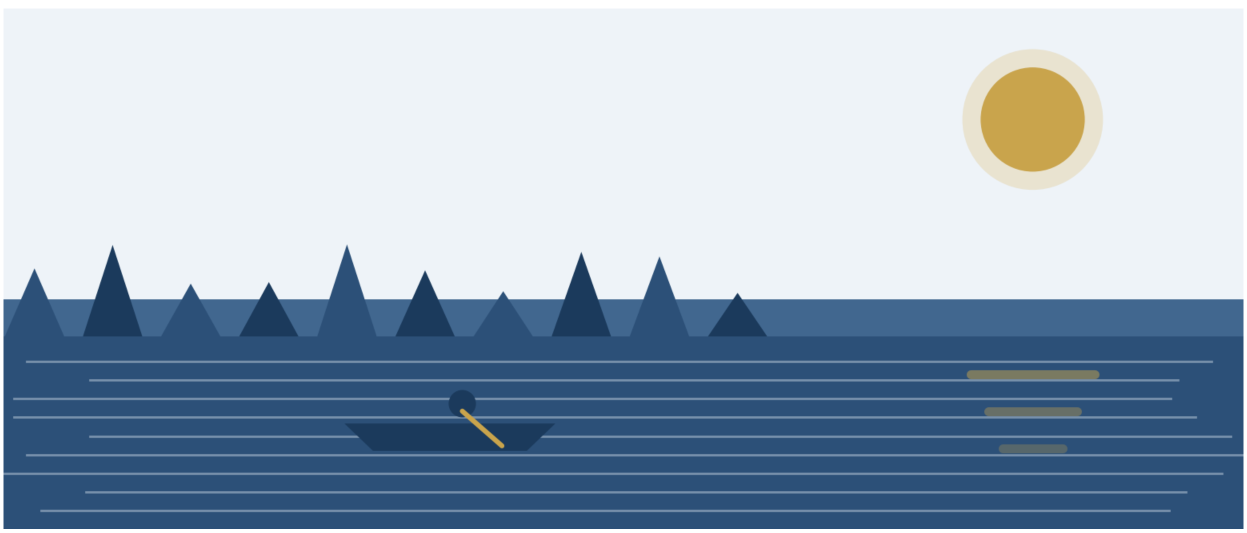
KABIR & ALAM LAWYERS
Canadian Immigration & Refugee Law

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM

Business Investor Stream Entrepreneur Pathway

Requirements and Process



Client Information Guide

Prepared August 2026

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Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program (MPNP)

Business Investor Stream – Entrepreneur Pathway

Client Information Guide – Requirements and Process

Prepared by Kabir & Alam Lawyers | August 2026

1. Overview

The Entrepreneur Pathway of Manitoba's Business Investor Stream (BIS) is a pathway to Canadian permanent residence for experienced business owners and senior managers who establish, purchase, or become partners in a business in Manitoba. Like most modern provincial programs, it is work-permit-first: candidates are selected through an Expression of Interest system, sign a Business Performance Agreement (BPA) with the province, operate the business on a temporary work permit, and are nominated for permanent residence once the BPA's terms are met.

Manitoba builds in a regional incentive – the minimum investment is $250,000 in the Manitoba Capital Region (Winnipeg and surrounding municipalities) but $150,000 elsewhere in the province – and requires the business to create or maintain at least one job for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident who is not a relative.

A status note: Manitoba's business program has been in a transition period during 2026, with intake and processing rhythms reported as irregular while the province redesigns its streams. The requirements below reflect the published BIS framework; current intake status should be confirmed directly with the MPNP before committing to an application.

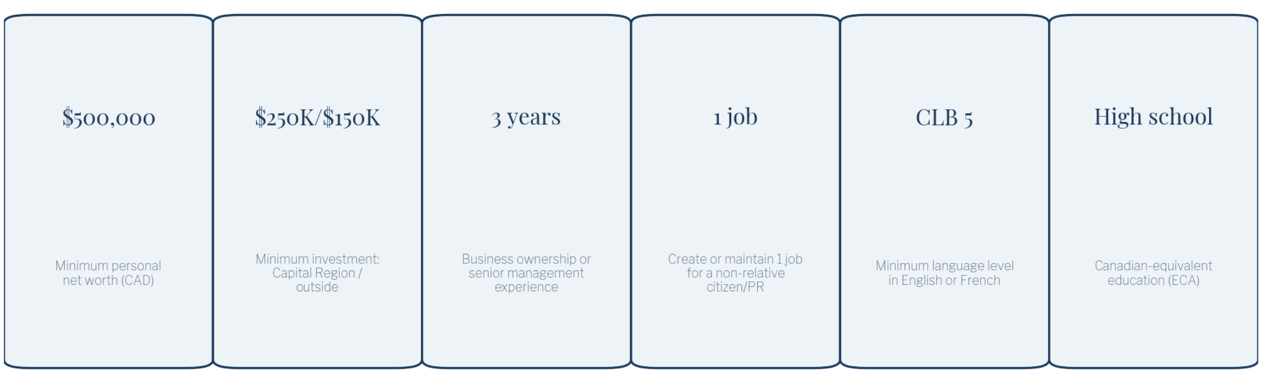

Figure 1: Core requirements at a glance.

