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Archived: June 3, 2025 10:33:31 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 29 Apr 2025 13:20:06
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Inquiry about the open work permits for family members of temporary residents - REP-B-2025-0126 - Due 22-Apr-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None
Attachments:

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.
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Significant changes have been made in respect to work permit access for **family members of temporary foreign workers**, in order to recalibrate the International Mobility Program to better align with economic objectives, labour market conditions, and community capacity.

These changes include

- * rolling back work permit access for spouses of low-skilled foreign workers and **dependents of all foreign workers**,
- * limiting eligibility to spouses of foreign workers in management/professional occupation or jobs linked to a critical sector or government priorities, where the worker's authorization is valid for at least **16 months** from the time of the spouse's application submission.

Applications for family members of workers transitioning to permanent residence are not subject to these changes.

Existing Program Delivery Instructions (PDIs) found at

- * Family members of foreign nationals authorized to work in high-skilled occupations (TEER 0, 1, 2 or 3) [R205(c)(ii) – C41 and C46] and
- * Family members of foreign nationals authorized to work in low-skilled occupations (TEER 4 or 5) [R205(c)(ii) – C47 and C48]

continue to apply to:

- * **All applications received by IRCC before January 21, 2025;**
- * Applications for family members of high-skilled or low-skilled workers who are transitioning to permanent residence, regardless of when the work permit application was received;
- * **For in-Canada applicants only:** applications received by IRCC on or after January 21, 2025, from family members of foreign workers applying for a work permit renewal with a requested duration that aligns with the principal foreign national's existing work authorization. For example, if the spouse received a shorter work permit [redacted]

As of **January 21, 2025,** only spouses and common-law partners of foreign workers who meet the following criteria will be eligible for an open work permit under the administrative code C41.

The principal foreign national must:

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- * Be employed or will be employed in either:
  - * any high-skilled occupation at the TEER category **0 or 1 of the NOC** at the time the spouse or common-law partner submits their application, **or**
  - * a select high-skilled occupation at the **TEER category 2 or category 3** of the NOC, **related to the natural and applied sciences, construction, health care, natural resources, education, sports, and military sectors**, at the time the spouse or common-law partner submits their application (See Annex A); and
- * have a valid work permit or work authorization of at least **16 months** at the time the spousal work permit application is received.

Dependent children of both high-skilled or low-skilled workers are no longer eligible to apply for an open work permit under this measure.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From: [redacted]
Sent: [redacted] 18, 2025 2:58 PM
[redacted]
Subject: Inquiry about the open work permits for family members of temporary residents

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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 understand that the change was effective from January 21, 2025 to open work permits for family members of temporary residents.

The changes define that family OWPs will be limited to spouses of certain international students and certain foreign workers.

I was wondering if a dependent child of the principal applicant or the spouse who meets the general eligibility requirements is still eligible to apply for the open work permit. The dependent child is in Canada and has a valid temporary resident status currently.

Or, after the change is effective, the open work permit is only applied for the spouses, not the dependent child any more.

I look forward to your confirmation. Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Page 337

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est retenue en vertu de l'article

19(1)

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