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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:38:50 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Fri, 7 Mar 2025 20:55:13
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on PGWP Eligibility for International Students Facing Extended Course Gaps - REP-2025-0212-Due 18-Feb-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

Question:

An international student enrolled in a full-time post-secondary diploma program (a two year program) at a designated learning institution (DLI) in Canada has encountered a unique issue. The student successfully completed the first three semesters of her program with a good GPA (. However, during her fourth semester i.e. the last semester (Fall 2024), she failed some courses.

Now the student intends to complete her studies as soon as possible. However, the college has advised her that the failed courses will not be available for retake in the next two semesters (Winter 2025 and Summer 2025). The earliest opportunity for her to retake these courses is in Fall 2025, resulting in an 8-month gap before she can resume her final semester. The student is very anxious that, even if she maintains her status as a student with a valid study permit and completes her program by studying the remaining courses in Fall 2025 as advised by the college (from September 2025 to December 2025), she may not meet the eligibility requirements for a Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP), which she intends to apply for after successfully completing her studies.

As per the PGWP eligibility criteria, students must maintain full-time status during each semester of their study program, except during an authorized leave of up to 150 days.

1. *If the student remains in Canada on a valid study permit, waits until Fall 2025 to retake her courses, and successfully completes her final semester (September to December 2025), will she still be eligible for a PGWP, provided all other eligibility requirements are met?*

2. *What steps should international students take when their college advises them that required courses to complete their program will not be available for an extended period (such as in this case, 8 months)? How can students ensure they maintain compliance with their study permit conditions while also preserving their eligibility for a PGWP?*

Response:

[redacted] T[redacted] Representatives Mailbox [redacted] reply to [redacted] immigration program [redacted] policy related enquiries and therefore no case specific responses can be provided.

There are a few cases where a student may be able to take an authorized leave of up to 150 days from their study program and still meet the conditions of their study permit. They need to provide proof that their DLI authorized the leave when they apply for a PGWP.

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\sb160In exceptional circumstances, a student may be required to defer their program's start date to the next semester. If the student defers their program start date, it should be formally approved by the DLI. In some cases, the deferral is imposed by the DLI.

If the study permit holder is in Canada at the time of deferral, and they wish to remain in Canada, they must begin their studies the following semester or within 150 days from the date the deferred enrolment is confirmed, whichever comes first. Otherwise, they should do either of the following:

- change their status (that is, change to visitor status or worker status)
- leave Canada

Note: In all deferral cases, students should obtain an updated letter of acceptance from the DLI.

For more information, please see our website:

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

Study Permits: Assessing study permit conditions - Canada.ca

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

De :
Envoyé : 21 janvier 2025 13:22
[redacted] Immigration Representatives [redacted] Représentants immigration (IRC[redacted]
Objet : Clarification on PGWP Eligibility for International Students Facing Extended Course Gaps

Respected Officer,

[redacted] Canadian Immigration Consultant (RCI[redacted]). My Representative ID on IRCC's Authorized Representative Portal is

I have a question regarding the eligibility requirements for the Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP). While I have reviewed the information provided on the IRCC website (PGWP Eligibility), I am facing a situation that is not explicitly addressed there.

\sb280Scenario:

An international student enrolled in a full-time post-secondary diploma program (a two year program) at a designated learning institution (DLI) in Canada has encountered a unique issue. The student successfully completed the first three semesters of her program with a good GPA

. However, during her fourth semester i.e. the last semester (Fall 2024), she failed some courses.

Now the student intends to complete her studies as soon as possible. However, the college has advised her that the failed courses will not be available for retake in the next two semesters (Winter 2025 and Summer 2025). The earliest opportunity for her to retake these courses is in Fall 2025, resulting in an 8-month gap before she can resume her final semester. The student is very anxious that, even if she maintains her status as a student with a valid study permit and completes her program by studying the remaining courses in Fall 2025 as advised by the college (from

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September 2025 to December 2025), she may not meet the eligibility requirements for a Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP), which she intends to apply for after successfully completing her studies.

As per the PGWP eligibility criteria, students must maintain full-time status during each semester of their study program, except during an authorized leave of up to 150 days.

\sb280My Questions:

1. If the student remains in Canada on a valid study permit, waits until Fall 2025 to retake her courses, and successfully completes her final semester (September to December 2025), will she still be eligible for a PGWP, provided all other eligibility requirements are met?
2. What steps should international students take when their college advises them that required courses to complete their program will not be available for an extended period (such as in this case, 8 months)? How can students ensure they maintain compliance with their study permit conditions while also preserving their eligibility for a PGWP?

Your response to this matter would be greatly appreciated, as it would help provide clarity for international students facing similar situations.

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Yours [redacted]