

Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

Post-graduation Employment for International Students in Canada

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Agenda

- Eligibility criteria for PGWP
- Length of PGWP
- Documents needed for PGWP application
- Work authorization after completion of program

Questions?

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Post-graduation Work Permit-PGWP

“One time” gift for international students to gain Canadian work experience

An **OPEN** work permit

- You do not need a job offer to apply.
- You can work for any employer.
- You can work anywhere in Canada.
- You can work at any jobs.
- The job does not need to be related to your degree.

You are eligible for a PGWP if you meet ALL of the following criteria...

A valid study permit at some point during the 180 days

- You have 180 days to apply for PGWP after school issues your final marks

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 session, which can be part-time
- or leave of absence (case by case)

Received final transcripts AND a PGWP letter

- from Registrar's Office

*Don't let your status expire--Your study permit expires on the date marked on the permit or 90 days after the day you complete your studies, **whichever comes first.**

- Apply for a visitor record to stay in Canada longer
- Leave Canada and apply for a PGWP from outside of Canada

You are not eligible for a PGWP if you...

Already received a PGWP

- Except you didn't receive a full length of PGWP due to your passport expiry date

Studied English or French as a second language

- Or took general interest or self-improvement courses

Participated in or are a recipient of the following awards/scholarships:

- Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Government of Canada Awards Program funded by GAC
- Equal Opportunity Scholarship, Canada–Chile
- Canada–China Scholars' Exchange Program
- Organization of American States Fellowships Program

Completed the majority of a study program by distance learning

- Online courses, e-learning or correspondence

Completed a study program at a non-Canadian institution located in Canada

- Regardless of the length of stay in Canada

Continuous, full-time studies in Canada?

- Taking a **LEAVE OF ABSENCE** for medical or personal reasons could make you **ineligible for a PGWP**, even if Western University approves your leave of absence.
- Reducing your course load, making you a **PART-TIME** student, will make you **ineligible for a PGWP**

*****Part-time status during the FINAL academic session only, is permitted*****

Programs with an overseas component?

- You are eligible for the PGWP.

However,

- The length of the PGWP is based on the length of study time in Canada.

Length of the PGWP

Students may be eligible for a Work Permit that is valid for up to 3 years
(depending on the length of their program of study).

Official length of program	PGWP validity
< 8 months	NOT ELIGIBLE
> 8 months & < 2 years	Up to the same length as your program
2 years or more	3 years
a 16-23 month, full-time graduate program with no breaks	*A PGWP may be issued for 3 years
Two PGWP-eligible programs completed within 2 years	PGWP may combine the length of each program

Length of Program	Length of studies	Work permit duration
3-year Bachelor degree	3 years (full-time)	3-years
4-year Bachelor degree	4 years (full-time) + 0.5 years (part-time)	3-years
6-term Masters degree *	6 terms = 2 years	3-years
6-term Masters degree *	3 terms = 1 year	3-years
4-term (16 months) Masters degree *	4 terms = 1 year, 4 months	3-years
3-term Masters degree *	3 terms = 1 year	1-year
4-year PhD *	4+ years (full-time)	3-years

* Graduate studies - No breaks

Length of Program	Work permit duration
4-year BA (2018) + 3-term MA (2019)	3-years
4-year BA (2016) + 3-term MA (2019) * When combining two PGWP-eligible programs of at least 8 months long, the second program must be completed within two years of completing the first program	1-year
1-year college graduate certificate (2018) + 3-term MA (2019)	3-years
4-year BSc + 6 month professional diploma MUST apply for PGWP within 180 days of completing BSc (The 6 month diploma program doesn't qualify for PGWP)	3-years
8-month program pre-requisite program at WELC (ESL) + 3-term MA	1-year

Documents needed for PGWP application from inside Canada

- PGWP letter and final transcripts from Registrar's Office
- Application form IMM 5710
- Photocopy of passport (biographical page and any pages with stamps or visas)
- Digital Photograph
- Application fees: \$255 + \$85 (Biometrics fees, if applicable)

How to request a PGWP letter

Complete final exams or defend thesis




Apply for Graduation on Student Center



Your faculty/department assess your grades to confirm you meet requirements for graduation (adjudication)



*System will be updated at the end of adjudication, (when Office of the Registrar is able to produce your PGWP letter)

