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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:46:38 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 11 Mar 2025 15:21:23
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on Short-Term Course Exemption and Study Permit Requirements for Post-Basic Certificate in Early Childhood Education - REP-2025-0538 - Due 14-03-2025
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

[redacted] regarding the short-term course exemption under Canadian immigration regulations. Please note that the information provided serves as general program guidance and should not be considered a directive for case-specific inquiries.

Questions

I am writing as an authorized representative (to seek clarification on the short-term course exemption under Canadian immigration regulations, specifically in the context of a Post-Basic Certificate in Early Childhood Education (ECE) in

At students can enroll in a two-year ECE diploma program at the undergraduate level. Separately, they also have the option to pursue a Post-Basic Certificate in Infant and Toddler Care, which is a stand-alone program lasting six months or less and qualifies students for a particular teaching certification in the field. Students must apply separately and be admitted into the Post-Basic Certificate program, regardless of whether they have completed the ECE diploma.

My questions are as follows:

Question 1

Since students must seek separate admission to enroll in the Post-Basic Certificate program, would they also be required to extend their study permit to complete it? Furthermore, would it be considered a "different level of study", thus requiring a new PAL?

Response 1

Since students must apply separately for admission to the Post-Basic Certificate program, the need to extend their study permit depending on the program's duration:

- If the program is longer than six months, students must extend their study permit.
- If the program is six months or less, a study permit is not required.

Regarding whether the Post-Basic Certificate program qualifies as a "different level of study," this depends on its classification relative to the student's current level of study:

- If the program falls within post-secondary education (which includes certificates, diplomas, and undergraduate degrees), a new PAL is not required as long as the student remains within the same level of study at the same Designated Learning Institution (DLI).

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- If the program involves moving to a higher level of study (e.g., from post-secondary to graduate education), a new PAL would be required.

For further details, please refer to the following resources:

- Changing your school or program - Canada.ca
- Study permit: Get the right documents - Provincial attestation letter or territorial attestation letter - Canada.ca

Question 2

Would the Post-Basic Certificate in Infant and Toddler Care program fall under the short-term course exemption, allowing students to complete it without a study permit extension, provided they hold valid temporary resident status (e.g., as a visitor, on implied status, or under a Post-Graduation Work Permit [PGWP])?

Response 2

Under section R188 (1) (c) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, individuals with valid temporary resident status (e.g., as a visitor, on implied status, or under a Post-Graduation Work Permit [PGWP]) can study in Canada without a study permit if the program meets the short-term course exemption criteria.

To qualify, the Post-Basic Certificate in Infant and Toddler Care program must:

- Have a duration of six months or less
- Be completed within the individual's authorized stay in Canada

If these conditions are met, students do not need to extend their study permit to complete the program. However, if the program exceeds six months, a valid study permit is required.

For more details, please visit: Study Permit: While You Study

Question 3

For international students attending the Post-Basic Certificate program, is there still a requirement that at least 50% of their coursework be completed on-campus, despite the fact that they are not using this program for further study permit eligibility (as their eligibility for the PGWP, for example, would already be based on the diploma **program)?**

Response 3

The 50% on-campus coursework requirement applies only to programs that contribute to Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) eligibility. If a student has already completed a PGWP-eligible program and does not intend to use the Post-Basic Certificate program for PGWP purposes, this requirement does not apply. As a result, students may complete the certificate entirely online.

For more details, please visit: Study permits: Other considerations - Canada.ca

We trust that this information will assist you.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

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From:
Sent: [redacted] 13, 2025 9:47 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.I[redacted]
Subject: Clarification on Short-Term Course Exemption and Study Permit Requirements for Post-Basic Certificate in Early Childhood Education

[redacted]

I am writing as an authorized representativ to seek clarification on the short-term course exemption under Canadian immigration regulations, specifically in the context of a **Post-Basic Certificate in Early Childhood Education (ECE)** in
.

At students can enroll in a **two-year ECE diploma program** at the undergraduate level. Separately, they also have the option to pursue a **Post-Basic Certificate in Infant and Toddler Care**, which is a stand-alone program lasting six months or less and qualifies students for a particular teaching certification in the field. Students **must apply separately and be admitted into the Post-Basic Certificate program**, regardless of whether they have completed the ECE diploma.

My questions are as follows:

1. **Since students must seek separate admission to enroll in the Post-Basic Certificate program, would they also be required to extend their study permit to complete it? Furthermore, would it be considered a "different level of study", thus requiring a new PAL?**
2. **Would the Post-Basic Certificate in Infant and Toddler Care program fall under the short-term course exemption, allowing students to complete it without a study permit extension, provided they hold valid temporary resident status (e.g., as a visitor, on implied status, or under a Post-Graduation Work Permit [PGWP])?**
3. **For international students attending the Post-Basic Certificate program, is there still a requirement that at least 50% of their coursework be completed on-campus, despite the fact that they are not using this program for further study permit eligibility (as their eligibility for the PGWP, for example, would already be based on the diploma program)?**

This inquiry is being submitted on behalf of faculty members who have been unable to obtain exact clarification from the school's administration, including its immigration staff.

Your guidance on how IRCC interprets study permit and status requirements in this context would be greatly appreciated.

[redacted] and assistance.

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19(1)

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