2. Eligibility and Requirements

To qualify under the Entrepreneur Pathway, you must meet all of the following criteria:

Requirement	Details
Net worth	Minimum CAD $500,000, legally accumulated. Net worth is verified by an MPNP-approved third-party supplier, whose report must accompany the full application after a Letter of Advice to Apply.
Investment	Minimum CAD $250,000 for a business in the Manitoba Capital Region, or CAD $150,000 outside it, invested in an eligible business as defined by the MPNP.
Business experience	At least 3 years of full-time experience in the past 5 years as an active business owner (with a meaningful ownership stake) or as a senior manager. Business owners score higher on the ranking matrix than senior managers.
Ownership	The purchased or established business must involve a meaningful equity stake (at least one-third, unless the investment reaches $1 million or more) and active, ongoing participation in management.
Job creation	Create or maintain at least one full-time job for a Canadian citizen or permanent resident in Manitoba who is not an owner or close relative.
Language	Minimum Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB/NCLC) level 5 in English or French.
Education	At least the Canadian equivalent of a high school diploma, verified where applicable by an Educational Credential Assessment.
Business research visit	A visit to Manitoba to research the proposed business, conducted no more than one year before the EOI, earns ranking points and materially strengthens the plan. Age (points for 25–49) and other adaptability factors also affect ranking.
Timeline commitment	Candidates arriving on a work permit must establish or acquire the business within 24 months of arrival, in accordance with the Business Performance Agreement.

The authoritative source is the MPNP Business Investor Stream material at immigratemanitoba.com. Verify current intake status, the ranking matrix, and application deadlines directly against the MPNP's published materials, particularly during the program's 2026 transition.

2.1 The BIS ranking matrix

EOIs are ranked on Manitoba's BIS assessment matrix, which awards points across business experience (ownership scoring above management), net worth, investment amount, language, education, age, business location (with outside-Winnipeg locations favoured), and adaptability factors such as a spouse's language ability, prior Manitoba connections, and the business research visit. The highest-ranked candidates receive a Letter of Advice to Apply (LAA); the full application, including the third-party net worth verification report, is then due within the timeline stated in the LAA (120 days under the published framework).

2.2 The Business Performance Agreement

Approved candidates attend an interview and sign a BPA recording their specific commitments: the investment amount, the business, the job creation or retention, and residency in Manitoba. The BPA is the yardstick against which nomination is later measured – material changes to the plan require the province's consent, and the nomination follows only when the MPNP is satisfied the BPA has been fulfilled.

3. Ineligible Businesses

Businesses and situations that do not qualify include:

- Passive investment without active day-to-day management participation
- Businesses that do not meet the MPNP's eligible business definition, including certain professional practices and businesses inconsistent with program integrity
- Investment in a business primarily for the purpose of earning passive investment income
- Proposals that would not create or maintain the required employment for a non-relative Canadian citizen or permanent resident

