Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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**Archived:** June 2, 2025 2:55:03 PM
**From:** [redacted] Représentants [redacted] ([redacted]
**Sent:** Thu, 27 Mar 2025 18:42:06
**To:**
**Cc:** Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
**Subject:** TR: Inquiry Regarding PAL/TAL Exemption for Study Permit Extensions - REP-2025-0279 - Due 25-Feb-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 am writing to seek clarification regarding your announcement released on January 24, 2025, concerning the exemption from submitting a PAL/TAL for certain groups of applicants. According to the announcement, students must be at the same level of study [redacted] to [redacted] for the [redacted] the [redacted] that:

- * existing study permit holders applying for an extension at the same designated learning institution (DLI) and at the same level of study.
- *

**The IMM form currently differentiates levels of study across 17 categories, as outlined below:**

- * Primary School
- * Secondary School
- * PTC/TCST/DVS/AVS
- * CEGEP – Pre-university
- * CEGEP – Technical
- * College – Certificate
- * College – Diploma
- * College – Applied Degree
- * University – Bachelor's Degree
- * University – Master's Degree
- * University – Doctorate
- * University – Other Studies
- * ESL/FSL
- * ESL/FSL and College
- * ESL/FSL and University
- * Other Studies
- * Not Applicable

I would like to clarify the situation for a student who, after receiving a study permit for an ESL program, moves to a college Certificate / Diploma program within the same DLI institution. For example, if a student initially attends an ESL program at an institution and later transitions to a college diploma program at the same institution, which is under the same DLI number, will they be required to obtain a new PAL from the institution and submit it when applying for a study permit extension?

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In previous communications (screenshot below), extensions within the same DLI number did not require a PAL. I would appreciate your guidance on whether this new rule applies in such cases, as it represents a significant change that affects the documents we need to submit to your office when SP extension is filed.

[redacted] to this matter. I look forward to your response.

other pressure.

- You've entered Canada **and** one of the following situations applies to you:
  - You're applying for a study permit extension or to restore your status.

**RESPONSE**

English as a Second Language (ESL) and French as a Second Language (FSL) programs are generally classified as preparatory programs rather than a specific level of post-secondary or graduate education. As outlined in the IMM form categories, ESL/FSL is listed as a separate category from college, university, and vocational programs.

- * If a student is transitioning from an ESL/FSL preparatory program to a professional diploma or degree in languages at the same DLI, they would be moving from a preparatory program to post-secondary education. In this case, a PAL would be required for the study permit extension.
- * If the student is already in a post-secondary language-related program (e.g., a diploma in Translation Studies) and is switching to another post-secondary program at the same DLI within the same level, a PAL would not be required.

For more details, please refer to following IRCC websites:
Study permits: Provincial or territorial attestation letters - Canada.ca
Changing your school or program - Canada.ca

We trust that this information will assist you.

[redacted]

**The Immigration Representatives Mailbox**

**De :**
**Envoye :** 27 janvier 2025 21:27
**À :** Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted].gc.ca>
**Objet :** Inquiry Regarding PAL/TAL Exemption for Study Permit Extensions

Subject: Inquiry Regarding PAL/TAL Exemption for Study Permit Extensions

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to seek clarification regarding your announcement released on January 24, 2025, concerning the exemption from submitting a PAL/TAL for certain groups of applicants. According to the announcement, students must be **at the same level of study** in order to qualify for the PAL exemption. Specifically, the announcement states that:

- * existing study permit holders applying for an extension at the same designated learning institution (DLI) and at the same level of study.

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- * Primary School

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In previous communications (screenshot below), extensions within the same DLI number did not require a PAL. I would appreciate your guidance on whether this new rule applies in such cases, as it represents a significant change that affects the documents we need to submit to your office when SP extension is filed.
[redacted] to this [redacted]. I [redacted] to your response.

- You've entered Canada **and** one of the following situations applies to you:
  - You're applying for a study permit extension or to restore your status.

With regards,