Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 11:57:21 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Wed, 12 Mar 2025 15:51:23
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on definition of a Program - REP-2025-0618 - Due 20-03-2025
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None
Attachments:
~WRD0000.jpg;

Good day,
Please see our response to your questions.
QUESTION:
I am seeking general guidance regarding the impact of switching from a Business Administration **certificate** program to a Business Administration **diploma** program on a student's eligibility for the PGWP.
The [redacted] in [redacted] Administration [redacted] program, [redacted] for a [redacted] with the study permit regulation change on November 1, 2024—stating that study permit applications submitted on or after this date must be in an eligible field of study—I would like to clarify IRCC's general policy on such program changes.
Specifically, I would like to understand:
1. Does IRCC consider switching from a certificate to a diploma within the same field (Business Administration) as a continuation of studies or a new program?
2. If the switch is considered a new program, would this impact PGWP eligibility under the new study permit regulations?
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RESPONSE:
The change from a certificate to diploma is considered a program change as it would be a change in level.
If the student changed programs after November 1, 2024, they are required to meet the field of study requirement. For program eligibility, please see: Post-graduation work permit details - Canada.ca
We hope this information is of assistance.

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 20, 2025 5:37 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]
Subject: Clarification on definition of a Program

[redacted]

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I understand that this mailbox provides general immigration program or policy-related guidance and does not address case-specific inquiries. My objective is to clarify IRCC's definition of a program to better understand its potential impact on future immigration applications.

I appreciate your time and guidance on this matter.

Best regards,