Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:56:03 AM
From: [redacted] Représentants [redacted]
Sent: Tue, 11 Mar 2025 19:51:13
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on PAL Requirement for Exchange Students Transitioning to Degree Studies - REP-2025-0577 - Due 19-03-2025
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

[redacted] Please see below the response.

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Question:

We are seeking clarification on whether a PAL would be required in the following scenario. As per IRCC's revised guidelines, exchange students no longer require a PAL; however, those staying for a full year still require a study permit. Our understanding is that study permit holders in Canada are eligible to apply for an extension. If an exchange (visiting) student later transfers to a Canadian DLI as a degree-seeking student, would they require a PAL—even if they are applying for a study permit extension while holding a valid study permit? In this scenario, the student would receive a new Letter of Acceptance but continue studying [redacted] the [redacted] and [redacted] the [redacted] PAL [redacted] for this [redacted] from [redacted] to degree student?

Response:

[redacted] to [redacted] and Citizenship Canada's Immigration Representatives Mailbox.

This information is being provided as general program guidance; we are unable to provide case-specific advice.

Yes, a new cap exemption was introduced on January 22, 2025 for incoming exchange students who require a study permit (e.g., full-year exchange students). Going forward in 2025, these individuals will not be required to include a PAL/TAL in their study permit application

(previously, exchange students studying in Canada for longer, such as full-year exchange students, required both a study permit and a PAL/TAL).

Foreign nationals who have already entered Canada and are applying for a study permit extension at the same DLI and level of study as their current study permit may be excepted from the PAL/TAL requirement; however, proof of exception to the PAL/TAL requirement must be provided if a PAL/TA is not being included with the study permit application. For additional information please refer to the IRCC website: Study permit: Get the right documents Provincial attestation letter or territorial attestation letter - Canada.ca

We hope this information is helpful.

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[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From: ,
Sent: [redacted] 18, 2025 10:02 AM
[redacted]
Cc:
Subject: Clarification on PAL Requirement for Exchange Students Transitioning to Degree Studies

Hello and good day,

We are seeking clarification on whether a PAL would be required in the following scenario.

As per IRCC's revised guidelines, exchange students no longer require a PAL; however, those staying for a full year still require a study permit. Our understanding is that study permit holders in Canada are eligible to apply for an extension.

f an exchange (visiting) student later transfers to a Canadian DLI as a degree-seeking student, would they require a PAL —even if they are applying for a study permit extension while holding a valid study permit?

In this scenario, the student would receive a new Letter of Acceptance but continue studying at the same level [redacted] and [redacted] the [redacted] PAL [redacted] for this [redacted] from [redacted] to [redacted]

We appreciate your clarification on this matter.

Thank you in advance,

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is withheld pursuant to section

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19(1)

of the Access to Information Act

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