Western International

Working in Canada - Regulations for International Students

Presented by:
Heidi Liu, RCIC
International Student Advisor
AGENDA

• On-campus work
• Off-campus work
• Co-op or Internship Work Permit
• Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)
• Spousal Applications (Open Work Permit)
Work on campus
(without a work permit)

You must...

- have a valid Study Permit
- be a Full-time student:
  - at a participating institution (Western and its affiliated colleges are included)
- have a SIN

• Unlimited hours
• Note: no more than an average of 10 hours per week for graduate students
# Work off campus

(_without a work permit_)

You must…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a valid <strong>Study Permit</strong></td>
<td>• with a condition that says you can work off-campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a <strong>Full-time student</strong></td>
<td>• at a DLI (Western and its affiliated colleges are included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enrolled</td>
<td>• in a post-secondary program and have started studying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in a program</td>
<td>• that leads to a degree, diploma or certificate that is at least 6 months long</td>
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- You can work up to 20 hours a week off-campus
- You can work full-time during scheduled breaks
APPLYING FOR A SIN

• You can apply online or by mail.

• If you are unable to apply online or by mail you have the option to apply in person.

• If you apply for a SIN online or by mail and your application meets the requirements, you will receive a letter with your SIN by mail within 20 business days from the date the application is received. If more than 25 business days have passed and you would like to find out the status of your application, contact the SIN program.

• There is no fee to apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN).

Co-op & Internship Programs

You may apply for a co-op or intern work permit if:

- a valid **Study Permit**
- employment must be an **essential part** of program of study
- a **letter from school**
  - that confirms all students in your program need to complete work placements to get their degree
- Co-op or internship totals **50% or less** of study program

*There is no processing fee for co-op work permit.*
### PGWP – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**A valid study permit at some point during the 180 days**
- You have 180 days to apply for PGWP after school issues your final marks

**Completed a study program**
- at an eligible DLI
- at least 8 months long
- leading to a degree, diploma or certificate

**Maintained full-time student status**
- except final session, which can be part-time
- or leave of absence (case by case)

**Received final transcripts AND a PGWP letter**
- from Registrar’s Office

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Don’t let your status expire if you are in Canada!

Your study permit expires as of the expiry date on the permit or 90 days after the day you complete your studies, **whichever comes first.**
You **may** be eligible for a Work Permit that is valid for up to 3 years **depending on the length of your program** of study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official length of program</th>
<th>PGWP validity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 8 months</td>
<td>NOT ELIGIBLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 8 months &amp; &lt; 2 years</td>
<td>Up to the same length as your program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years or more</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a 16-23 month, full-time graduate program with no breaks</td>
<td>*A PGWP may be issued for 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two PGWP-eligible programs completed within 2 years</td>
<td>PGWP may combine the length of each program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A PGWP Letter:
- Order a PGWP letter via Student Center (can be delivered by pick-up, mail, courier or fax)
- PGWP letter is only available upon completion of program (after adjudication)

Final transcript:
- an official transcript, or
- an unofficial transcript from Student Centre under Web Academic Report
WORK AUTHORIZATION

• You can work full-time after you apply for a PGWP if you:
  • Had a valid study permit when you submitted your PGWP application
  • Completed your study program
  • Were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  • Didn’t work more hours than you were allowed to

• Please note:
  • You must stop working the day you are notified by IRCC that your application is refused.
  • If you are confirmed by Western that you have completed your program and you are not starting a new program of study, you can NOT work until you apply for a PGWP and you meet all the above criteria
SPOUSES / COMMON-LAW PARTNERS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

• A spouse or common-law partner (non-student) of a full-time international student may obtain an open work permit.

• The Work Permit will have the same expiry date as their spouse's Study Permit.

• Spouses needing assistance with job searching are invited to contact IESC.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING

- Book appointments with an International Student Advisor at: iesc.uwo.ca/remote/appointment.html
- Immigration Services iesc.uwo.ca/visas
- Presentations on Study Permits, Post Graduation Work Permit, and more can be found at iesc.uwo.ca/remote/resources.html
- Immigration workshops events.westernu.ca/
- Covid-19 FAQ iesc.uwo.ca/COVID-19-FAQs.html
- Financial Assistance iesc.uwo.ca/finaid
- Spouse and Family Support iesc.uwo.ca/student_life/your_family
- iWellness Website iwellness.uwo.ca
- Email us iesc@uwo.ca
IESC’s Immigration Services

- iesc.uwo.ca
- iesc@uwo.ca
- 519-661-2111 ext. 89309
- Drop-ins or appointments (Zoom)
- Workshops
Q & A