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Archived: June 3, 2025 8:48:38 AM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Fri, 4 Apr 2025 13:44:35
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Clarification on Spousal Open Work Permit Eligibility After DLI Change - REP-B-2025-0120 - Due 22-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.
***
If the principal foreign national applies for a study permit for a new level or program of study, the spouse of the principal foreign national, noted above, is not eligible to extend their work permit under administrative code C42.

Those who do not meet the new eligibility criteria or qualify for an extension can apply for a new work permit from within Canada under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program or another stream of the International Mobility Program, if eligible.

Spouses and common-law partners of study permit holders – [R205(c)(ii) – C42] – Canadian interest – International Mobility Program - Canada.ca

We hope this information is of assistance.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From
Sent: [redacted] 20, 2025 5:10 PM
To: Immigration Representatives [redacted] Représentants immigration (IRCC) [redacted]
Subject: Clarification on Spousal Open Work Permit Eligibility After DLI Change

> **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.

[redacted]

I hope you are doing well. I am a licensed immigration consultant [redacted] and would like clarification on a specific scenario regarding the eligibility of a spousal open work permit (SOWP) extension.

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If a client has changed their Designated Learning Institution (DLI) and applied for a new study permit, will their spouse still be eligible for an extension of their open work permit if the new program is not a graduate or professional degree program? Specifically, does the change in program level impact the spouse's continued eligibility for an SOWP?

I appreciate your guidance on this matter.