

Information about Post-Graduate Work Permits (PGWP)

Applying from Outside Canada

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) regulates the PGWP program. To learn more, send your inquiry to the IRCC Web Form at this [website](#) (if you are outside of Canada) or visit www.canada.ca.

You may be eligible to apply for an open work permit under the Post-Graduation Work Permit Program (PGWPP). Eligibility includes successfully completing a *Certificate, Diploma, Degree or Graduate Certificate* program at a Post-Secondary Institution. Information below can be found at this [website](#).

Eligibility for PGWP outside of Canada (during Covid-19)

To be eligible, you must:

- meet all the other [PGWP requirements](#) and;
- have been enrolled in a program that was **in progress in March 2020**, or
- have started or will start a program **between spring 2020 and fall 2021**, and
 - you have a study permit, or
 - you've been approved for a study permit, or
 - you applied for a study permit before starting your study program
 - your study permit must eventually be approved

If you started your online studies outside Canada before you applied for a study permit, you may still be eligible for a PGWP. Only the time you spent studying online after your application was received will count toward the length of your PGWP.

How much of your studies count toward a PGWP?

You can complete 100% of your studies remotely from outside Canada.

All your time studying online outside Canada between **spring 2020** and **December 31, 2021** counts toward the length of a PGWP. This applies even if you're completing 2 study programs.

If you're completing 2 study programs, you can finish 100% of your studies online if the programs were ongoing or started between March 2020 and fall 2021, and

- both study programs are from an [eligible DLI](#) and are completed within 2 years
- each program meets all [PGWP eligibility requirements](#) and is at least 8 months long

Time spent studying outside Canada after December 31, 2021 (*based on the current policy as of June 28, 2021) and time spent studying before you applied for a study permit will not count towards the length of a PGWP.

Applying outside Canada

You can apply from outside Canada for a PGWP. IRCC recommends that you submit the PGWP application on-line. Start the process at this [website](#). You will be able to choose the country from which you are applying from.

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You will require an [IRCC secure account](#). Once logged in, you will start a questionnaire. Once you have completed the questionnaire, you will be directed to your application portal where you will learn what document you will require for the PGWP application.

On the application form (IMM 1295), in the section “**Details of intended work in Canada**”: Question 1: Choose “Open Work Permit”, Question 2a (Name of Employer): Write “Post Graduate Work Permit”).

Note: To be eligible, your study permit must have been valid at some point during the 180 days after graduation.

Documents required from Algonquin College to support the PGWP

1. **Letter of completion/graduation** confirming completion of the program of study found on your ACSIS account once your graduated status is confirmed. See the “**view application status**” in your ACSIS account to learn if you have graduated.

If you have completed **more than one program** (ex: two one-year programs), you can combine your two letters of completion/graduation into one PDF document. The IEC recommends that you include a letter of explanation along with the two letters of completion to alert the officer that there are two letters of completion. This will avoid the officer assuming there is only one letter and provide the PGWP based on only one of the two programs.

If you are graduating from a Diploma program offered in a compressed format, you will need a customized letter to support a three-year PGWP. Request the letter at this [website](#).

2. **Transcript** – You can use an **unofficial final transcript** downloadable from ACSIS once the graduated status is confirmed.

If you took a leave from your studies

Be prepared to explain any leave from your studies, if you are asked. IRCC officers must determine if applicants were compliant with the conditions of their study permit. See more about the conditions of study permit holders [website](#).

Important

- ✓ You can only apply for a PGWP once in your lifetime.
- ✓ You must apply within 180 days of receiving your **graduated** status. The 180 days start from when your final grades are posted. Do not wait until convocation to apply for your PGWP, as convocation may occur more than 180 days after you have completed your program requirements. Learn more about the graduated status at this [website](#).
- ✓ You may need a [medical exam](#) if you will be working with children or in a health services setting. More information can be found [website](#).
- ✓ See how your spouse can apply for an open work permit once you have your PGWP [website](#).
- ✓ IRCC [Processing Times](#).
- ✓ Send an email to iecsupport@algonquincollege.com if you require further guidance.

Visit the International Education Centre [Event Calendar](#) and register for our PGWP Workshops.

It is your responsibility to know the rules and regulations that apply to you as an international student!