Post Grad Work Permit (PGWP)

Langara Global DLI 019319074622

The <u>Post Graduate Work Permit (PGWP) Program</u> allows students who have graduated from a recognized Canadian post-secondary institution to gain valuable work experience in Canada. Effective November 1, 2024 <u>IRCC has introduced new requirements</u> for students that are applying for their PGWP.

Length of the PGWP:

If your program of study was:

Less than eight months	You are NOT eligible for a PGWP
More than eight months but less than two years	Your PGWP may be valid for up to the same length as your study program (for example, if you studied for nine months, a work permit may be issued for up to nine months)
Two years or more	A PGWP may be issued for three years
More than one program	A PGWP may be valid for up to three years, for example, if you finished a diploma or degree from an eligible school in Canada, and within the next two years you get a one-year graduate degree or diploma from an eligible school in Canada

Current PGWP General Eligibility:

- Have continuously studied full-time in Canada in a program of at least eight months in length that, led to a certificate, diploma or degree
- Have a document from your school (transcript, official letter, certificate, etc.) that confirms you completed and passed all your program requirements
- Completed at least 50% or more of your program in person in Canada
- Apply for a work permit within 180 days of when it was confirmed that you completed your program (Calculation of the 180 days begins the day the student's final marks are issued or the day formal written notification of program completion is received, whichever comes first)
- Must have valid status to apply for the work permit. The study permit is deemed to be invalid 90 days from receiving the confirmation of graduation letter
- Full eligibility rules can be found on the IRCC website

CHANGES TO PGWP ELGIBILITY:

Submitted Study Permit Application Before November 1, 2024:

- Must meet all general PGWP eligibility criteria
- All graduating students applying for a PGWP on or after November 1, 2024 must provide proof of language ability <u>Canadian</u> <u>Language Benchmark</u> (CLB) 5 for all College programs
- Accepted English language tests include the Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP General), International English Language Testing System (IELTS General), and the Pearson Test of English (PTE Core)

Submitted Study Permit Application Submitted On or After November 1, 2024:

- Must meet all PGWP General Eligibility Criteria
- All graduating students applying for a PGWP on or after November 1, 2024 must provide proof of language ability <u>Canadian</u> <u>Language Benchmark</u> (CLB) 5 for all College programs as well as meet the field of study requirements
- For a list of eligible field of study programs at Langara College click here

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General Ineligibility:

- Studied in a program that was less than eight months long
- Studied for more than eight months but not continuously or full time (for example, you took a semester off that was not an authorized <u>scheduled break</u>, or had a part-time semester)
- Completed a study program by distance learning either from abroad or from within Canada or
- Already had a post-graduation work permit following any other program of study
- Took general interest of self-improvement courses

Waiting for a decision:

You can work full-time until a decision is made on your work permit application if you:

- Completed your study program
- Applied for a work permit before your study permit expired and
- You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying and did not work more hours than you were allowed to while working off-campus

If these do not apply to you, you must wait until the permit arrives to begin your new job. It is illegal to work in Canada without a work permit. If your work permit is refused, you must stop working the day you are notified of the refusal.

Compliance:

- Students who fail to comply with the terms and conditions of their study permits are considered non-compliant
- Students who become ineligible and who do not cease working would be violating the conditions of their study permit
- Non-compliance may also result in enforcement action taken by the Canada Border Services Agency, or invalidation of the study permit. It may also negatively affect future applications made under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* and its regulations

How to apply for your PGWP:

- 1. Apply Online to apply online you must have:
- Access to a scanner or digital camera to make electronic copies of your documents for uploading
- Biometrics- you will need to provide <u>biometrics</u> (fingerprints and photo). If you have provided biometrics in the last 10 years, they are still valid and you will not need to submit again.
- 2. Paper Application- you can ONLY submit paper application if:
- You cannot apply online due to a disability
- There is a problem with the online application

You can apply for your PGWP either within Canada or outside of Canada. If you leave Canada, make sure that you have a valid Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) or ETA that allows you to re-enter the country. It is preferable to submit your application within Canada.

*Note: If you give an email address on your application, check it regularly for emails about your case. Some spam filters block these emails. If you are not sure if you are getting emails, check <u>your account</u> on a regular basis.

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Application process:

Step 1

Create an IRCC Secure online account (Sign in to your IRCC secure account - Canada.ca)

Step 2

Follow the <u>eligibility checklist</u> and complete the "Apply to come to Canada" questionnaire after you log in to your <u>IRCC Secure</u> <u>Account</u> to obtain your document checklist and most recent version of application form IMM5710.

Step 3

Application Steps

- 1. Document Checklist IMM5583
- 2. Application to Change Conditions, Extend my Stay or Remain in Canada IMM5710
- 3. Instruction Guide for application IMM5580

Document List

- Photocopies of passport pages
- D Photocopy of your current immigration document
- An unofficial transcript or an official transcript with the graduation notation -"Awarded"
- Formal letter of graduation (Letter of Completion) from Langara
- Proof of payment
- Provide Proof of English or French Language Skills (on or after November 1, 2024)

Step 4

You must pay the Open Work Permit Holder fee (\$100) and the Standard Work Permit fee (\$155) = \$255

Step 5

Check processing times (Check processing times - Canada.ca)

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