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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:47:22 AM
From: [redacted] Représentants [redacted]
Sent: Tue, 11 Mar 2025 18:02:48
To
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Request for clarification on recent changes for international students - REP-2025-0063- Due 5-Feb-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

Please find the response to your inquiry:

Question:
Considering the recent changes on the IRPR and PGWP eligibility requirements, we would like to request clarification for a few scenarios:

1. 1. *If a study permit was approved for one DLI but the student transferred to another DLI in August 2024 for a program that is not PGWP-eligible under the new field of study requirement, when they apply for a study permit extension, will they still fall under the previous PGWP rules that do not require their program to align with the CIP list? We understand they will need to meet the language test requirement.*

Response:
Students who changed their program before November 1, 2024, and need an extension to complete the same program of study are still eligible for a PGWP, and their eligibility is not subject to the new field of study requirements. If the student changed from their original program prior to November 1, 2024, IRCC recommends that the student submit proof of the program change when submitting their application. The proof should confirm that the student in fact changed their program prior to November 1, 2024.

Question:
2. 2. *Per R222(1)(a), A study permit becomes invalid the day on which the permit holder is no longer enrolled at the designated learning institution that is named in the permit, other than as a result of completing their studies.*
    a. a. *For students who are on academic suspension or probation, who may have to change their program of study as the suspension period is for 1 year in duration, or they have a study gap over 150 days, would R222(1)(a.1) apply in such cases? In other words, will their study permit still be valid?*

Response:

Students may take an **authorized leave** of up to 150 days for several reasons including illness, pregnancy, family emergency or suspension. If a student does not resume their studies **within 150 days**, they should do either of the following:

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

If they do not change their status or leave Canada, they are considered non-compliant with their study permit [redacted]

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Question:

A student whose study permit was approved for program A, however, decides to change their program within the same DLI, to a program B that is not PGWP eligible after November 01, 2024, and must apply for study permit extension. Will this impact their PGWP eligibility? Supposing that program B started before November 01, 2024.

Response:

If the student changes their program after November 1, 2024, they must meet the field of study requirement.

Question:

If a student started their academic program before November 1, 2024, but later changed to a non-PGWP-eligible program (per the CIP field requirements) that begins after November 1, 2024, at the same DLI, and does not require a study permit extension. Will they need to align their new program with the CIP field requirement to remain eligible for the PGWP?

Response:

If the student changed their program prior to November 1, 2024, they do not need to meet the field of study requirement.

Question:

If a student extends their study permit after November 1, 2024, for a program not listed in the eligible fields of study, will the new field of study requirement apply, even if their initial study permit application was submitted before this date? (no program changes here)

Response:

If the student changed their program prior to November 1, 2024 - they do not need to mee the field of study requirement. If the student changed from their original program prior to November 1, 2024, IRCC recommends that the student submit proof of the program change when submitting their application. The proof should confirm that the student in fact changed their program prior to November 1, 2024.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

De :
Envoyé : 8 janvier 2025 17:26
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted].gc.ca>
Objet : Request for clarification on recent changes for international students

[redacted] good afternoon.

I hope this email finds you well.

Considering the recent changes on the IRPR and PGWP eligibility requirements, we would like to request clarification for a few scenarios:

1. 1. If a study permit was approved for one DLI but the student transferred to another DLI in August 2024 for a program that is not PGWP-eligible under the new field of study requirement, when they apply for a study permit extension, will they still fall under the previous PGWP rules that do not require their program to align with the CIP list? We understand they will need to meet the language test requirement.

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2. 2. Per R222(1)(a), A study permit becomes invalid the day on which the permit holder is no longer enrolled at the designated learning institution that is named in the permit, other than as a result of completing their studies.

a. a. For students who are on academic suspension or probation, who may have to change their program of study as the suspension period is for 1 year in duration, or they have a study gap over 150 days, would R222(1)(a.1) apply in such cases? In other words, will their study permit still be valid?

3. 3. A student whose study permit was approved for program A, however, decides to change their program within the same DLI, to a program B that is not PGWP eligible after November 01, 2024, and must apply for study permit extension. Will this impact their PGWP eligibility? Supposing that program B started before November 01, 2024.

4. 4. If a student started their academic program before November 1, 2024, but later changed to a non-PGWP-eligible program (per the CIP field requirements) that begins after November 1, 2024, at the same DLI, and does not require a study permit extension. Will they need to align their new program with the CIP field requirement to remain eligible for the PGWP?

5. 5. If a student extends their study permit after November 1, 2024, for a program not listed in the eligible fields of study, will the new field of study requirement apply, even if their initial study permit application was submitted before this date? (no program changes here)

Best regards,