Working in Canada - Regulations for International Students

Presented by:
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AGENDA

• Work on campus (without a work permit)

• Work off campus (without a work permit)
  • Impact from the temporary policy announced on October 7, 2022

• Work as a co-op student or intern
  • Impact from the temporary policy

• Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)
  • Work authorization after completion of study program
  • Impact from the temporary policy

• Q & A
WORK ON CAMPUS (WITHOUT A WORK PERMIT)

You can work on campus if you:

✓ Are a full-time student at a DLI
  ✓ If you are a part-time student in your last term and you were a full-time student up until your last term

✓ Have a valid study permit

✓ Have a SIN

Note: Your study permit must have a condition that says you are allowed to work on-campus and you must have started your study program.

How many hours can I work on campus?

• Unlimited number of hours from immigration perspective

• Note: No more than an average of 10 hours per week for graduate students. Please contact your Program if you would like to work on campus for more than 10 hours/week.

https://grad.uwo.ca/administration/regulations/4.html
WORK OFF CAMPUS (WITHOUT A WORK PERMIT)

You can work off campus if you:

✓ Are a full-time student at a DLI
  ✓ If you are a part-time student in your last term and you were a full-time student up until your last term

✓ You are enrolled in a post-secondary program that leads to a degree, diploma or certificate and that is at least 6 months long

✓ Have a valid study permit

✓ Have a SIN

Note: Your study permit must have a condition that says you are allowed to work off-campus and you must have started your study program.

How many hours can I work off campus?

• During school terms
  • You can work up to 20 hours per week.

• During scheduled breaks
  • You can work full-time.
    o Must be a full-time student both before and after the break.

NOTE: Graduate programs at Western don’t have summer breaks.
TEMPORARY POLICY ANNOUNCED ON OCTOBER 7, 2022
(DOES NOT APPLY TO ON-CAMPUS WORK)

✓ Eligible international students will not be restricted by the 20-hour-per-week rule between November 15, 2022 and December 31, 2023.

✓ This measure applies to international students who have submitted a study permit application (or study permit extension) by October 7, 2022, provided their application is later approved and they meet all the eligibility criteria.

✓ Anyone applying for a study permit (or study permit extension) after October 7 will not be able to benefit from this temporary policy.

✓ Students are responsible for keeping track of the hours that they work off campus and proving that they are complying with the conditions of their study permit.

✓ Students will be expected to balance their studies and work so that they can continue to take classes full-time.

https://iesc.uwo.ca/visas/working_and_volunteering/Index.html
AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE NEW POLICY?
(SP EXTENSION / MAINTAINED STATUS)

SP extension applied BEFORE October 7, 2022

Current SP expired before Nov 15, 2022
Eligible for the new policy between Nov 15, 2022 and either Dec 31, 2023, or the date your SP extension expires, whichever comes first

Current SP will expire between Nov 15, 2022 and Dec 31, 2023
Eligible for the new policy between Nov 15, 2022 and either Dec 31, 2023, or the date your SP extension expires, whichever comes first
AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE NEW POLICY?
(SP EXTENSION / MAINTAINED STATUS)

SP extension applied AFTER October 7, 2022

Current SP expired before Nov 15, 2022
Not eligible for the new policy. Can only work maximum 20 hours/week

Current SP will expire between Nov 15, 2022 and Dec 31, 2023

SP extension is approved AFTER current SP expires
Eligible for the new policy between Nov 15, 2022 and the date your current SP expires

SP extension is approved BEFORE current SP expires
Eligible for the new policy between Nov 15, 2022 and the date your SP extension is approved
ELIGIBILITY FOR A CO-OP WORK PERMIT

NOTE: You can only use the co-op work permit to work for a university-approved employer and for the required school-related work placement.

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/intern.html
DO I STILL NEED TO APPLY FOR A CO-OP WORK PERMIT UNDER THE NEW POLICY?

