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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:46:48 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 11 Mar 2025 15:34:06
To.
Cc: [redacted] Representatives / Représentants immigration [redacted]
Subject: FW: Clarification on Compliance for International Students Transitioning to Worker Status - REP-2025-0368 - Due 4-Mar-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

[redacted] the [redacted] requirements for international [redacted] Canada [redacted] to worker status. Please note that the information provided serves as general program guidance and should not be considered a directive for case-specific inquiries.

QUESTION

I'm an authorized representative as per A91(2) and I am reaching out to seek clarification on the compliance obligations of international students in Canada who transition to worker status through various available pathways.

Specifically, I would like to confirm whether an international student who **obtains an open work permit** by applying through **IMM5710 (Application to Change Conditions and Extend My Stay in Canada as a Worker)** and subsequently ceases full-time studies would be considered **non-compliant** with their student status.

The key questions are:

- If an individual **holds a valid study permit** but obtains a work permit through **any available option** (e.g., public policy measures or other alternatives), would ceasing full-time studies while utilizing the work permit constitute **non-compliance**?
- If this is considered a **violation**, what remedies are available? For instance, could the individual **depart Canada and re-enter as a worker** to rectify their status?

Furthermore, as **R222 and R209** define how and when a study or work permit expires, I would like to confirm whether a foreign national can **request the cancellation of their study permit** to remain in compliance under their newly acquired worker status.

I appreciate your time and clarification on this matter, as it has significant implications for individuals navigating these transitions.

RESPONSE

Under R220.1(1) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (IRPR), international students must actively pursue their studies to maintain a valid study permit. Obtaining an open work permit through IMM5710 – Application to Change Conditions or Extend My Stay in Canada as a Worker does not automatically grant permission to stop studying, as the study permit remains valid only if full-time studies continue. Ceasing full-time studies while holding both permits may result in non-compliance with

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study permit conditions, potentially leading to loss of status or future inadmissibility. To avoid such consequences, individuals must take appropriate steps to transition their status properly.

To remain compliant, individuals may:

- Continue full-time studies while working within permitted hours under their work permit.
- Apply for a change of status from student to worker by submitting IMM5710 and requesting study permit cancellation through the IRCC Webform.
- Depart and re-enter Canada as a worker if they have obtained a valid work permit, as their status would then be assessed based on the work permit rather than their previous student status.

Regulatory provisions R222, R209 and R220.1(1) collectively outline compliance obligations for international students transitioning to worker status. While R220.1(1) and R222 emphasize the requirement to actively pursue studies to maintain student status, R209 focuses on the conditions of the work permit once the transition is complete, ensuring that individuals remain in compliance throughout the process.

For more information, please refer to the following resources:

Guide 5580 - Applying for a Work Permit - Student Guide - online application - Canada.ca

\sb280Study Permits: Assessing study permit conditions - Canada.ca

We trust that this information will assist you.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

De :
Envoyé : 3 février 2025 18:58
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Objet : Clarification on Compliance for International Students Transitioning to Worker Status

2025-02-03
[redacted]

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Best regards,