



CELEBRATING **25** YEARS OF SERVICE

CARE CARE CENTRE FOR
INTERNATIONALLY
EDUCATED
NURSES 

Supporting IEN Careers in Canada

Ontario 

Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



About **CARE** Centre

CARE Centre for Internationally Educated Nurses (CARE Centre) is a pan-Canadian non-profit organization that supports internationally educated nurses in obtaining professional licensure and integrating into the Canadian health care system.

CARE Centre's services, which include case management, language training, exam preparation, mentorship, and employment support, are delivered through two main programs.

CARE Centre programs

The PASS program prepares internationally educated nurses (IENS) for practice both *before* and *after* they arrive in Canada.

The STARS Program supports IENs who have landed in Ontario, Canada.

Since 2001, CARE Centre has helped over 7,000 IENs from 140+ countries relaunch their nursing careers in Canada.



STARS Program

The Supports, Training, and Access to Regulated-employment Services (STARS) Program offers intensive, Ontario-focused nursing supports for internationally educated nurses.

The STARS Program is funded by the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development Ontario.

STARS Eligibility

- 18 years of age or older
- Currently reside in Ontario, Canada
- Graduated from a recognized nursing program outside of Canada (must be able to provide Nursing Diploma or documentation)
- Language requirements (CLB 6 or higher)

Eligible immigration status

- Permanent Resident
- Naturalized Canadian Citizen
- Approved Provincial nominee under the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (excluding those under the International Student stream)
- Refugee claimant with a 900-series Social Insurance Number (SIN) and an open work permit
- Visitor under Emergency Travel measures enacted by the federal government (e.g. Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel measure) with a 900-series Social Insurance Number (SIN) and an open work permit or
- Individual in Canada on a temporary work permit who has received confirmation from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) that they meet the eligibility requirements for permanent residence (i. e. approval in principle).



PASS Program

The Pre-Arrival and Post Arrival Supports and Services Program (PASS) is a pan-Canadian program that helps internationally educated nurses prepare to work in the nursing profession, before and after arrival in Canada.

The PASS Program is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

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PASS Eligibility

- Graduated from a recognized nursing program outside of Canada (must be able to provide Nursing Diploma or documentation)
- Permanent Resident Status from IRCC (must be able to provide eligible documentation)
- No minimum language requirements to join PASS Program

Any of the following immigration documents are accepted:

- An IRCC invitation to obtain pre-arrival services
- A confirmation of Permanent Residence (COPR) letter/document
- A passport request letter that indicates Permanent Resident visa issuance
- An IRCC request that an applicant for permanent residence complete a medical examination
- A Single Entry Permanent Resident Visa
- A Permanent Resident Visa pick up notification letter

Pre-arrival supports for Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) are designed to help nurses prepare for professional registration, employment expectations, and transition into the Canadian healthcare system before they arrive in Canada.

CARE Centre provides structured virtual support to IENs while they are still abroad. Its main goal is to improve readiness for employment in the Canadian healthcare system.

For IENs, this stage is mainly about reducing uncertainty and helping them understand what is required to become licensed and employable in Canada before they physically arrive.

