Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada | Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

Archived: June 3, 2025 10:11:36 AM
From: [redacted] Representatives [redacted] (IRCC)
Sent: Wed, 16 Apr 2025 18:57:14
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Question - study permit place of application - REP-B-2025-0370 - Due 14-May-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,
[redacted] **Immigration Representatives Mailbox.**
Please note that this mailbox is intended for general guidance and does not provide responses to case-specific inquiries but have provided the following information as guidance. If you have case specific questions about a file, you are encouraged to submit the IRCC Web form.
Please see our response to your question.
***
A foreign national may submit an outside Canada application however, they will have to leave Canada to obtain their permit. If the foreign national chooses to stay in Canada, they must have authorization to stay in Canada during this time.

Please note that "flagpoling" is no longer allowed for most foreign nationals. Flagpoling occurs when foreign nationals who hold temporary resident status in Canada, leave Canada and, after a visit to the United States or St. Pierre and Miquelon, re-enter to access immigration services at a port of entry.

A foreign national who submits the outside Canada application will have to leave Canada and return from a country other than the United States or St. Pierre and Miquelon in order to be examined at a port of entry ahead of being issued a study permit.

We hope you find this information helpful.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 10, 2025 2:40 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) [redacted]
Subject: Question - study permit place of application

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Government of Canada. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.
ATTENTION: Ce courriel provient de l'extérieur du gouvernement du Canada. Ne cliquez pas sur les liens et n'ouvrez pas les pièces jointes sauf si vous reconnaissez l'expéditeur et sachez que le contenu est sûr.

Hello,

I hope that you are doing well today. I am writing regarding clarification regarding the place of application for a study permit applicant.

It is our understanding that only certain foreign nationals are eligible to submit a study permit application to be processed within Canada as per R215 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations. We also understand that most study permit applicants but apply for a study permit before coming to Canada.

In addition to the above, it has been our understanding that if a foreign national is currently in Canada and holding legal immigration status (e.g. Visitor status, worker status), they may submit a study permit application to be processed by their country of citizenship while remaining in Canada. We note that a foreign national in this scenario would not benefit from maintained status and would therefore need to maintain their valid temporary resident status in Canada while their outside Canada study permit application is being processed.

I am writing today as we noticed 2 updates on the IRCC webpage that appear to be in contradiction of the above, and we are requesting clarification about whether the above has changed. The specific IRCC webpage sections are:

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

s.19(1)

If you're currently a visitor in Canada

Most people can't apply for a study permit from within Canada. If you want to apply for a study permit, you must

- leave the country, and
- follow the instructions to apply from outside Canada

From: [redacted] canada [redacted]

And:

You can't apply from within Canada

Based on the answers you provided, you're not eligible to apply for a study permit from within Canada.

If you want to apply for a study permit, you must

- leave the country, and
- follow the instructions to apply from **outside** Canada

From: [redacted]

Our question: If a foreign national is inside Canada and holding valid worker or visitor status, can they submit a study permit application to be processed outside Canada (i.e. to the visa office responsible for their country of citizenship or nationality) while remaining in Canada **or** must they leave Canada and submit a study permit application from outside of Canada after they have left?

[redacted]

Page 140

is withheld pursuant to section

est retenue en vertu de l'article

19(1)

of the Access to Information Act

de la Loi sur l'acces a l'information