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Archived: June 3, 2025 10:33:16 AM
From: [redacted] Représentants [redacted] ([redacted]
Sent: Tue, 29 Apr 2025 13:07:28
To:
Cc: [redacted] Representatives / Représentants [redacted] ([redacted]
Subject: FW: Co-op Work Permit - REP-A-2025-0766 -Due 10-Apr-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None
Attachments:
~WRD0000.jpg;

Good day,

[redacted] **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.

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QUESTION 1:

Do students who have a practicum, placement, internship, or co-op with part-time hours still need a co-op work permit? If they do not need a co-op work permit, do they have to use their study permit condition to be eligible? For example, some of these work experiences based on their faculty and/or program range from 88 hours in a semester to 420.

RESPONSE:

Students who meet the criteria of paragraph 186(v) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations* (IRPR) may work on or off campus as per the conditions on their study permit, as long as they work less than 24 hours per week. This may include co-op placements, internships, or any other form of work-integrated learning, as long as they work less than 24 hours per week in total, including other work such as part-time jobs and provided the student is still considered full-time during the same semester. The same would apply for students who meet the criteria of R186(f) – they may work on-campus as per the conditions on their study permit provided the student is considered full-time during the same semester.

QUESTION 2:

Will students who have a mandatory Research Practicum require a co-op work permit if it's on-campus or off-campus? The research practicum gives students a chance to apply the research skills and knowledge they have gained in their studies to date. They work with research tutors, who could be university faculty or tutors connected through the university's approved research partners.

RESPONSE:

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If the mandatory Research Practicum meets the definition of "work" under section 2 of the IRPR, the student must obtain authorization to work in Canada. As per section 30(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA), foreign nationals may not work in Canada unless authorized to do so under IRPA (e.g. authorization to work with a co-op work permit, or authorization to work on- or off-campus under R186 as per their study permit conditions).

See response to question 1 above regarding authorization to work on- or off-campus under R186(f) or (v) where the mandatory work component of the program is part-time.

If the student is not work permit-exempt under R186, they must apply for a work permit to be authorized to work in Canada. Students may be eligible for a co-op work permit if the work is an essential part of a post-secondary academic, vocational or professional training program offered by a designated learning institution (DLI) in Canada, and the work does not form more than 50% of the total program of study.

QUESTION 3:

If a student decides to take an elective course that is an internship/co-op/practicum/placement (not a mandatory course but a course they can take for credit) be eligible for a co-op work permit? If they cannot be eligible for the co-op work permit can they use their study permit conditions to be eligible, or are they not allowed to take this at all?

RESPONSE:

To be eligible for a co-op work permit, the work must be considered an essential part of the program and form no more than 50% of the total program of study. To demonstrate that they meet this requirement, the student should submit a letter from their DLI that confirms the work is a mandatory part for all participants to complete the student's program of study.

See response to question 1 above regarding authorization to work on- or off-campus under R186(f) or (v). If the student and/or the work involved in the elective course does not meet the criteria under R186(f) or (v), the student is not authorized to perform this work using the conditions on their study permit.

As the work would not be a mandatory part of the program of study, the student would need to be eligible for a co-op work permit. To be able to perform the work sought, the student would need to be eligible under a different work permit or work permit-exemption category. Foreign nationals can use the following tool to help determine which type of work permit may apply to their situation: Find out if you need a work permit - Canada.ca

For more information, please consult the following webpages:

- Work as a co-op student or intern - Canada.ca
- Work off campus as an international student - Canada.ca
- Work on campus - Canada.ca

As well as the following publicly available instructions for officers:

- Work related to a research, educational or training program – exemption codes C31, C32 and C33 (International Mobility Program) - Canada.ca
- Study permits: Off-campus work - Canada.ca
- Study permits: Working on campus - Canada.ca
- Temporary Foreign Worker and International Mobility Programs: What is work? - Canada.ca

We hope this information is of assistance.

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[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 27, 2025 9:06 AM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.IRCC[redacted]
Subject: Co-op Work Permit

> **\intbl\cbpat7CAUTION:** 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.

Hi,

[redacted] [redacted] number is :

1. Do students who have a practicum, placement, internship, or co-op with part-time hours still need a co-op work permit?
    a. If they do not need a co-op work permit, do they have to use their study permit condition to be eligible? For example, some of these work experiences based on their faculty and/or program range from 88 hours in a semester to 420.
2. Will students who have a mandatory Research Practicum require a co-op work permit if it's on-campus or off-campus? The research practicum gives students a chance to apply the research skills and knowledge they have gained in their studies to date. They work with research tutors, who could be university faculty or tutors connected through the university's approved research partners.
3. If a student decides to take an elective course that is an internship/co-op/practicum/placement (not a mandatory course but a course they can take for credit) be eligible for a co-op work permit?
    a. If they cannot be eligible for the co-op work permit can they use their study permit conditions to be eligible, or are they not allowed to take this at all?

Kind regards,

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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