Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

Archived: June 2, 2025 11:46:58 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 11 Mar 2025 15:51:35
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: PAL requirement for moving from ESL to academic program at the same institution. - REP-2025-0377 - Due 5-Mar-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

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

QUESTION

I would like to seek some clarification on whether a PAL is required for a study permit extension if the student is moving from an English as a Second Language (ESL) program to a graduate/degree/diploma/certificate program at the same institution. Would this move be considered as a same post-secondary level move at the same DLI?

RESPONSE

English as a Second Language (ESL) and French as a Second Language (FSL) programs are generally classified as preparatory programs rather than a specific post-secondary level. Transitioning from an ESL/FSL preparatory program to a post-secondary diploma, degree, or certificate program at the same Designated Learning Institution (DLI) is considered a change in study levels, meaning a PAL/TAL would be required when applying for a study permit extension.

However, if the student is already enrolled in a post-secondary language-related program (e.g., a diploma in Translation Studies) and is switching to another post-secondary program within the same level at the same DLI, a PAL/TAL would not be required.

For more details, please refer to following IRCC websites:

Changing your school or program - Canada.ca

Ministerial Instructions

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

We trust that this information will assist you.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

De :
Envoyé : 4 février 2025 11:59
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.IRCC[redacted]
Objet : PAL requirement for moving from ESL to academic program at the same institution.

[redacted]

I would like to seek some clarification on whether a PAL is required for a study permit extension if the student is moving from an English as a Second Language (ESL) program to a graduate/degree/diploma/certificate program at the same institution. Would this move be considered as a same post-secondary level moves at the same DLI?

Thank you in advance for your assistance!