



**SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER:  
SIN**

[December 2018]

The Social Insurance Number (SIN) is a nine-digit number that you need to work in Canada or to have access to government programs and benefits.

A SIN is issued to one person only and cannot legally be used by anyone else.

### How to Apply

Gather the required original [proof-of-identity documents](#) and take them to the nearest Service Canada [point of service](#).

If everything is in order, you will get your Social Insurance Number at the time of your visit.

SINS for temporary workers: read [here](#).

Lost or stolen SIN: read [here](#).

For more information please see [here](#).

## Important: Obtain a Permanent SIN after Obtaining Permanent Residency Status

- 1) Go to your nearest [Service Canada Centre](#).
- 2) Bring your PR card, or if you have not received this yet, bring your proof of PR document and **government issued** photo ID from the province in which you live (**and your passport**).