Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 3, 2025 9:38:38 AM
From [redacted]
Mail received time: Fri, 11 Apr 2025 20:14:56
Sent: Fri, 11 Apr 2025 16:14:38
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: Re: FW: Clarification Re. the Open Work Permit of Essential Start Up Founders/Members - REP-2025-0666 - Due 24-03-2025
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None
Attachments:
image001.jpg;

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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/Madam,

[redacted] you please [redacted] that [redacted] an [redacted] to [redacted] for [redacted] closed work permit despite having the option to apply for an open work permit?

Best Regards,

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On Fri, Apr 11, 2025 at 3:51 '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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1. 1. An open work permit holder can work for an exclusive employer. The benefit of an open work permit is the flexibility to change employment without first receiving approval as is the case for employer-specific (closed) work permits.

2. 2. If the application is made from inside Canada instructions indicate:

   Working while you wait for your work permit to arrive

   We'll send you a note in your online account letting you know your work permit has been approved. You can start working as soon as you receive this note.

   You don't have to wait until you get your work permit in the mail to start working.

Resources you may find useful:

Work permits for Start-Up Visa applicants - Canada.ca
Start-up Visa Program - Canada.ca
Who can apply for an open work permit?
Immigrate with a start-up visa: Who can apply - Canada.ca
Work permit - Canada.ca

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Work permit: After you apply - Canada.ca

Hope this information is helpful to you.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 24, 2025 4:51 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.[redacted]
Subject: Clarification Re. the Open Work Permit of Essential Start Up Founders/Members

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am a lawyer practicing in and a member in good standing of the My membership No. is

I am writing to seek clarification on a few immigration-related matters for potential startup founder clients.

Firstly, if an essential startup founder wishes to focus solely on the startup they founded, are they able to apply for a closed work permit only, and not avail themselves of the option of an open work permit?

Secondly, if a founder already has a closed work permit and subsequently applies for an open work permit, would they be able to work for another employer immediately after receiving the acknowledgement to extend their status as a worker for the open work permit?

I would appreciate your guidance on these matters.

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Best Regards,