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**Archived:** June 2, 2025 2:39:50 PM
**From:** Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
**Sent:** Tue, 25 Mar 2025 15:46:32
**To:**
**Cc:** Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
**Subject:** TR: Temporary Public Policy - [redacted] - REP-2025-0437 - Due 10-Mar-25
**Importance:** Normal
**Sensitivity:** None

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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:

**Question:**

I would like to kindly inquire whether a foreign national inside Canada who has received a letter and was deemed to meet criteria under the Temporary Public Policy to Exempt Foreign Nationals in Canada from Certain Requirements when Changing Employment During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic can:

A) continue working for the original employer until the decision is made on his/her application for work permit extension / change of condition?

B) must stop working for the original employer, even though his/her application for work permit extension / change of conditions is still in process, and must start work for the new employer?

**Response:**

\cbpat4A foreign national would be eligible for this temporary policy:

i. If they are in Canada with valid temporary resident status (including maintained status);
ii. held a valid work permit or was authorized to work without a work permit under paragraphs 186(b) to (x) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (IRPR) when their application for a new work permit or work permit renewal in Canada was submitted;
iii. has submitted a new work permit application or a work permit renewal application in Canada for an employer-specific work permit, for which a decision has not yet been made;
iv. intends to work for a new employer and/or occupation as specified by the job offer included in their work permit application described in (iii);
v. has applied for the public policy exemption using the electronic means identified by the department for that purpose; **and**
vi. has requested that the exemption be applicable until a decision is made on their work permit application.

**Can a foreign national inside Canada who has received a letter and was deemed to meet criteria under the this temporary public policy:**

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**A) continue working for the original employer until the decision is made on his/her application for work permit extension / change of condition?**

The intent of this temporary public are twofold: First, to allow temporary foreign workers already in Canada who are changing jobs or employers, and who have secured a job offer under the terms of either the Temporary Foreign Worker Program or International Mobility Program, to more quickly begin work in advance of a final decision on the work permit application; and second, to allow for the finalization of the aforementioned work permit application so as to better ensure workers are protected under relevant employer compliance regulations.

This question assumes that the foreign national is not changing employers and/or occupation, thus they would not meet the criteria of this public policy (see bullet iv above) and would have no reason to take advantage of it.

If the client is not taking advantage of the public policy and wants to continue working for the original employer until the decision is made on his/her application for work permit extension / change of condition, they may do so **if** they fall under maintained status. For more information, consult:

- https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/permit/temporary/extend/apply.html
- https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/permit/temporary/extend/after-apply.html
- https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/permit/temporary/extend/expired-permit.html

**B) must stop working for the original employer, even though his/her application for work permit extension / change of conditions is still in process, and must start work for the new employer?**

As noted above, one of the intentions of this temporary public policy is to allow temporary foreign workers already in Canada who are changing jobs or employers, and who have secured a job offer under the terms of either the Temporary Foreign Worker Program or International Mobility Program, to more quickly begin work in advance of a final decision on the work permit application.

Having met the criteria under this temporary public policy, whether the foreign national takes advantage of the public policy or not is up to them. If the foreign national is not switching employers or occupation, they would not qualify under this public policy.

If the foreign national is not qualifying for this public policy and would like to continue working for the original employer, they may do so **if** they meet the conditions of maintained status. Again, for more information, consult

- https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/permit/temporary/extend/apply.html
- https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/permit/temporary/extend/after-apply.html
- https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/permit/temporary/extend/expired-permit.html

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[redacted]

**The Immigration Representatives Mailbox**

**From:**
**Sent:** [redacted] 7, 2025 4:05 PM

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**To:** Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigratio[redacted]

**Subject:** Temporary Public Policy - Changing Employment

[redacted]

I would like to kindly inquire whether a foreign national inside Canada who has received a letter and was deemed to meet criteria under the Temporary Public Policy to Exempt Foreign Nationals in Canada from Certain Requirements when Changing Employment During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic can:

A) continue working for the original employer until the decision is made on his/her application for work permit extension / change of condition?

B) must stop working for the original employer, even though his/her application for work permit extension / change of conditions is still in process, and must start work for the new employer?

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

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