

# **Immigration 101**



Fall 2021

August 6, 2021

# Who are we?



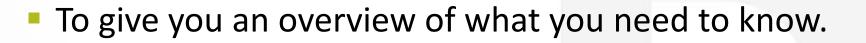
## International Student Advising Specialist

#### (Regulated Canada Immigration Consultant)

- Accredited to advise on issues/questions around Temporary residence in Canada (i.e work eligibility, study permit extension, spousal work permit, Post-graduation work permit...)
- But, we are not able to advice on your Permanent Residency (PR) options



# Why are we doing this workshop?



- As an international student in Canada, it is YOUR responsibility to follow your study permit conditions and maintain your student status.
- It may be complicated, and we are here to help!

There are resources available for you!

# Agenda



- How to be in good standing with immigration and your academics
- Study Permit vs. TRV & eTA
- Working while studying
- Breaks

and...Lots of "what-if" scenarios
Q&A

Please wait until the Q&A section to ask your questions. ③

#### TRV & eTA – "ticket" to Canada



Depending on the passport you hold, you have a **Temporary Resident Visa** (TRV) or **Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)**.

This is a permission to seek entry to Canada. As long as you have a valid Study Permit and you are not crossing the border, **TRV/eTA can be expired**.

#### Temporary Resident Visa (TRV)



#### Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

#### Summary of documents issued

Validity
2021/07/31
2023/12/10

Canada

IMM 5660 (10-2017) E GCMS

# TRV & eTA



	Temporary Resident Visa (TRV)	Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)	
Alias	Entry Visa	N/A	
When is issued?	Issued with the initial study permit approval	Issued with the initial study permit approval	
Where to find?	In your passport, the sticker	Invisible - Linked electronically to the passport used for study permit application	
When is the expiry?	The same expiry date as your initial study permit (you can find the date on the sticker)		
When to extend?	Apply for an extension after your study permit is extended	Automatically extended when your study permit is extended	

# What is this document?

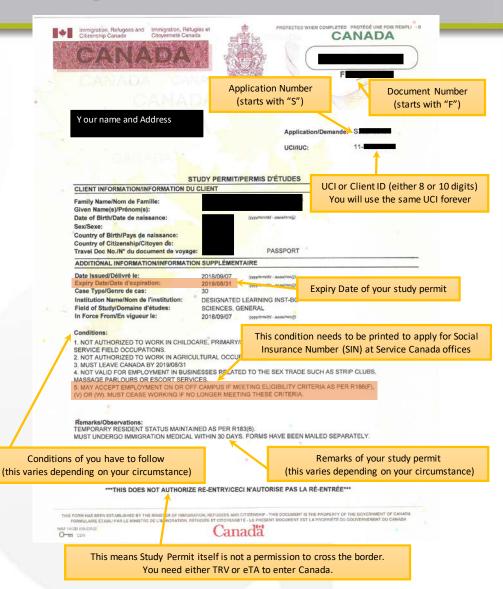


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#### This is a Study Permit.

<u>Study permit</u> is a document issued by IRCC (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada) that allows <u>foreign nationals (YOU)</u> to stay and study at <u>designated learning</u> <u>institutions</u> (i.e. Douglas College) in Canada.

# **Study Permit – What to look for?**



Your Study Permit indicates the conditions you need to follow.

It is YOUR responsibility to ensure that your study permit is valid at all times!

 May work 20 hrs per week offcampus or full-time during regular breaks if meeting criteria outlined in section <u>186(v)</u> of IRPR.

or

 May accept employment on or off campus if meeting eligibility criteria as per <u>R186(f), (v) or (w)</u>. Must cease working if no longer meeting these criteria.

## **Study Permit Expiry and Extension**



Mark your calendars!

# Make sure you extend your study permit **BEFORE**

#### your document becomes invalid!

## How long before expiry? Extend your study permit <u>90</u> days in advance!

# What if...?



# My study permit expires before I finish my program?→ Apply for SP extension

#### When?

Start the process 90 days before the expiry

## **Maintained Status**



#### Pro tip:

If you submit your extension application **before** 

your current study permit expires + you stay in Canada,

you have maintained status and can continue study/work

under the conditions of your previous permit.





If you do not apply for extension of your study permit for

any reasons and wait until after your document expires,

you will be "out of status" and need to "restore it" or gain it back.

There is no guarantee that your status will be restored!

