The IMM 5409 common-law declaration and its package

Common-law partners sponsoring or being sponsored, with IMM 5409 in the application.

Tick as you go. A number in brackets points to the source of that line, listed at the end.

Is this your form?

- [ ] You have been living, or have lived, with your partner for at least 12 consecutive months in a marriage-like relationship. [1]
  These terms apply to couples of any gender.
- [ ] The person being sponsored has a common-law partner: both of them complete the form. [2]
- [ ] The sponsor's common-law partner is a co-signer: the sponsor and that partner complete the form. [2]

Fill in IMM 5409

- [ ] Download the current form on a computer, and open it in Adobe Acrobat Reader. [2]
  It may not open on a tablet or phone.
- [ ] Question 1: your names as shown on your passport or travel document, where you live, your continuous years, and the from and to dates. [2]
- [ ] Question 1A: a jointly signed residential lease, mortgage or purchase agreement for the home you share. [2]
- [ ] Question 1B: property you jointly own other than your residence. [2]
- [ ] Question 1C: joint bank, trust, credit union or charge card accounts. [2]
- [ ] Question 1D: your common-law union declared on your income tax return (T1). [2]
- [ ] Questions 2 and 3: life insurance that names your partner as a beneficiary, and theirs that names you. [2]
- [ ] Question 4: if you answered no to questions 1 to 3, other documentary evidence of your relationship. [2]
- [ ] Press Validate at the top of the form. [2]
  Missing information is identified in a pop-up. This form does not produce a barcode.

Declare it

- [ ] IRCC's instructions say the form must be completed and signed with handwritten signatures. [2]
  Ask your representative or IRCC if you are unsure what your program needs, and tell us when you book.
- [ ] Question 5: the solemn declaration, with the place and the date, and the signature of each of you. [2]
- [ ] The person who administers the declaration prints their name, selects their title and signs. [2]
- [ ] Each of you has valid government-issued photo ID. [3]

What travels with it

- [ ] Document Checklist, Common-Law Partner (IMM 5589). [4]
  Applying online, you get a personalized checklist. You do not need to submit the PDF one.
- [ ] From the sponsor: Application to Sponsor, Sponsorship Agreement and Undertaking (IMM 1344). [5]
  You and the person you're sponsoring must both electronically sign it.
- [ ] From the sponsor: Sponsorship Evaluation and Relationship Questionnaire (IMM 5532). [5]
- [ ] From the person being sponsored, online: Generic Application Form for Canada (IMM 0008). [5]
- [ ] From the person being sponsored, online: Schedule A, Background/Declaration (IMM 5669). [5]
  For themselves and for any family members 18 or older.
- [ ] From the person being sponsored, online: Additional Family Information (IMM 5406), and Your Travels (IMM 5562) if it applies. [5]
- [ ] One photo for each person on the application, scanned on both sides. [5]
  In most cases, biometrics follow after you apply.
- [ ] A representative only if you appoint one: IMM 5476, or IMM 5475 for releasing information to someone. [5]

Before you submit

- [ ] Apply online. It has been mandatory since September 23, 2022, with other formats on request for accommodation. [5]
- [ ] Upload clear copies, and keep your originals in case IRCC asks for them. [5]

☐ Check nothing is missing. An application missing a requested document will be returned. [1]

Before you rely on this

This covers a common-law partner living in Canada. IRCC's form tool adds country-specific requirements for anyone living elsewhere, and its personalized checklist in the online application is the final word on what to upload.

What we do

We commission IMM 5409 by video, with both partners on one call, or on a mobile visit where a pen-signed paper original is what you need. We do not advise on the sponsorship itself.

Sources, read November 5, 2026

1. IRCC, Sponsor your spouse, partner or dependent child: Complete Guide (IMM 5289). Modified 2026-04-23. canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/guide-5289-sponsor-your-spouse-common-law-partner-conjugal-partner-dependent-child-complete-guide.html
2. IRCC, Statutory Declaration of Common-Law Union (IMM 5409). Form last updated January 2023. canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/imm5409.html
3. Minute Notary, Notarizing signatures: acceptable ID. minutenotary.ca/services/notarizing-signatures
4. IRCC, Document Checklist: Common-Law Partner (IMM 5589). Form last updated September 2022. canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/imm5589.html
5. IRCC, Sponsoring your spouse, partner or dependent child: forms by situation. ircc.canada.ca/english/information/applications/spouse.asp

The current version of this checklist is at minutenotary.ca/checklists/imm-5409-common-law-package.