Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 12:33:58 PM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Wed, 19 Mar 2025 13:30:18
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Principal foreign national in spousal open work permits - REP-2025-0496 - Due 12-Mar-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.

Answer:

Please note that this service provides guidance and not case-specific advice.

The principal applicant (PA) will remain the PA for their family while in Canada.

We hope this information is of assistance.

Regards,

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 11, 2025 8:08 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Subject: Principal foreign national in spousal open work permits

Dear Officer,

It is explained in IRCC's operational instructions regarding Spouses or common-law partners of study permit holders ¨C [R205(c)(ii) ¨C C42] ¨C Canadian interest ¨C International Mobility Program (IMP) that:

Principal foreign national
The principal foreign national is the first foreign national in the couple who has applied for and obtained a work permit or was deemed authorized to work under the provisions of section R186.

In assessing eligibility for a family member open work permit, the principal foreign national continues to remain the principal in the couple and cannot obtain a spousal open work permit under paragraph R205(c) off of the spousal open work permit of their spouse.

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My question is:

If the principal foreign national's spouse, after the expiry of his spousal open work permit, applies for a study permit, would the principal foreign national be able to obtain a spousal open work permit off the study permit of his spouse?

Please kindly advise. Thank you.

Regards,