Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada | Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 3:10:04 PM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Tue, 1 Apr 2025 15:37:04
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on CEC Eligibility for Full-Time Students with Work Permits - REP-2025-0605 - 20-03-2025
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.

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Please note that our previous response covers this scenario - such work experience will not be eligible under the Canadian Experience Class (CEC).

For the purposes of Express Entry, work experience obtained in Canada during a period of full-time study in Canada will not be considered Canadian work experience.

We trust that this information will be of assistance to you.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 20, 2025 11:55 AM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]IRCC@[redacted]
Subject: RE: Clarification on CEC Eligibility for Full-Time Students with Work Permits

Dear Officer,

Really appreciate the time and effort.

[redacted] However, I believe the explanation and guidance provided do not fully address the question and concern.

Consider the following situation: An individual holds an Open Work Permit (OWP) under a public policy and also has a Study

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Permit, allowing them to pursue full-time studies. They are currently working full-time in an eligible TEER and NOC while simultaneously studying full-time at a recognized institution.

To my understanding, for above individuals: the Open Work Permit (OWP) and Study Permit operate independently. Since the individual is authorized to work full-time due to holding an OWP—not because of the Study Permit—the work experience should be considered valid for the Canadian Experience Class (CEC).

Would this work experience be considered valid for the Canadian Experience Class (CEC)?

I would appreciate to clarify my concern.

Best Regards

From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) [redacted]
Sent: February 20, 2025 8:41 AM
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-[redacted]
Subject: FW: Clarification on CEC Eligibility for Full-Time Students with Work Permits - REP-2025-0484 -Due 12-Mar-25

Hello,

[redacted] to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's Immigration Representatives mailbox. We appreciate your patience.

Question:

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Question A) If a full-time student holds an **open work permit under a public policy** or a closed work permit (excluding a Co-Op work permit) and works full-time while studying full time, would their work experience be considered eligible for the Canadian Experience Class (CEC) after one year, assuming the job falls under TEER 0 to 3?

Please note, I understand that work experience gained through a Co-Op work permit or part-time work **does not** count toward CEC eligibility.

Question B) Additionally, if such work experience is considered eligible, how should the applicant answer the question in the Express Entry profile that asks: **"Were you a full-time student while you were working?"**? If the applicant answers **"Yes,"** the work experience will likely not be considered for [redacted] you clarify the correct approach in this scenario?

Answer:

Work experience obtained in Canada during a period of full-time study will not be considered Canadian work experience under Express Entry and does not count towards the eligibility of the Canadian Experience Class (CEC), or assigned Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score, regardless of the type of work authorization held during the period. These provisions are outlined in section 87.1(3)(a) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations and in the Ministerial Instructions 15(7)(a) respectively.

The definition of full-time study is determined by the applicant's learning institution. Graduates must have proof of program completion from their institution to begin accumulating work experience in Canada.

Please be advised that the assessment of an application is conducted on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the specific circumstances and the supporting documentation available to the officer. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that they meet the requirements.

We trust that this information will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 11, 2025 1:03 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) [redacted]
Representantsimmigration.IRCC [redacted]
Subject: Clarification on CEC Eligibility for Full-Time Students with Work Permits

[redacted]

[redacted] I am a Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant (RCIC). I would appreciate your guidance on the following matter.

Question A) If a full-time student holds an **open work permit under a public policy** or a closed work permit (excluding a Co-Op work permit) and works full-time while studying full time, would their work experience be considered eligible for the Canadian Experience Class (CEC) after one year, assuming the job falls under TEER 0 to 3?

Please note, I understand that work experience gained through a Co-Op work permit or part-time work **does not** count toward

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CEC eligibility.

Question B) Additionally, if such work experience is considered eligible, how should the applicant answer the question in the Express Entry profile that asks: **"Were you a full-time student while you were working?"**? If the applicant answers **"Yes,"** the work experience will likely not be considered for [redacted] you clarify the correct approach in this scenario?

[redacted].

Best Regards