4. The Application Process, Step by Step

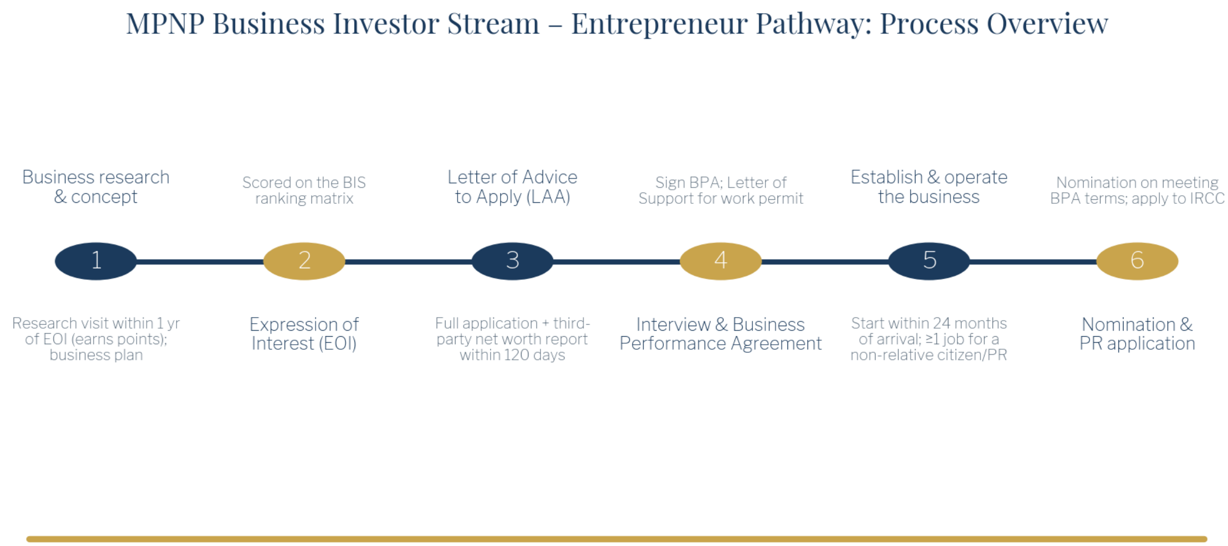

Figure 2: Process overview.

1. **Research the business and visit Manitoba:** Develop the business concept – establishment, purchase, or partnership – and conduct a business research visit within the year before your EOI. Prepare the business plan around verified local market conditions.
2. **Submit an Expression of Interest:** Create an MPNP profile and submit the EOI into the BIS pool, where candidates are ranked on the assessment matrix.
3. **Letter of Advice to Apply:** If selected, you receive an LAA. Retain the MPNP-approved third-party verifier, obtain the net worth verification report, and submit the complete application within the LAA's deadline.
4. **Interview and Business Performance Agreement:** Attend the interview, sign the BPA recording your investment, employment, and residency commitments, and receive the Letter of Support for a temporary work permit application to IRCC.
5. **Establish and operate the business:** Move to Manitoba, and within 24 months of arrival establish or acquire the business, make the qualifying investment, create or maintain the required employment, and actively manage the business day-to-day.
6. **Nomination and permanent residence:** Once the MPNP is satisfied the BPA has been fulfilled, you are nominated. The nomination supports a permanent residence application to IRCC under the Provincial Nominee Class for you and your dependent family members.

5. Fees and Costs

Item	Cost
MPNP application fee (business streams)	Confirm the current amount with the MPNP
Third-party net worth verification	Applicant's cost

Item	Cost
Business research visit travel	Applicant's cost
Language tests, ECA, translations	Applicant's cost
IRCC fees (work permit; permanent residence)	Federal fees apply

Manitoba's business program fees and procedures are subject to change during the 2026 stream redesign; confirm the current schedule with the MPNP before submitting.

6. How This Compares to Other Provincial Entrepreneur Streams

For reference against comparable work-permit-first entrepreneur programs:

Criteria	MB Entrepreneur Pathway	BC PNP Base	NS Entrepreneur
Net worth	$500K	$600K	$600K HRM / $400K outside
Minimum investment	$250K Capital Region / $150K outside	$200K	$150K HRM / $100K outside
Language	CLB 5	CLB 4	CLB 5
Experience window	3 yrs in last 5	3 yrs in last 10	3 yrs ownership / 5 yrs mgmt
Regional incentive	Lower investment outside Winnipeg	Location points	Lower thresholds outside Halifax
Establishment deadline	Within 24 months of arrival	Per Performance Agreement	Per Business Performance Agreement

7. Practical Considerations

- Confirm intake status first: with the BIS in transition during 2026, the practical question before any planning is whether the pathway is currently accepting EOIs and on what terms – this should be verified on the day, not assumed.
- The regional split is a real lever: a business outside the Capital Region lowers the investment floor by $100,000 and earns ranking points – but the plan must be viable in the smaller market.
- Manitoba is one of the few programs that expressly contemplates partnering into an existing business, not just establishing or buying outright – partnership structures still require the meaningful equity stake, active management, and job commitments.

- The 24-month establishment window runs from arrival, not from nomination planning – candidates should land with a near-execution-ready plan rather than intending to explore after arriving.
- As with all streams, net worth must be legally accumulated and traceable; the third-party verification report goes to the MPNP directly and drives the timeline after the LAA.

Important Notice

This guide is provided for general information only and does not constitute legal advice for any specific case. It summarizes the requirements of the MPNP Business Investor Stream – Entrepreneur Pathway as published by the Province of Manitoba (immigratemanitoba.com) as of August 2026, during a period in which Manitoba's business streams are undergoing redesign. Program criteria, ranking factors, fees, and intake status change from time to time and should be verified against the current program materials before any step is taken. Please contact our office to discuss how these requirements apply to your circumstances.

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