

# POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT APPLICATION (in Canada)

## Online Application



This is not a legal document and information may change without notice.  
Always refer to [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#) for the most up-to-date information, or connect with an [Immigration Specialist](#) for assistance.

### Eligibility

- Completed a study program in a DLI
- The length of the study program is at least 8 months long
- The study program leads to a diploma, degree or a certificate
- Studied full time each semester except final semester
- Complied with the other conditions as a study permit holder
- You must prove your English or French language skills with a minimum level of CLB 5 in English or NCLC 5 in French in all 4 language areas:
  - Your test result must be less than 2 years old
  - Test result from these tests:
    - English:** CELPIP-General, IELTS General Training, or PTE Core, or
    - French:** TEF Canada: Test d'évaluation de français or TCF Canada: Test de connaissance du français



- **If you submit your study permit application on or after November 1, 2024**
  - You must also meet the **Field of study requirement**: you must graduate in an eligible field of study. Please check what Seneca programs are PGWP-eligible on this [webpage](#).

### When to apply

- For applicants in Canada - Within 90 days of graduation date or before your study permit expires, whichever date comes first.
- For applicants outside of Canada – within 180 days of graduation date.

### Cost

- \$255 - processing fee for a post-graduation work permit application
- \$85 - some applicants may need to pay biometrics fee (check if you need to pay on this [website](#))

## Required documents

- **Application to Change Conditions, Extend my Stay or Remain in Canada as a Worker (IMM5710)**  
You may read the [instruction guide](#) to understand how to complete this form
- **Graduation Letter**  
If you are eligible to graduate at the end of the term your graduation letter will be available by noon on Student Home on the day final grades are available (more information on this [webpage](#))
- **Final Official Transcript**  
Official transcripts must be requested. Please find how to request an official transcript on this [webpage](#). We advise that once your graduation status is updated to “Completed Program”, place your electronic Official Transcript request for **Immediate processing**. It may take 1-2 business days to process that request.
- **Copy of Passport**  
Scan the page with your photo and all pages with stamps and visas
- **Digital photo** ([photograph specifications](#))
- **English or French test result** (more information on this IRCC [webpage](#))

In some cases, students may need to add the following documents:

- [Proof of medical exam](#)
- Photocopy of your current immigration document (such as study permit)
- Family Information Form
- Explanation Letter

# APPLICATION PROCEDURE (in Canada)

## Online Application



Always refer to [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#) for the most up-to-date information, or connect with an [Immigration Specialist](#) for assistance.

### STEP 1

- Log in/ Sign up to your [IRCC account](#)

We recommend using Option 1: GCKey  
(Sign in with your GCKey user ID and password)

- Scroll down to start an application and click on **'Apply to come to Canada'**, as seen below

### Start an application

#### [Apply to come to Canada](#)

Includes applications for visitor visas, work and study permits, Express Entry and International Experience Canada. You will need your personal reference code if you have one.

- In the 'Determine your eligibility and apply online' section, select **'Visitor visa, study and/or work permit'**.

Visitor visa, study and/or work permit



It is best to always reach out to an immigration specialist before you plan or require adjustment to your study progression. If you have been off-track in your study progression or have not complied to the condition of your study permit, such as having more than 1 part time status, taken multiple or long leave from studies, have been withdrawn/dropped all courses in a term, studied only from Continuing Education (part-time studies) or studied fully online only), please visit an immigration specialist to review your situation before submitting your PGWP application.

## STEP 2

Answer questionnaire and check your eligibility.

- You will need to answer a series of questions before you are able to upload your required documents.
- Please find below an example. Please keep in mind that every case is specific, and you must answer questions based on your personal case.

