Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 10:31:20 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Thu, 20 Feb 2025 16:37:58
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: International student work hours eligibility for CEC under Open Work Permit - REP-2025-0171- Due 13-Feb-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Hello,

[redacted] correspondence to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's Immigration Representatives mailbox. We appreciate your patience.

Question:

If a full-time international student has both a valid study permit and an open work permit (under an active public policy), and they work part-time during their studies, will those work hours count as Canadian work experience for the Canadian Experience Class under Express Entry because of the open work permit?

I am aware that work experience gained during studies under a study permit is not considered. However, since this student (enrolled in a university master's degree program) also holds an open work permit, we wonder if the work hours might be accepted in this case.

Answer:

Work experience obtained in Canada during a period of full-time study will not be considered Canadian work experience under Express Entry and does not count towards the eligibility of the Canadian Experience Class (CEC), or assigned Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score, regardless of the type of work authorization held during the period. These provisions are outlined in section 87.1(3)(a) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations and in the Ministerial Instructions 15(7)(a) respectively.

The definition of full-time study is determined by the applicant's learning institution. Graduates must have proof of program completion from their institution to begin accumulating work experience in Canada.

Please be advised that the assessment of an application is conducted on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the specific circumstances and the supporting documentation available to the officer. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that they meet the requirements.
We trust that this information will be of assistance to you.
Sincerely,

Immigration Representatives Mailbox

De :
Envoye : 16 janvier 2025 16:17
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]RCC[redacted]
Objet : RE: International student work hours eligibility for CEC under Open Work Permit

[redacted]

If a full-time international student has both a valid study permit and an open work permit (under an active public policy), and they work part-time during their studies, will those work hours count as Canadian work experience for the Canadian Experience Class under Express Entry because of the open work permit?

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I am aware that work experience gained during studies under a study permit is not considered. However, since this student (enrolled in a university master's degree program) also holds an open work permit, we wonder if the work hours might be accepted in this case.

[redacted] on this inquiry in advance,

Sincerely,