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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:37:35 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 4 Mar 2025 20:45:38
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on Work Permit Applications for Visitors in Canada - REP-2025-0306 - Due 27-Feb-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Hello [redacted]

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

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

Please find the answers to your questions below:

Questions

Is it possible to submit work permit applications to a visa office outside Canada, such as the Visa Application Centre (VAC) in New York or to his/her citizenship country when the applicant is currently in Canada?
Can paper applications still be sent to the New York VAC, and how should we proceed if VFS centers refuse to acknowledge our submissions, even though IRCC instructions indicate that this option is allowed?

Responses

If you are a visitor in Canada, you are entitled to submit a work permit application to a visa office outside of Canada.
You are **only** eligible to apply on paper if you

- * have a disability that prevents you from applying online
- * are applying under the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program
- * hold an identity or travel document for non-national residents, refugees or stateless persons (source)

[redacted] that an update to our [redacted] information [redacted] to that [redacted] the [redacted] processing requirements.

For more information, please consult the following webpages:
Work permit: How to apply - Canada.ca
We hope this information is of assistance. Do not hesitate to reach out again if you required further clarification.

Sincerely,

Immigration Representatives Mailbox

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada | Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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De :
Envoye : 29 janvier 2025 15:25
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.IRCC[redacted]
Objet : Clarification on Work Permit Applications for Visitors in Canada

Dear Sir/Madam,

Good day, I hope this email finds you well.

My name is , an attorney and member of the Quebec Bar.

I am writing to seek clarification on how to process work permit applications for applicant currently in Canada as visitors, following the end of the public policy that allowed visitors to change their status without leaving the country.

Specifically, I would like to know:

1. 1. Is it possible to submit work permit applications to a visa office outside Canada, such as the Visa Application Centre (VAC) in New York or to his/her citizenship country when the applicant is currently in Canada?
2. 2. Can paper applications still be sent to the New York VAC, and how should we proceed if VFS centers refuse to acknowledge our submissions, even though IRCC instructions indicate that this option is allowed?

I recently submitted a paper application for a visitor applicant in Canada to the New York office, based on instructions provided by IRCC in an email dated October 26, 2024. This email explicitly stated that submitting a paper application to the New York VAC via postal mail was an acceptable option for visitors in Canada.

To confirm, IRCC's email specified the following:

Work Permits – Applying Outside Canada – Visitor in Canada
Are you in Canada as a visitor and wish to work? You can submit a work permit application:

- * To the Visa Application Centre (VAC) in New York, USA, by mail, or
- * To a Canadian visa office located in:
  - * Your country of origin, or
  - * The country where you were legally admitted (excluding Canada).

This option was further validated by two separate calls with IRCC agents, who confirmed that submitting a paper application to the New York VAC via postal mail was permissible. However, when conducting a follow-up with the New York office, we received an email dated December 23, 2024, stating that paper applications are no longer accepted and that submissions must now be made exclusively online.

In light of this conflicting information, I kindly request your guidance on how to proceed with submitting work permit applications for visitors currently in Canada who hold a valid LMIA and CAQ.

I look forward to your response. Please accept my most cordial regards.

Best regards,

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