**What would you like to do in Canada?**

Work

**How long are you planning to stay in Canada?**

Temporarily - more than 6 months

**Select the code that matches the one on your passport.**

BRA (Brazil)

(insert your country of citizenship)

**What is your current country/territory of residence? If you are presently in Canada, you should select Canada.**

Canada

**Do you have a family member who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and is 18 years or older?**

No

**What is your date of birth?**

November 17, 1997

**Are you a lawful permanent resident of the United States with a valid U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) number?**

No

**What is your current immigration status in Canada?**

Student

**Do you plan to work on campus?**

No

**Are you a full-time student at a participating post-secondary institution and want to work off-campus up to 20 hours per week?**

No

**Have you recently graduated from a participating Canadian post-secondary institution for which your study program was full-time and a minimum of eight months?**

Yes

**Is your work an essential part of your studies (for example, a Co-Op or internship program)?**

No

**Have you been told by an Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada office that you are approved in principle for permanent residence in Canada?**

No

**Have you submitted a permanent resident application in Canada?**

No

**Do you have a written job offer?**

No

**Do you have an official letter from your school that confirms you've completed your study program, as well as a copy of your final transcript?**

Yes

**What is your marital status?**

Never Married/Single

**What is your province of destination? If visiting multiple provinces, select the one in which you will be spending most of your time.**

Ontario

The first section of the questionnaire will lead to the type of application you are eligible to apply. You should see the below choice and select this to proceed. If you do not see this choice, please connect with an immigration specialist.

**Post-Graduate Work Permit - in Canada**

You may be eligible to work in Canada with a post-graduation work permit.

**Continue**

**Do you have an official letter from your school that confirms you've completed your study program, as well as a copy of your final transcript?**

Yes

**Have you had a medical exam performed by an IRCC authorized panel physician (doctor) within the last 12 months?**

No

**A medical exam is needed before you submit your application for foreign nationals who:**

- want to stay in Canada for more than 6 months and have lived in one or more designated countries or territories for more than six months in the past year or;
- intend to work in one of the following jobs:
  - health sciences worker
  - clinical laboratory worker

- patient attendant in nursing or geriatric homes
- medical student admitted to Canada to attend university
- medical elective and physician on short term assignment
- teacher of primary or secondary schools or other teachers of small children
- domestics worker, someone who gives in-home care to children, the elderly and the disabled
- day nursery worker

**Do you fit into one of these categories?**

No

**Do you want to work in one of the following jobs?**

- health sciences worker
- clinical laboratory worker
- patient attendant in nursing or geriatric homes
- medical student admitted to Canada to attend university
- medical elective and physician on short term assignment
- teacher of primary or secondary schools or other teachers of small children
- domestics worker, someone who gives in-home care to children, the elderly and the disabled
- day nursery worker

No

**Do you want to submit an application for a family member?**

No

**Are you giving someone access to your application?**

No

**In the past 10 years, have you given your fingerprints and photo (biometrics) for an application to come to Canada?**

Yes

**There are fees associated with this application. Will you be paying your fees or are you fee exempt?**

Yes, I will be paying my application fees.

**Are you able to make a digital copy of your documents with a scanner or camera?**

Yes

**Will you be paying your application fees online? To pay online, you can use a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, JCB, China Union Pay) or a Visa Debit or Debit MasterCard.**

Yes

## STEP 3

You will be guided through the following steps to complete your application:

1. Upload your documents
2. Review your application
3. Pay with a credit card
4. Submit your application

After you submit your payment, you will see a page that confirms that your application has been submitted. It will have more information on next steps. Shortly after you submit, you will also receive a confirmation message in your account.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Do I need to print out the application form and sign it?

If you are applying online, you do not require to print the form and sign. You will be asked to provide an electronic signature in the application process. More information can be obtained from [IRCC's Help Centre](#).

### Can I include my dependents' application/extension together with my PGWP application?

This is case specific and may require more information before an appropriate guidance can be provided. Please [connect with an immigration specialist](#) for advice.

### Can my spouse continue to work when I have graduated and waiting for my PGWP to be processed?

Your spouse can continue to work until the expiry of their open work permit. More information can be obtained from [IRCC's Help Centre](#).

### Can I continue to work after graduating until my study permit expires, then only apply for my PGWP?

If you are authorized to work on the condition of your study permit, the last day you can work up to, is the day your final grades are released and your academic status/progress shows "Completed" on your Student Home. You cannot work thereafter, until you apply and submit your PGWP application. Your study permit expires 90 days from the day of grades released or as per the expiry of your study permit, whichever comes first. If you wish to continue to work, you should apply for your PGWP while your study permit is still valid.

