Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada | Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 3, 2025 10:33:04 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 29 Apr 2025 12:42:59
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Request for Clarification Regarding Short-Term Online Certificate Course During Study Permit - REP-B-2025-0475 - Due 22-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.
***
Yes, the foreign national would require a study permit to take courses. As of November 8, 2024, you must be enrolled in the designated learning institution (DLI) named on your study permit.

We hope that this information is helpful to you.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 7:33 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]
Cc:
Subject: Request for Clarification Regarding Short-Term Online Certificate Course During Study Permit

> **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.

Dear Officer,

I am writing on behalf of my client, an international student currently enrolled in a two-year academic program in Canada. She entered Canada in September 2023 with a valid study permit, which remains in effect.

Background:

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In January 2025, while maintaining full-time status in her main academic program, my client enrolled in a **fully online, short-term Personal Support Worker (PSW) certificate course**. The PSW course is:

- * Less than six months in duration,
- * Not part of the designated learning institution's primary program, and
- * Delivered entirely online.

This course also includes a **300-hour co-op component**, which the client **plans to complete only after finishing her main program** and once her **PGWP application has been submitted and is in process.**

We respectfully request clarification on the following:

1. 1. **Is it permissible for an international student to enroll in and complete a short-term (less than 6 months), online certificate program that is not part of their main study program while on a valid study permit, without requiring a separate study permit?**

This clarification is critical to ensure compliance with IRCC regulations and avoid potential issues with future applications.

I appreciate your time and look forward to your response.

Best regards,