Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 10:19:52 AM
From: [redacted] Représentants [redacted]
Sent: Tue, 11 Feb 2025 14:00:06
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: SOWP - REP-2025-0288 - Due 26-Feb-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.

Bonjour,

[redacted] la **boîte aux courriels pour les représentants en immigration.**

Veuillez noter que cette boîte aux lettres est destinée à fournir des conseils généraux et ne fournit pas de réponses à des demandes spécifiques à un cas, mais a fourni les informations suivantes comme conseil. Si vous avez des questions spécifiques à un dossier, nous vous encourageons à soumettre le formulaire IRCC Web form.

Veuillez consulter notre réponse à votre question.

Question:
I would appreciate a clarification if spouses of international students who are currently in Canada and hold an open work permit (issued under old rules), will be able to extend their open work permit if their spouse who is a student is changing their program? For example, from a diploma to a degree? The information on below website states that they can extend if their program is PGWP eligible?

Extending an open work permit
Your spouse or common-law partner may be eligible to extend their existing open work permit under this stream if you meet the following requirements:

- * You have a valid study permit.
- * You're physically in Canada or will physically be in Canada while studying.
- * You're a full-time student enrolled in a PGWP-eligible program at a designated learning institution (DLI).
- * You're not in the last term of your study program.

Additionally, your spouse or common-law partner cannot extend their open work permit under this stream beyond the expiration date of your study permit.
Documents you need

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Your spouse or common-law partner must give the following documents to prove your enrolment in a program of study leading to a degree:

- * proof that you're a full-time student at one of the types of schools listed above, which can include
  - * a letter of enrolment from your DLI
  - * transcripts from your current program
- * a copy of your study permit
- *

Work in Canada after you graduate: Who can apply - Canada.ca
Work in Canada after you graduate: Who can apply

Please be specific about which cohort you are referencing either before Jan 21st or on/after Jan 21st as makes a difference. For on/after Jan 21st also include reference to limited circumstances

Answer:

Please note that this service provides guidance and not case-specific advice.

If the applicant has applied to extend their open work permit on or after January 21, 2025

In limited circumstances, spouses of principal foreign nationals studying in the following programs may apply for a work permit renewal under the criteria that were in place when they received their current work permit. This applies to spouses of principal foreign nationals studying in

- * master's programs of less than 16 months, or
- * college and undergraduate programs

The spouse must be residing in Canada and be requesting an open work permit renewal for a duration that aligns with, and does not exceed, the principal foreign national's **existing** study authorization.

If the principal foreign national applies for a study permit for a new level or program of study, the spouse of the principal foreign national is not eligible to extend their work permit under administrative code C42.

Spouses and common-law partners of study permit holders – [R205(c)(ii) – C42] – Canadian interest – International Mobility Program - Canada.ca

We hope this information is of assistance.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

De : [redacted]
Envoyé : 28 janvier 2025 15:12
[redacted] ives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-RCC.[redacted]

Hi,

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[redacted]

Thank you,