### Can I work while waiting to receive my PGWP?

You can begin to work as soon as you submit your PGWP application if at the time of your submission, you meet all of the following conditions:

- Had a valid study permit
- Had completed your program
- Were eligible to work off campus without a permit
- Did not work off campus more than 20 hours a week during your academic sessions

More information can be obtained from [IRCC's Help Centre](#).

### Do I have to work in my field of study on a PGWP?

No, you can work in any field of work but you may want to consider [skilled jobs](#) (TEER 0, 1, 2, 3) if you want to be eligible for [Express Entry programs](#) towards your path to permanent residence.

### Can I work in another province outside of Toronto on a PGWP?

Yes. PGWP is an open work permit allowing you to work anywhere in Canada and for any legal employers.

### When does the 90 days begin to determine when my study permit expires?

The 90 days starts on the day your final grades are released and you are confirmed to have met all requirements to graduate.

### Can I extend my PGWP?

No. PGWP is a once in a lifetime application and cannot be extended/renewed. The only time you can request to extend is when you did not get the full length due to the expiry of your passport that did not allow for a longer validity. More information can be obtained from [IRCC's Help Centre](#).

### Can I return to study another program and apply for another PGWP?

No. PGWP is a once in a lifetime application and cannot be extended/renewed. The only time you can request to extend is when you did not get the full length due to the expiry of your passport that did not allow for a longer validity. More information can be obtained from [IRCC's Help Centre](#).

### What should I do if my PGWP is refused?

Please [connect with an immigration specialist](#) for guidance.

## Can I apply for my PGWP outside of Canada?

Yes, you can. You have up to 180 days to apply for your PGWP upon receiving your final grades and confirmed to have met all requirements to graduate. The application guide may be slightly different from the one applying within Canada. Follow the guide provided on [IRCC's website](#) (Apply online from outside Canada).

## I am still waiting for a decision on my study permit extension and my current study permit has expired. Can I apply for PGWP while still waiting for my study permit extension (on maintained status)?

Applicants whose study permit becomes invalid or expires before they apply for a work permit may not be eligible to apply from in Canada, even if they have maintained their temporary resident status as a visitor. In these cases, the applicant must submit their PGWP application outside Canada.

## I have been offered a job but will only complete my program next month. Can I apply for my PGWP now?

No. You can only apply for your PGWP when you can confirm that you have completed your program. You will need to submit your official transcript, indicating the credential earned for the program of studies. You will also need the graduation letter, confirming that you have met the requirements to graduate from the program.

## I'm waiting for my post-graduation work permit. Can I travel outside Canada and come back with my student visa?

You can leave Canada and return, as long as your [visa](#) or [Electronic Travel Authorization \(eTA\)](#) is still valid. Your permit (study or work) is not a visa and doesn't allow you to travel back to Canada.

If your visa or eTA is expired, you have to get a new one before you return to Canada.

When you return to Canada:

- You may enter as a student if your study permit is still valid.
- If we approve your post-graduation work permit while you're away, you may enter as a worker.
- If we're still processing your post-graduation work permit, you may enter as a visitor, and you can work without a work permit until we make a decision on your application.

A border officer will have some questions for you when you arrive back in Canada. The officer may ask you for proof that you applied for a post-graduation work permit, such as a copy of your application or the fee payment receipt.

If the officer believes there is reason to refuse your re-entry, you won't be able to enter Canada.

## May I travel outside of Canada after I applied for PGWP?

You are recommended to submit your PGWP application within 90 days after your graduation is confirmed inside Canada while your study permit is still valid, and travel outside of Canada after you receive the approval. If you want to travel, please review this [IRCC page](#) for more info:  
"If you leave and re-enter Canada after applying for your post-graduation work permit, you can still work full-time **while you wait for a decision**. Leaving and re-entering Canada does **not** stop you from being able to work full-time while you wait."

## Can I work while waiting to receive my PGWP if my Social Insurance Number (SIN) is expired?

You can begin to work as soon as you submit your PGWP application if at the time of your submission, you meet all of the following conditions:

- Had a valid study permit
- Had completed your program
- Were eligible to work off campus without a permit
- Did not work off campus more than 20 hours a week during your academic sessions

More information can be obtained from [IRCC's Help Centre](#).

You can work while waiting to receive your PGWP if your Social Insurance Number (SIN) is expired. When you get your work permit, you can [renew your SIN](#).