

Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) Information Session

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Things to Consider...

- When does your Study Permit expire?
- When do the rest of your immigration documents expire?
- Are you working already? Do you plan to work as soon as possible?
- Are you planning to go home over the break?
- Are you planning on completing any further studies in Canada?
- Have you violated any Canadian Immigration regulations?

What is the PGWP Program?

- The Post-Graduation Work Permit Program offers an open work permit that allows students who have graduated from a participating Canadian post-secondary institution to gain valuable Canadian work experience.
- A PGWP is an one-time opportunity for recent grads.
- It allows you to change your temporary residence status from "student" to "worker".

How long will my PGWP be valid for?

- In most circumstances, a PGWP cannot be valid for longer than the length of your studies in Canada.
- **If your program of study was:**
 - **less than two years but more than eight months**
You may get a work permit for a period no longer than the length of your program of study (e.g. if you studied for nine months, a work permit may be issued for a period of nine months)
 - **Two years or more**
A work permit may be issued for three years
 - *note a 16 month Master's degree may be eligible for a 3 year PGWP

You are eligible for a PGWP if you...

- Were continuously-enrolled at a post-secondary institution
- Studied full-time in Canada (except in your final term)
- Completed a program of study that lasted at least eight months
- Completed and passed the program of study and received a notification that you are eligible to obtain your degree
- Have a valid study permit when you apply for the work permit

- You may start your studies online during COVID-19. The time spent studying online while awaiting the issuing of your study permit will be counted towards your Post-Graduation Work Permit eligibility.
- Note: you must have received stage 1 SP approval before starting your studies

What is needed to apply?

- You must have a valid study permit at the time of application
- An official letter from your school that confirms you've completed your study program
- An official transcript, or a copy of your transcript from your school's website

What if my study permit expires before a decision is made?

- You will have “implied status” during the time between your Study Permit expiry and the issue date of your PG **only as long as you remain in Canada.**
- While awaiting a decision to be made, you can continue to work and hold a full-time position if, at the time you submit your PGWP application:
 - You held a valid study permit and a valid off-campus work permit, OR
 - You held a valid study permit and were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit.
- Your Temporary Resident Visa (if applicable) will also expire with your SP, prohibiting you re-entering Canada should you leave

When to Apply

- You must apply for a work permit within 180 days of receiving written confirmation from your institution indicating that you have met the requirements for completing your academic program.
- You can't apply before you receive this confirmation

How to Apply:

- Create a IRCC web portal profile and log-in
- Click on the "Apply to Come to Canada"/ Start a New Application" link
- Answer the questions accurately – you will be prompted that you are eligible to apply for a PGWP
- Complete pdf application form and upload all requested documents
- Pay fee online (\$255).

PGWP Instruction Guide (IMM 5580):

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/guide-5580-applying-work-permit-student-guide.html>

Processing Time

- Google IRCC Processing times for the latest updates
<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/check-processing-times.html>
- As of this morning (October 13, 2020)
 - Study permit extension = 49 days
 - Work Permit = 176 days

Are you planning to go home after exams?

- Generally, you should leave before you apply for your PGWP (ensure that your other documents are valid) or do not make any travel plans until after you have received your PGWP
- If you do leave while you have an application being processed, you forfeit some of your implied status rights

Are you planning on completing any further studies in Canada?

- PGWP is a one-time-deal and non-renewable!
- You cannot suspend your PGWP if you go back to school
- If you plan to continue your studies, you have two options...
 - (1) Wait until have you complete your next degree to apply for the PGWP,
 - (2) If you intend to apply for PR, you may want to do so before continuing your education so that you can attend as a domestic student

IRCC Contact Information:

- 1-800-242-2100
- IRCC Webform: <https://www.cic.gc.ca/english/contacts/web-form.asp>
- Give them all necessary information so they can answer your questions accurately

Life After Graduation

- Health Insurance
 - You will need to apply for private health insurance after graduation
 - For May grads: UHIP expires August 31st, 2021
 - UHIP can be extended for up to 4 months after graduation
 - Contact uhip@trentu.ca for any Health Insurance related concerns
- Income Tax
 - You are eligible to submit a tax claim
- Career Centre
 - Still entitled to services as an alumni
- Stay in touch!

Contact Us

Trent International

CC 302

M-F 8:30 - 4:30

1.705.748.1314

international@trentu.ca

trentu.ca/international

CHALLENGE THE WAY YOU THINK