Scenarios you will need to apply for a co-op work permit if one of the following conditions applies to you:

➢ Part of your co-op placement is outside the period of November 15, 2022 to December 31, 2023;

➢ Your entire co-op placement takes place between November 15, 2022 and December 31, 2023, but you are not eligible for the temporary policy for the entire period for the co-op placement
  ➢ because your current SP expires before the end of the co-op placement and your SP extension application was received after October 7, 2022; or
  ➢ because you are not a full-time student and you are not in your final academic session

* Western international students are highly recommended to apply for a fee-exempt co-op work permit for the required co-op/internship placement.

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/intern.html
POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT (PGWP)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA—INSIDE CANADA GRADUATES

You have 180 days to apply for a PGWP after completion of program

- A valid study permit at some point during the 180 days

Completed a study program

- at an eligible DLI
- at least 8 months long
- leading to a degree, diploma or certificate

Maintained full-time student status

- except final academic session, which can be part-time
- Or an approved leave of absence (case by case)

Received final transcripts AND a PGWP letter

- from Registrar’s Office

COVID-19: If you had to stop studying or change to part-time studies between March 2020 and Fall 2020 due to COVID-19, you may still be eligible for a PGWP. Please keep all the supporting documents.

Don’t let your status expire!
Your study permit expires as of the expiry date on the permit or 90 days after the day you complete your studies, whichever comes first.
WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAM (2 WAYS YOU CAN WORK FULL-TIME)

• If you have applied for a PGWP and you meet all of these conditions:
  • You had a valid study permit when you submitted your PGWP application
  • You have completed your study program
  • You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  • You didn’t work more hours than you were allowed to

NOTE: You must stop working the day you are notified by IRCC that your application is refused.
WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAM (2 WAYS YOU CAN WORK FULL-TIME)

• If you are starting a new study program and you meet all of these conditions:
  • You have officially completed your study program
  • You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  • You have a valid study permit or you applied to extend your study permit before it expired
  • You received a LOA to a new full-time program at a DLI
  • You will start your new program within 150 days after you complete your previous program

NOTE: You must stop working the day you are notified by IRCC that your application is refused.
WHEN CAN I WORK FULL-TIME AFTER I COMPLETE MY PROGRAM?

- Date you complete final exams or thesis:
  - Part-time work off campus if not eligible for the new policy
- Date school confirms completion:
  - Can’t work
  - Full-time work off campus if eligible for the new policy
- Date PGWP application is submitted (*all conditions met):
  - Full-time work

Stop working if Study Permit expires

You may work full-time off campus if you are starting a new study program and you meet all the conditions.*
APPLYING FOR A SIN

- You can apply online or by mail.
- If you are unable to apply online or by mail you have the option to apply in person.
- If you apply for a SIN online or by mail and your application meets the requirements, you will receive a letter with your SIN by mail within 20 business days from the date the application is received. If more than 25 business days have passed and you would like to find out the status of your application, contact the SIN program.
- There is no fee to apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN).

**NOTE:** You can continue using your expired SIN while waiting for SP extension or PGWP application decision as long as you are eligible to work. You will need to apply to renew your SIN once you receive your new SP or PGWP.
YOU CANNOT WORK IN CANADA IF

• your study permit says you are not authorized to work on or off campus
• you haven’t started your program
• you are a part-time student, unless you’re in your final academic session
• you are on an authorized leave from your studies
• you are switching schools and you are not studying
• you have completed your study program (only if you meet certain conditions)*
• your student status has expired
ADVISING SERVICES FALL 2022

Appointments
https://iesc.uwo.ca/appointment/index.html
• Virtual via Microsoft Teams or telephone appointment
• Monday – Friday, 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

Drop Ins
• In person, IGAB 2nd floor
• Monday – Friday, 1 - 4 pm

Immigration FAQ sessions
• Virtual on zoom
• Fridays 9-10am

Immigration workshops
• IESC events calendar: http://www.events.westernu.ca/events/iesc/
• IESC weekly network email

Office Hours & Reception
• Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
• Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 89309
• Email: iesc@uwo.ca
Q & A