

TIPS FOR COMPLETING RELATIONSHIP INFORMATION AND SPONSORSHIP EVALUATION FORM (IMM 5532) BY SPONSOR AND SPONSORED SPOUSE TOGETHER

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This handout is solely for informational purposes and does not constitute legal advice.. We urge you to consult with us at info@connectingottawa.com if you have any specific legal questions about a client's situation.

PART A: Sponsorship Evaluation and Information about the Sponsor

The sponsor fills out this section.

Question 1: This question requires the sponsor to list their employment history for the past five years. There cannot be any gaps in time. Even if there were periods that the sponsor was not working, they must list what they were doing during that time, like studying or caring for children. If the sponsor was unemployed for any period, they must provide a detailed explanation of how they supported themselves during that time. Include an extra document if needed, with the form name, question number and the explanation. If the sponsor was self-employed during any period, they must include the name of their business and indicate when it was created. During each time period listed in this employment history, the sponsor must list their gross monthly income, meaning what they earned before paying taxes.

Question 2: In the table, the sponsor must list anyone they ever sponsored in the past, not just spouses. For example, if they sponsored a dependent child or a parent, they would include them in the table as well. They must also list anyone they sponsored as a co-signer. If they sponsored someone whose sponsorship is still in process, that person must be listed in the table as well.

Question 5: Be sure not to leave any gaps in the sponsor's five-year address history. Every month of the past five years must be covered.

Question 7: This question asks if the sponsor has ever been married or in a common law relationship with another person. Be sure to include the current relationship between the sponsor and sponsored spouse/partner.

PART B: Information about the Principal Applicant

This section must be completed by the spouse/partner being sponsored (principal applicant)

Question 3: Be sure to include the relationship that the sponsored spouse/partner is currently in with the sponsor.

PART C: Information about relationship

This section should be filled out by the sponsor and principal applicant (person being sponsored) together. When you answer the questions, you can either talk about “the sponsor and principal applicant” or you can use the terms “we “and “us”. Either is acceptable.

Question 1: Include as much detail as possible about the first time the couple met. If there is not enough space, include an extra document. Be sure to indicate what form and question number you are answering on that additional document.

Question 2: “Contact before meeting in person” could include emails, video calls, text messages, social media, etc. If the couple had any interaction at all before their first in person meeting, include the details here.

Question 3: There is nothing wrong with declaring that the couple are not living together right now if one of them is outside Canada. However, if the spouse is being sponsored from inside Canada, the couple must be living together in Canada when they submit the sponsorship.

Question 4: Be sure to provide a detailed explanation for why the couple have not visited each other if they are not living together. You can talk about immigration restrictions, financial barriers, difficulty getting time off work, and any other constraints.

Question 7: If the couple’s family and friends do not know about their relationship, it is important to include a detailed explanation of why not. If family and friends do know about the relationship, list as many family members of both the sponsor and sponsored spouse/partner who know about the relationship as possible. Add an additional sheet of paper if needed. Include letters from these family/friends in your supporting evidence to corroborate their knowledge of the relationship and confirm when they met the sponsor or sponsored spouse.

Question 9: Be sure to list as many ceremonies and events as took place, including any engagement, wedding ceremony, wedding party/reception, honeymoon, etc. When the couple submits supporting evidence for the sponsorship, it will be important to submit photos from as many of these events as possible. Provide as much detail about each event as possible, including an additional document if necessary. If there were written invitations or announcements of any of these events, include those as supporting evidence as well. Be sure to provide a detailed explanation of why any family members did not attend the various events.

Question 11: Be sure to provide more details about the relationship in this section. Discuss things like what activities the couple do together, why they are attached to one another, how much they miss one another if one is abroad, etc. The goal is to provide Immigration with as much information as possible to conclude that this is a genuine marriage.

Notes

Just completing this form is not enough. The couple should write a detailed history of their relationship starting with how they met and reviewing the development of the relationship up to present. This can be written like a letter or story. It can be written from the perspective of one spouse or both together. It should be signed and dated and included as a supporting document on the online Permanent Residence Portal. Just be sure that all information and dates in the written narrative match what is included in this form.