Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 12:32:14 PM
From: [redacted]
Sent: Tue, 18 Mar 2025 17:17:08
To:
Cc: [redacted] Representatives / Représentants Immigration (IRCC)
Subject: TR: Study Permit Questions - REP-2025-0316 - Due 28-Feb-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,

[redacted] **Immigration Representatives Mailbox**

Please note that this mailbox is intended for general guidance and does not provide responses to case-specific inquiries but have provided the following information as guidance.. If you have case specific questions about a file, you are encouraged to submit the IRCC Web form.

Please see our response to your question:

(holds DLI status in Nova Scotia) and essentially offers two educational options for international students. The first option is for international students to complete part-time pre-requisite courses (anywhere between [redacted] and [redacted] to [redacted] to the [redacted] the CPA [redacted] requisite courses are known as preparatory or "PREP courses" and are delivered online in a self-study format. Students in these courses have up to 12 months to complete a course final exam. Students can register for more than one course at a time should they wish. These courses do not lead to a certificate/diploma/credential.

The second option (CPA Professional Education Program) is one that is taken part-time while students work for an employer.

Question 1. Recognizing that IRCC states that courses longer than six months require a study permit but that some students can complete the preparatory courses in less than six months, can you categorically confirm that students taking these PREP courses **are required to hold a study permit**? Students must be residing in Canada to take the preparatory courses, and students are required to write in-person examinations for some of the courses.

Response 1:

Foreign nationals may enter Canada or remain in Canada without a study permit to attend a course or program of study of 6 months' duration or less [R188(1)(c)]. This exemption helps to facilitate access to short-term courses, regardless of their subject matter. The course or program of study may be part-time or full-time and should be completed within the period authorized upon entry (that is, up to 6 months).

Question 2. Will international students be more likely to be approved to receive a study permit for the CPA Professional Education Program if they were previously approved for a study permit for PREP courses?

Response 2:

Please note consider the information provided as general program guidance and not a directive for case-specific enquires. Each application decision is based on its own merit. If a client has questions regarding their specific case, they may contact the client support centre services or contact IRCC via the webform.

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Question 3. Can you categorically confirm that an international student in the CPA Professional Education Program who holds a study permit designated for **will not need** a provincial attestation letter (PAL) if they need to extend their study permit?

Response 3:

Students who remain within the same level of study while changing programs at the same institution do not require a new Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) when applying for a study permit extension. For example, if the student wishes to change from [redacted] program to [redacted] program [redacted] the [redacted] PAL [redacted] if the student moves to a different level of study (e.g., from post-secondary to graduate education).

When applying to extend their study permit, the applicant will need to provide proof that they meet one of the exceptions, if they don't provide a PAL with their application.

For more information, please visit:

Study permits: Provincial or territorial attestation letters - Canada.ca

Question 4. Given the nature of our professional education program (students study part-time while working full-time), can you advise what proof of funding is required for international students? would like to know how we can best support these students with their study permit applications to IRCC (ie. documents). We recently had a student advised by IRCC that they must show proof of full tuition payment. The practice of having international applicants pre-pay tuition is not one that employs.

Response 4:

Students are required to demonstrate financial resources for only the first year of studies, regardless of the duration of the course or program of studies in which they are enrolled. This encompasses:

- their tuition fees
- their stay in Canada (housing, transportation, food, clothing etc.)
- their travel costs to and from Canada

For more information on acceptable proof of financial resources, see our website: proof of financial support.

Question 5. We sometimes have applicants who are studying at other PSIs (ie. hold a study permit for that institution) but want to take one of our courses. Can you categorically confirm if a student in this circumstance would require a second study permit for our institution? Or, if the ~~module~~ course was completed in less than six months could they study with us without the need for any additional study permit?

Response 5:

As per R188(1)(c) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (IRPR), students may take short-term language courses (less than six months) at a different Designated Learning Institution (DLI) before, during, or after their main program [redacted] their [redacted] in [redacted] note that students must ensure that additional courses do not interfere with their main program or violate specific study permit requirements or conditions.

Question 6. In accordance with some international memoranda of agreement, some applicants can gain CPA status by writing challenge exams rather than taking courses. Can you categorically confirm if these students do not require a study permit? I note that some exams would be in the professional education program while another is a three-day post-program final examination.

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Response 6:

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[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

\sb280

De :
Envoyé : 30 janvier 2025 11:31
À : Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]gc.ca>
Cc :
Objet : Study Permit Questions
Importance : Haute

[redacted]

I am seeking a formal written response from IRCC regarding the questions below.

(holds DLI status in Nova Scotia) and essentially offers two educational options for international students. The first option is for international students to complete part-time pre-requisite courses (anywhere between 1 and 14 [redacted] to the [redacted] the CPA [redacted] are known as preparatory or "PREP courses" and are delivered online in a self-study format. Students in these courses have up to 12 months to complete a course final exam. Students can register for more than one course at a time should they wish. These courses do not lead to a certificate/diploma/credential.

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Your response to the questions above would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,