Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)
Post-graduation Employment for International Students in Canada

Presented by:
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International Student Advisor
March 22, 2023
AGENDA

• Eligibility criteria for PGWP
• Length of PGWP
• Documents required for PGWP application
• How to apply for a PGWP
• Work authorization after completion of program
• Q & A
POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT (PGWP)

“One time” gift for international students to gain Canadian work experience

An OPEN work permit

- You do not need a job offer to apply
- You can work for any employer
- You can work anywhere in Canada
- You can work at any jobs
- The job does not need to be related to your degree
PGWP – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA INSIDE CANADA GRADUATES

You have 180 days to apply for a PGWP after completion of program

- A valid study permit at some point during the 180 days

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 academic session, which can be part-time
- Or an approved leave of absence (case by case)

Received final transcripts AND a PGWP letter

- from Registrar’s Office

COVID-19: If you had to stop studying or change to part-time studies between March 2020 and Fall 2020 due to COVID-19, you may still be eligible for a PGWP. Please keep all the supporting documents.

Don’t let your status expire!
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.
PGWP – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
OUTSIDE CANADA GRADUATES

Special measures due to Covid-19:

• You don’t have to have held a valid study permit if you
  • were enrolled in a program that was in progress in March 2020 or
  • Started a program between March 2020 and August 31, 2022 and
    • you have a study permit or
    • you’ve been approved for a study permit or
    • you applied for a study permit before starting your study program
      • Your study permit must eventually be approved.

• Only the time studying outside Canada after you submitted your study permit application counts towards the length of your PGWP.

• Any time studying outside Canada after August 31, 2023 is not counted.

• You may still be eligible for a PGWP if you had to stop studying or change to part-time studies between March 2020 and Fall 2020.

* You must meet all the other eligibility criteria for PGWP.
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.

**NOTE:**
- You can’t get a PGWP if you already had one after completing an earlier program of study.
- Make sure your passport is valid to cover the length of PGWP that you are eligible for.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official length of program</th>
<th>PGWP validity</th>
</tr>
</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</td>
<td>*A PGWP may be issued for 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>graduate program with no</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>breaks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two PGWP-eligible programs</td>
<td>PGWP may combine the length of each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>completed within 2 years</td>
<td>program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PGWP: DOCUMENTATION FROM WESTERN

• **A PGWP Letter:**
  • Order a PGWP letter via Student Center (can be delivered by pick-up, eLetter, 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

**NOTE:** PGWP application is based on completion of program. You do not have to wait until you get your degree.

https://iesc.uwo.ca/visas/documents_from_western.html
HOW / WHEN TO REQUEST A PGWP LETTER

Complete final exams or thesis AND apply to graduate

Check Student Centre
- Graduation Status: Program Complete

Order a PGWP letter via Student Centre

NOTE:
- For project and course based students, program complete happen after the last day of your final term.
- For thesis-based students, after your final thesis is verified and published, SGPS will then update your Student Centre indicating Completed.
HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

Step 1:
Sign in or Create an account on www.cic.gc.ca
HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

Step 2: Determine your eligibility
HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

Step 3: Select Post-Graduate Work Permit – in Canada to continue

Your results

Based on the information you provided, the result(s) below indicate(s) whether you may be eligible to come to Canada.

Temporary Resident Visa
You will need a temporary resident visa to return to Canada.
If you are working or studying in Canada, your temporary resident visa may expire at the same time as your work or study permit. If your work or study permit is expiring soon, please renew your study or work permit first. Once your study or work permit is approved, you may apply for your temporary resident visa.

Post-Graduate Work Permit - in Canada
You may be eligible to work in Canada with a post-graduation work permit.
HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

Step 4:
Upload required documents and submit application (document checklist is personalized based on answers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Form(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application to Change Conditions, Extend my Stay or Remain in Canada as a Worker (IMM5710)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Supporting Documents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recent Education Transcript</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion of Studies Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital photo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fees</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work Permit</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (CAD) per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (CAD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open Work Permit Holder Fee</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price (CAD) per unit</td>
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<td>$100</td>
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<td>Total (CAD)</td>
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The fee shown is an estimate based on the fees in effect on the day that this Personal Reference Code is issued. The actual fees to be paid will be calculated on the date of submission.
PGWP: 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 meet all the above criteria.
WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF STUDIES

Date you complete final exams or thesis

Date school confirms completion

Date PGWP application is submitted (*all conditions met)

Part-time or full-time* work off campus if eligible

Can’t work

Full-time work

Stop working if Study Permit expires

*Please contact an ISA if you have questions regarding your work authorization during the period between your final exams or thesis and your completion date.
APPLYING FOR A SIN

➢ You can apply online, by mail or in person. 

➢ If you are unable to apply online or by mail, you have the option to apply in person at Dominion Public Building, 457 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

➢ If you apply for a SIN online and your application meets the requirements, you will receive a letter with your SIN by mail within 10 business days from the date the application is received. If more than 15 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).

NOTE: You can continue using your SIN while waiting for PGWP application decision even if it expires as long as you are eligible to work.
IRCC announced on March 17, 2023 that international graduates may qualify for an extended work permit:

- Foreign nationals whose PGWP has expired or will expire in 2023 will be eligible.
- Those who were eligible for the 2022 PGWP facilitative measure will also be eligible. This includes PGWP that expired between September 20, 2021 to December 31, 2022.
- Extensions will be for a period of up to 18 months.
- Those who fall under this temporary policy will be able to apply for restoration even outside of the normal 90 day restoration period, and will be able to work while waiting for the result of their work permit application.
- This temporary policy will come into effect on April 6, 2023.

ADVISING SERVICES WINTER 2023

Appointments
https://iesc.uwo.ca/appointment/index.html
• Virtual via Microsoft Teams or telephone appointment
• Monday – Friday, 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

Drop Ins
• In person, IGAB 2nd floor
• Monday – Friday, 1 - 4 pm

Immigration FAQ sessions
• Virtual on zoom
• Fridays 9-10am

Immigration workshops
• IESC events calendar: http://www.events.westernu.ca/events/iesc/
• IESC weekly network email

Office Hours & Reception
• Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
• Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 89309
• Email: iesc@uwo.ca
Q & A