Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
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[redacted]

Archived: June 3, 2025 8:45:59 AM
From:
Mail received time: Thu, 3 Apr 2025 20:44:29
Sent: May 20, 2025 12:13:34 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: Re: Canadian Work Experience and Online Study from a Foreign Country
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

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.

Dear sir or madam,

Thank you so much for your reply.

Further to this question:

"The ministerial instruction states that Canadian work experience gained while studying full-time does not count toward the CRS score. Would this restriction apply to full-time online studies for a degree from an overseas institution? Additionally, how is full-time or part-time status determined for an online degree from a foreign country?"

May I ask, in the Express Entry application form under the **Employment History** section, when responding to the question about whether the applicant was studying full-time while gaining this work experience in Canada, should we select **NO** if the applicant was enrolled in a full-time online program from a foreign country? Would this be a misrepresentation?

If we select **YES**, we find that the CRS points for the Canadian work experience will not be applicable.

I would appreciate your guidance on this matter.

On Thu, Apr 3, 2025 at 12:06 'a0PM Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) [redacted] wrote:

Good day,

[redacted] **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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Requirements for Canadian work experience for the purposes of Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) are described in section 15 of the Ministerial Instructions respecting the Express Entry system.

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Please note that a period of distance learning that does not require an in-Canada portion of the course or program, such as an online degree at a foreign educational institution, is not considered "study" for the purposes of paragraph 15(7)(a). As such, full-time or part-time foreign distance learning is not applicable when calculating Canadian work experience.

Canadian work experience, therefore, may be accumulated while full-time studying online for degree from a foreign county.

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.

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[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 26, 2025 12:23 AM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.IRCC[redacted]
Subject: Re: Clarification on Canadian Work Experience and Online Overseas Studies

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am seeking clarification about the CRS score. Assume that an applicant who worked full-time in Canada while studying full-time online for a U.S. degree.

The ministerial instruction states that Canadian work experience gained while studying full-time does not count toward the CRS score. Would this restriction apply to full-time online studies for a degree from an overseas institution?

Additionally, how is full-time or part-time status determined for an online degree from a foreign country?

[redacted] and assistance.

Best regards,

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19(1)

of the Access to Information Act

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