Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

Archived: June 3, 2025 7:58:34 AM
From: [redacted] Representatives / Représentants [redacted] (I[redacted]
Sent: Wed, 2 Apr 2025 20:10:31
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on Study Permit Requirements for Distance Learning -REP-A-2025-0718 - Due 14-Apr-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.
***
According to IRCC guidance, distance learning does not require students to be in Canada to complete their studies, and a study permit is generally not required. However, if a program includes an in-Canada component (e.g., special tutorials or final exams) and the overall course of study exceeds six months, a study permit is required for the in-Canada portion, even if it is less than six months.

- * **Student with a Valid Study Permit**: If the program is fully remote with no in-person requirements, the student does not need a new study permit. Their existing permit covers their main program, and the remote program does not require separate authorization.
- * **Visitor Record Holder Enrolling in Distance Learning:** If a visitor in Canada enrolls in a fully remote distance learning program with no in-class component, they do not require a study permit, even if the program exceeds six months. However, if they intend to stay in Canada for more than six months, they must apply to extend their stay by obtaining a visitor record.

For more details, please visit IRCC website: Study permits: Other considerations - Canada.ca

We trust that this information will assist you.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From
Sent: [redacted] 3, 2025 12:48 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Subject: Clarification on Study Permit Requirements for Distance Learning

> **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.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
Information disclosed under the Access to Information Act
L'information divulguée en vertu de la loi sur l'accès à l'information

Dear Officer,

My name is , and my RCIC·

I am reaching out to clarify whether fully remote distance learning programs (with no in-class component) still do not require a study permit. This information was previously listed on the study permit webpage but appears to have been removed.

Additionally, I would appreciate your guidance on the following scenarios:

1. 1. **Student with a Valid Study Permit:**
    - * The applicant is currently in Canada on a valid study permit, actively enrolled in their main program, and fully compliant with study permit conditions.
    - * If the student wishes to enroll in an additional program that is more than six months in duration and is fully remote (distance learning with no in-class portion), would they need to apply for a new study permit or take any additional steps to notify IRCC?
2. 2. **Visitor Record Holder Enrolling in Distance Learning:**
    - * The applicant is currently in Canada on a valid visitor record and plans to enroll in a distance learning program that exceeds six months in duration but has no in-class component.
    - * Would they require a study permit in this case?

I would greatly appreciate your clarification on these matters.

[redacted] and assistance.