

NETHERLANDS

Canada-Netherlands Young Workers' Exchange Program

WHAT IS IT?

The Canada-Netherlands Young Workers' Exchange Program is designed for Canadians who wish to expand their overseas travel experience by living and working in the Netherlands.

THE PROGRAM TARGETS THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYMENT SECTORS:

- industry;
- commerce;
- science and technology;
- tourism; and
- agriculture and horticulture.

Only those applicants wishing to work in agriculture or horticulture receive assistance in finding a job. Placement services are available only to students in a university program (either full-time or part-time) in agriculture or horticulture, or graduates from such a program or an equivalent college program.

The Stichting Uitwisseling (agency for youth exchange and agricultural study tours) in the Netherlands will co-ordinate the placement of experienced agricultural/horticultural workers at suitable farms and companies. The type of work depends on the season and on the qualifications and preferences of the participants, so a detailed résumé is required. Once a host family has been found, the participant is contacted for approval.

Participants placed by the Stichting Uitwisseling agency earn approximately 125 florins per week and receive free room and board. Participants who find employment in the agricultural/horticultural sector on their own will be paid at a rate that reflects supply and demand.

Trainees receive the same treatment as Dutch nationals in all matters concerning the application of laws, regulations and practices regarding health and working conditions.

HOW LONG IS IT?

Applicants meeting all the eligibility requirements who find employment related to their area of study on arrival may apply for a one-year, non-renewable work permit.

If applicants wish to take up employment unrelated to their education, they are eligible for a four-month, non-renewable work permit. It is possible, however, to apply for three different work permits for three different jobs running consecutively, in order to work in the Netherlands for a maximum of one year.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST:

- be 18 to 30 years of age;
- be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant; and