Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 12:37:41 PM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Fri, 21 Mar 2025 17:24:55
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: TR: Open work permit: Applying as a sponsored spouse or common law partner in Canada - REP-A-2025-0707 - Due 14-Apr-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None
Attachments:
image.png; image.png;

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.

Apologies for the delay in responding to your question.

Question:
Open work permit: Applying as a sponsored spouse or common law partner in Canada:
https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/family-sponsorship/spouse-partner-children/spouse-common-law-partner-canada-open-work-permit.html

Does this policy apply to a visa- exempt foreign national **currently living in Canada** with their Canadian spouse (on valid visitor status) who is being sponsored under the Family Class (**the third class**):

It appears that individuals applying from this class are not allowed to apply for an OPW without an AOR. **Is this correct?**

If this is correct, are they eligible to apply for an OWP once an AOR is received? Thank you.

Response:

The temporary public policy that came into effect on May 10, 2023 allows foreign nationals and their accompanying dependent children who **are in Canada** and have submitted a complete permanent residence application under the SCLPC class or **in the family class** to apply for an open work permit under the IMP category A74. This applies to visa-exempt or visa required sponsored spouses who are in Canada and meet the eligibility requirements. Sponsored spouses who have a visitor status [redacted] from this publi[redacted]licy. [redacted] received the [redacted] may [redacted] to [redacted] without an AOR if their work/study permit or TR status will expire in 2 weeks or less. Please refer to the client web content for more details.

Who's eligible to apply for a work permit without an AOR

You can only apply for a work permit without an AOR if you meet both of the following criteria:

- * your work permit, study permit or temporary resident status will expire in 2 weeks or less **and**

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- * you've applied for permanent residence under one of the following classes:
    - * the spouse or common-law partner in Canada class (SCLPC) as a spouse or common-law partner
    - * the family class as a spouse, common-law or conjugal partner (sponsored overseas)

Best regards,

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 3, 2025 4:49 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Subject: Open work permit: Applying as a sponsored spouse or common law partner in Canada

> **CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the Government of Canada. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.
> **ATTENTION:** Ce courriel provient de l'extérieur du gouvernement du Canada. Ne cliquez pas sur les liens et n'ouvrez pas les pièces jointes sauf si vous reconnaissez l'expéditeur et sachez que le contenu est sûr.

Hello,

Open work permit: Applying as a sponsored spouse or common law partner in Canada:
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Kind regards,