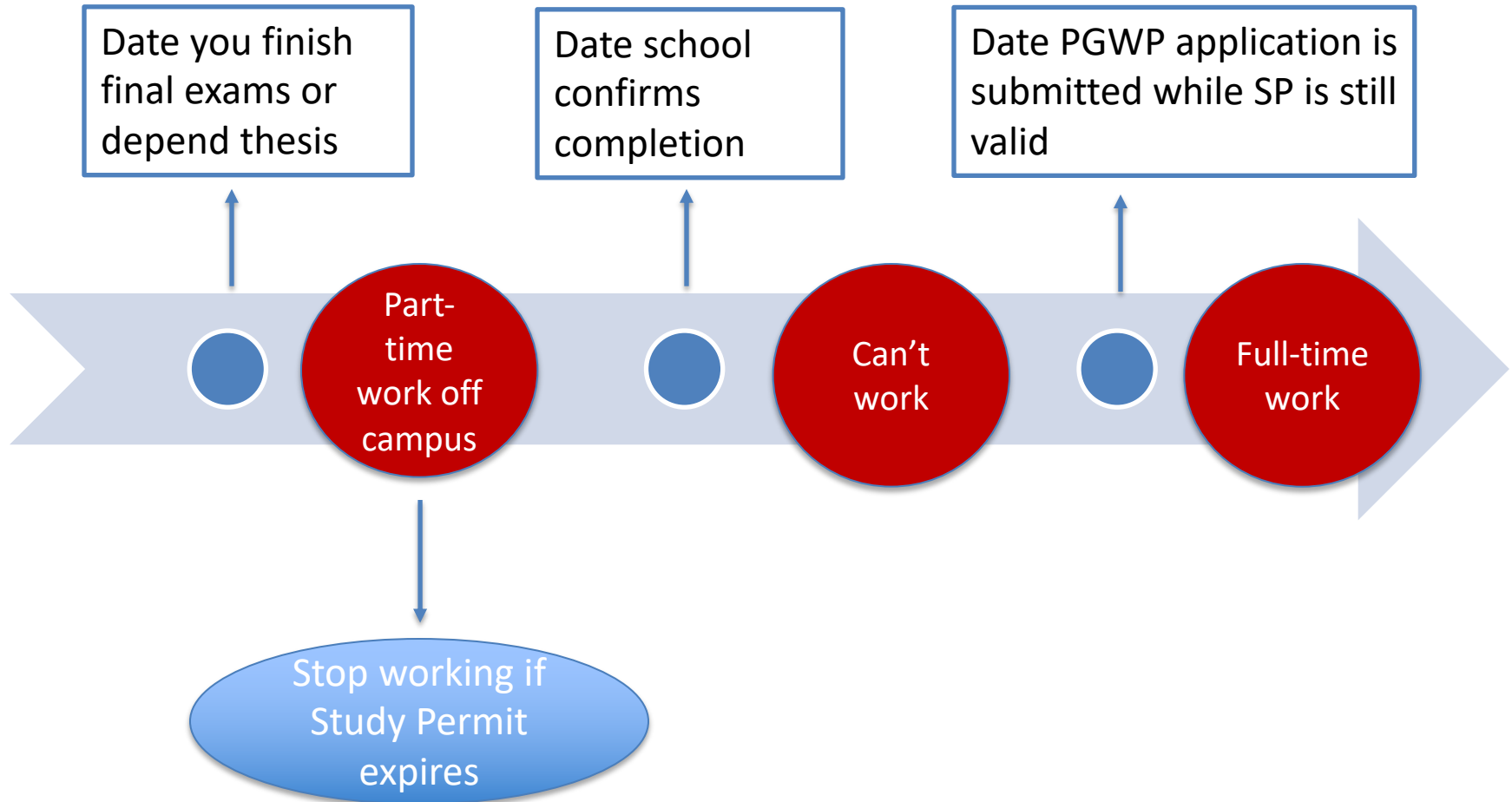


Request PGWP letter on Student Center (can be delivered by pick-up, mail, courier or fax)

How do you know a PGWP letter is available?



Work Authorization After Completion of Studies



Work full-time after you submit PGWP application

- Had a valid study permit when you submitted your PGWP application
- Completed your study program
- Were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
- Didn't work more hours than you were allowed to

*****You must stop working the day you are notified by IRCC that your application is refused.*****

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).

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html>

*****You can continue using your SIN while waiting for PGWP application decision even if it expires when your study permit expires.*****

IESC's Immigration Services



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519-661-2111 ext. 89309



Drop-ins or appointments



Workshops

International Student Advising Winter 2021 (virtual)

- *Book appointments with an International Student Advisor at:* iesc.uwo.ca/remote/appointment.html
- Immigration Services iesc.uwo.ca/visas
- Presentations on Study Permits, Post Graduation Work Permit, and more can be found at iesc.uwo.ca/remote/resources.html
- Immigration workshops events.westernu.ca/
- Covid-19 FAQ iesc.uwo.ca/COVID-19-FAQs.html
- Financial Assistance iesc.uwo.ca/finaid
- Spouse and Family Support iesc.uwo.ca/student_life/your_family
- iWellness Website iwellness.uwo.ca
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