Understanding Off-Campus Working Hours for International Students

Version 23

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Review the chart below to understand how your study permit conditions affect the hours permitted to work as an international student or your work term requirements.

Table 1: Scenarios for off-campus working hours

	If you:	Can I work more than 20 hours/week off campus?	Can I start my work term (WIL, internship, placement) full-time while my co-op work permit is processing?	When must I stop working full-time hours off campus?
1	Submitted a study permit application (or extension), received by IRCC on or before Oct. 7, 2022	Yes, from Nov. 15, 2022	Yes	Apr. 30, 2024 or the expiry of your study permit, whichever come first. If you need to extend your study permit before Apr. 30, 2024, please see point 3 or 5, whichever is applicable to you.
2	Submitted an initial study permit application received by IRCC between Oct. 8, 2022 and Dec. 7, 2023	Yes from Jan. 1, 2024 ** Note that you need to have started your program to begin working	Only if it begins from Jan. 1, 2024. Otherwise, you may begin your work term by working up to 20 hours/week only.	Apr. 30, 2024 or the expiry of your study permit, whichever comes first. If you need to extend your study permit before Apr. 30, 2024, please see point 3 or 5, whichever is applicable to you.
3	Submitted a study permit extension, received by IRCC between Oct. 8, 2022 and Dec. 7, 2023	Yes from Jan. 1, 2024	Only if it begins from Jan. 1, 2024. Otherwise, you may begin your work term by working up to 20 hours/week only.	Apr. 30, 2024 or the expiry date of your study permit you are applying to extend expires, whichever comes first. If you need to extend your study permit again before Apr. 30, 2024, please see point 5. If your study permit extension is refused, you have to stop working.
4	Submitted an initial study permit, received by IRCC after Dec. 7, 2023	No	No. You may begin your work term working off campus up to 20 hours/week.	You may only work up to 20 hours/week off campus.
5	Submitted a study permit extension, and received by IRCC after Dec. 7, 2023.	Only until the date the study permit you are applying to extend expires.	No. You may begin your work term working off campus up to 20 hours/week.	Apr. 30, 2024 or the expiry date of the study permit you are applying to extend expires, whichever comes first. If your study permit extension is refused, you have to stop working.

^{*}To be eligible to work, your study permit must indicate that you "may accept employment or may work" in Canada and you must maintain full-time student status throughout all semesters of your studies, unless it is the final academic semester.

tags: cowp, ircc, permits, visas