

Post-Graduation Work Permit

Working after completing your degree

What is a post-graduation work permit (PGWP)?

An open work permit that a full-time international student, who has earned a Canadian degree that took 8 months or longer to complete, can apply for after successfully completing all requirements of their degree. Graduates can work for any employer, anywhere in Canada for up to 3 years.

Online Application Process

Application cost: \$255

Apply online using your [IRCC SECURE account](#).

- a. Under “**Start an application**” click “**Apply to come to Canada**”
- b. Go to “**I do not have a Personal Reference Code**”
- c. Click “**Determine your eligibility and apply online for a visitor visa, study and/or work permit**”



When answering the questionnaire, answer as the following:

- a. “What would you like to do in Canada?” **Work**
- b. “How long are you planning to stay in Canada?” **Temporarily – more than 6 months**
- c. “What is your current country/territory of residence? If you are presently in Canada, you should select Canada”
Canada
- d. “What is your current immigration status in Canada?” **Student**
- e. “Do you plan to work on campus?” **No**
- f. “Do you have a written job offer?” **No**
- g. “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**



If you’d like to add a family member to your application, you can include them by answering “yes” to “Do you want to submit an application for a family member?”



After answering the first set of questions, you will be given an **electronic checklist**. Fill out the application form and click the blue “validate” button to check for errors, then upload it along with all other required documentation. Once approved, IRCC will mail your Post-Graduation Work Permit to your Canadian address.

What Documents do I Need?

This may change. Please always follow instructions given directly from IRCC.

- Valid Study Permit and Passport
- ‘[Confirmation of Credential Letter](#)’ that you have completed the requirements of your program of study
- Final [Transcripts](#)
 - **Undergraduates:** Obtain this letter from your Academic Advisor or online through your Student Centre once you have [received all of your final grades](#).
 - **Graduates:** Obtain this letter from the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) or online through your Student Centre, after either [thesis submission](#) or [after receiving all final grades](#).
 - **Note:** You can apply with unofficial transcript with final grades. However, it is recommended to apply with Official Transcript.
- Photograph of yourself meeting photo specifications
- Application form:
 - In-Canada: **Application to Change Conditions, Extend my Stay or Remain in Canada as a worker [IMM 5710]**
 - Outside of Canada: **Application for Work Permit made outside Canada [IMM 1295]**
 - If intending to work in a medically designated occupation (nursing, childcare, social work), a valid immigration medical exam should be provided at the time of application
 - **Note:** PGWP cannot be issued beyond validity of passport and [biometrics](#).

When Can I Apply?

- You have 6 months (180 days) to apply after your final grades and/or thesis have been submitted. However, **if you are in Canada and would like to work you must submit your application within 90 days of completing your program or before your study permit expires, whichever is first.**
- You do not have to wait for convocation. Degree completion letters will be sufficient proof of your completion.
- You may only apply for this work permit once in your lifetime. If you complete another Canadian degree later on, you will not be eligible for another post-graduation work permit after you complete that degree.
- If remaining in Canada, you must maintain valid temporary residence status. As a result, you may have 90 days or less to apply for your post graduation open work permit.