**PRE -
ARRIVAL**

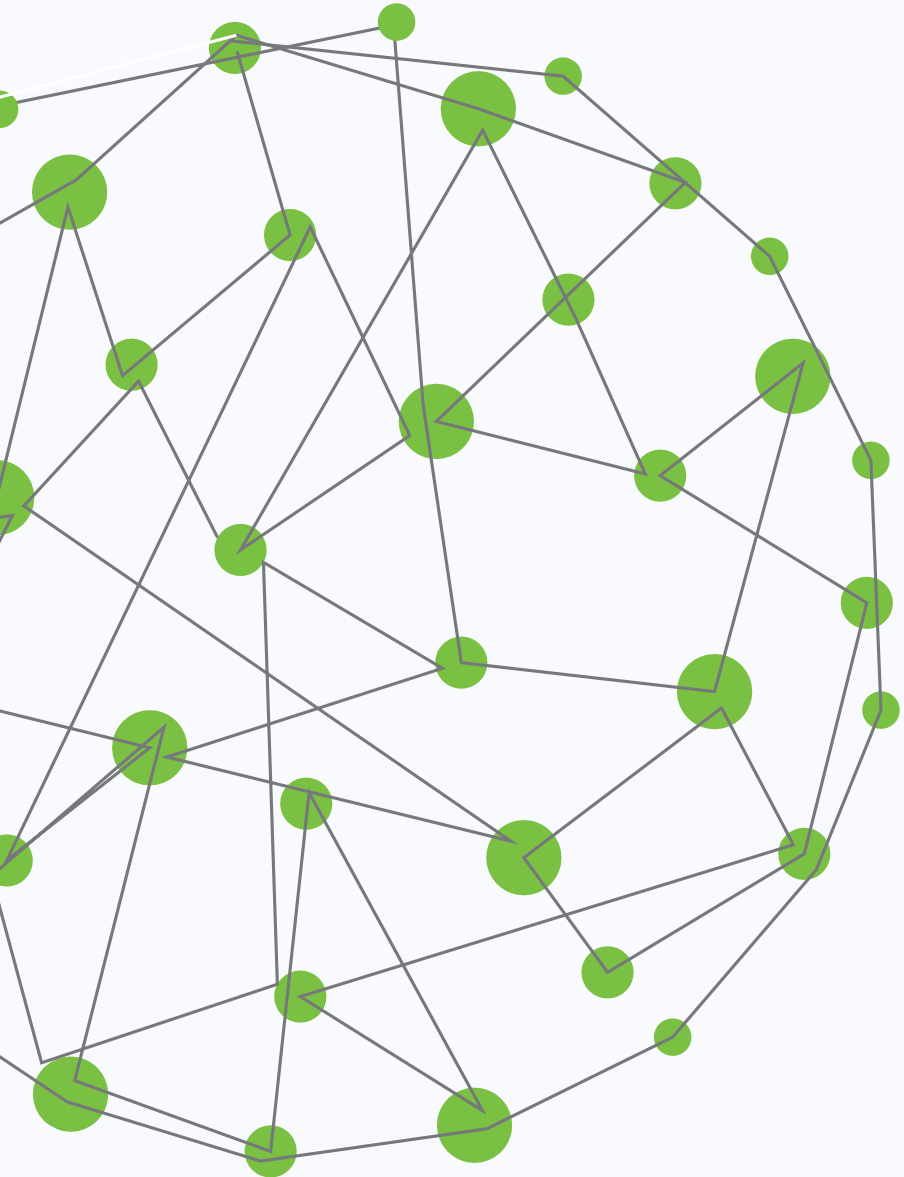


**POST -
ARRIVAL**

After arrival in Canada, support shifts from preparation to practical integration into the healthcare system, bridging gaps in education, experience, and licensing requirements.

The CARE Centre for Internationally Educated Nurses plays a central role in this stage. It supports IENs as they move through licensure, employment and the transition into Canadian nursing practice.

These services are designed to help IENs convert their international nursing experience into Canadian licensure and sustainable employment.



IEN Statistics

140+

Serving IENs from over
140 countries

6,000+

Webinar attendance*

11,000+

Social Media followers

67%

of new IENs are from India
and Philippines*

300+

Language courses completed*

7,000+

IENs supported since 2001

*From April 2024 to March 2025

Health Partners

CARE Centre for Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) partners with employers across Canada to support IENs' successful onboarding, integration, and retention.

Key employer supports include:

- Workplace Integration Program (WIP)
- Meet the Employer Sessions
- Observational Job Shadowing (OJS)
- Partnerships

**Interested in more employer support options?
Contact CARE Centre today!**

CARE Centre Contacts

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Virtual Supports: Canada-wide+ International

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