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# **STUDYING IN CANADA**

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*In this chapter you will find general information on studying options in Canada. You will also find information on your right to work if you are on a Student Visa. For more information on the different study options please see Chapter 8 - Education.*

## Studying in Canada - What do I need to know?

If you are thinking of studying in Canada you should know not everyone needs a study permit to study in Canada. If you plan to study for less than 6 months you do not need the student visa.

If you plan to study for a longer than 6 months you will need to make an application for a study permit and include the following documents/information:

- Proof that you have sufficient funds
- Proof that you have been accepted to a Canadian school
- If you are applying to study in Québec you will also need a ***Certificat d'acceptation du Québec*** (Québec Certificate of Acceptance, or CAQ)
- Proof of your identity for example passport, birth certificate
- Results of a medical examination (certain countries only)
- Police records (you will only have to provide this if asked)
- Completed application for a study permit for Canada.

## Can I work in Canada if I have a Student Visa?

You may work on campus at the institution where you study without a work permit if you are engaged in full-time studies at a Canadian university, community college, Collège d'Enseignement Général et Professionnel (CEGEP), a publicly funded trade or technical school or a private institution authorised by provincial statute to confer degrees and you have a valid study permit.

### Working off-campus

Off-campus work (meaning work not within the school or university) is only available to full-time students studying in the following provinces:

- Manitoba
- New Brunswick
- Québec (The census metropolitan areas of Montréal and Québec are currently excluded).

If you are in one of these provinces you must apply for a work permit, and you may not work off-campus until you have received your work permit.

The work permit allows you to work up to 20 hours a week during regular academic sessions (15 hours a week in Québec) and up to 40 hours a week during regular breaks (e.g., winter or summer holidays and spring break). To be eligible for an off-campus work permit you must:

- Have a valid study permit
- Be studying in a province or territory that has an agreement with CIC
- Be a full-time student at a participating school that has an agreement with one of those provinces or territories
- Have been a full-time student for at least 1 year (2 consecutive terms) at one of those institutions
- Be in good standing at your institution
- Sign consent form that allows CIC, the institution and the province to share your personal information
- Complete a work permit application provided by your institution
- Include with your work permit application an official receipt to show you have paid the application-processing fee.