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 11:57:36 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Thu, 13 Mar 2025 14:59:22
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Taking courses at another DLI and SOWP concerns - REP-2025-0243 - Due 21-Feb-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

[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.

Question:

[redacted] support and for providing timely clarifications.

We sometimes have students taking a course or two at another institution and later transferring that credit to our institution while being enrolled full-time at our institution.
I have a few questions about this practice in light of recent changes to the DLI transfer policy:

1. 1. Students attending full-time at our institution, enrolling part-time with another partner DLI for credits, are these still acceptable even if they have **listed as their DLI** on the study permit?

   Response:

   Since November 8, 2024, post-secondary study permit holders must obtain a new study permit by extending their existing one if they change Designated Learning Institutions (DLIs), regardless of whether their current lists their current DLI. If a study permit holder wishes to concurrently attend more than one DLI, they must apply for a study permit for each DLI at which they intend to study.

   For more information regarding changing DLIs, please refer to the IRCC Website.

2. 2. Students attending full-time at our institution and enrolling part-time with another partner DLI for credits, are these still acceptable even if they **do not have a DLI listed** on the study permit?

   Response:

   See above response to question 1.

3. 3. Is attending another DLI part-time (online or in-person) while attending the DLI mentioned on their study permit allowed?

   Response:

   See above response to question 1.

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

4. 4. Students participating in programs that allow for an exchange at another DLI or those participating in articulation programs that require them to attend a second DLI to complete their
studies. Can these students attend the partnering DLI with a study permit that lists the initial DLI of their program?

I would like to seek clarification on a separate concern, around spousal open work permits:
As per the recent IRCC policy, starting January 21, 2025, international students
studying in a master's degree program must be in a program of 16 months or longer for their spouses to be eligible for an open work permit.
Does this mean, the student must be graduating from the Masters program after **studying for 16** months minimum or are students **enrolled** in a 16-month program who complete it in 12 months still count?

We have some Masters students currently enrolled in the 12 month program and their spouses are currently in Canada (based on the previous IRCC policy around SOWP). Their study permit and spousal work permit have the same expiry date. It is my understanding that spouses of these students are no longer eligible for an extension as the students are not in a 16 month program - is that correct?

I [redacted] to your response. [redacted]

Response:

With regards to your questions regarding spousal open work permits, effective January 21, 2025, only spouses of certain international students will be able to apply for a OWP.

OWPs will be limited to spouses of international students who are enrolled in

- * master's programs that are 16 months or longer
- * doctoral programs, or
- * select professional and eligible programs

If the applicant has applied to **extend** their open work permit on or after January 21, 2025:

In limited circumstances, spouses of principal foreign nationals studying in the following programs may apply for a work permit renewal under the criteria that were in place when they received their current work permit. This applies to spouses of principal foreign nationals studying in

* master's programs of less than 16 months, or
* college and undergraduate programs
The spouse must be residing in Canada and be requesting an open work permit renewal for a duration that aligns with, and does not exceed, the principal foreign national's existing study authorization.

If the principal foreign national applies for a study permit for a new level or program of study, the spouse of the principal foreign national is not eligible to extend their work permit under administrative code C42.

Please visit our website for more information on Help your spouse or common-law partner work in Canada - Canada.ca.

We hope this information is of assistance.

[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 : .
Envoye : 23 janvier 2025 16:09
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]
Objet : Taking courses at another DLI and SOWP concerns

Hello there,

[redacted] support and for providing timely clarifications.

We sometimes have students taking a course or two at another institution and later transferring that credit to our institution while being enrolled full-time at our institution.
I have a few questions about this practice in light of recent changes to the DLI transfer policy:

1. Students attending full-time at our institution, enrolling part-time with another partner DLI for credits, are these still acceptable even if they have **listed as their DLI** on the study permit

2. Students attending full-time at our institution and enrolling part-time with another partner DLI for credits, are these still acceptable even if they **do not have a DLI listed** on the study permit?

3. Is attending another DLI part-time (online or in-person) while attending the DLI mentioned on their study permit allowed?

4. Students participating in programs that allow for an exchange at another DLI or those participating in articulation programs that require them to attend a second DLI to complete their
studies. Can these students attend the partnering DLI with a study permit that lists the initial DLI of their program?

I would like to seek clarification on a separate concern, around spousal open work permits:
As per the recent IRCC policy, starting January 21, 2025, international students
studying in a master's degree program must be in a program of 16 months or longer for their spouses to be eligible for an open work permit.
Does this mean, the student must be graduating from the Masters program after **studying for 16** months minimum or are students **enrolled** in a 16-month program who complete it in 12 months still count?

We have some Masters students currently enrolled in the 12 month program and their spouses are currently in Canada (based on the previous IRCC policy around SOWP). Their study permit and spousal work permit have the same expiry date. It is my understanding that spouses of these students are no longer eligible for an extension as the students are not in a 16 month program - is that correct?

I [redacted] to your response. [redacted]

Kind regards,

Page 1073

is withheld pursuant to section

est retenue en vertu de l'article

19(1)

of the Access to Information Act

de la Loi sur l'acces a l'information