# What if...?



My study permit has expired, but I only have my final exams left, so I won't extend my study permit. Is this okay?

→ Oh no...You will be OUT OF STATUS....



- If you do not submit your extension application before the expiry date, you are OUT OF STATUS, meaning you are overstaying. You cannot study/work while you are out of status.
- If you are out of status, please contact the International office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

## **Required Documents**



I am ready to extend my study permit. What do I need from Douglas College International Office?

- A confirmation of enrollment letter (COE) or Letter of Acceptance (LOA) if pursuing a 2<sup>nd</sup> program
- → Official Transcripts

 $\rightarrow$  And a lot more information and personal documents.

- You can request your letter as early as 90 days before your study permit expires
- We have a study permit extension how-to guide available for you

# **Working While Studying**



#### Your main job/occupation is to be a STUDENT in Canada!

#### Even if you have the privilege of working.

# Beware of Conditions of your Study Permit !

May not appear on your study permit document!

 If you don't meet these conditions, you may lose your student status and study permit. You may also have to leave Canada.

You must:

- be enrolled at a designated learning institution (DLI)
- show you're <u>actively pursuing</u> your studies by:
  - being enrolled full-time or part-time during each academic semester (excluding regularly scheduled breaks)
  - making progress towards completing your program's courses, and
  - not taking <u>authorized leaves longer than 150 days</u> from your study program
- end your studies if you no longer meet the requirements of being a student, and
- leave Canada when your permit expires

If you are unsure of the conditions, please visit this link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/prepare-arrival/study-permit-conditions.html

## Can I work while I study?



It is good to know the rules and regulations; your focus and priority should be on your studies first!

- Full-time international students may work while they study if they meet several conditions.
- Full-time enrollment means registering and completing a minimum of (9) credits per academic semester.
- This might be different at other institutions.

## What is "full-time" at Douglas College?

- If you withdraw from course(s) and go down to less than 9 credits, you become a part-time student from that point.
- If you receive a W, UN, UNW, FD, or AUD, these grades will reduce the number of your credits and course will NOT count towards the full-time course load.

Review the Grading Policy & GRADING FAQ.

Some programs have different/additional requirements.

Too much info?  $\rightarrow$  Read through <u>our website</u> later!

https://www.douglascollege.ca/international-students/current-international-students/enrollment-status



1. Working off-campus eligibility

#### 2. Post-graduation work permit (PGWP) eligibility

# **Working off-campus**



You may work off campus if you meet **ALL** of these:

- have a valid study permit
- in a program that leads to a degree, diploma or certificate, and the program length is at least 6 months
- enrolled in an academic program (ELLA students cannot work off campus) \* ELLA = English Language Learning and Acquisition
- started studying in Canada
- a full-time student
- have a study permit with a condition that allows you to work on or off campus
- have a Social Insurance Number (SIN)

**Source**: <u>https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/work-off-campus.html</u>

→ Not sure if you qualify? Use the Work off-campus tool

# What documents do I need to work in Canada

#### **Social Insurance Number (SIN)**

- SIN is not your authorization to work in Canada.
- Apply online on <u>Service Canada</u> <u>website</u> and upload your study permit copy.
- SIN expire as your SP expires. If you receive a new SP, you need to extend their SIN.

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For more information www.servicecanada.gc.	i, visit our Web site:	

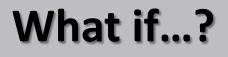
# What if...?



- I am an ELLA student. Can I work off-campus? → Nope!
- You must wait until
- 1) you have successfully completed all required ELLA classes,
- 2) changed into an academic program,
- 3) actually started your academic studies.

<u>Pro Tip</u>: you must make sure your study permit has a condition or remark stating you can work on or off campus.

No remarks or conditions?  $\rightarrow$  apply to change the conditions of your study permit





#### I am a student in the Associate of Science program. Am I allowed to work off campus?

### → Maybe!!

## Huh? Really? I thought I can work??



# What if...?



I am enrolled in 12 credits in the CSIS Diploma program in the Fall 2021. How many hours a week can I work in the Fall semester?

- → If you meet ALL the requirements, you may work off campus up to max. 20 hours/week\*.
- Not 20.5 hours, Not 21 hours \*maximum 20 hours/week
- NO averaging the hours (i.e. 18 hours last week and 22 hours this week)

 $\rightarrow$  Please refer to <u>our website</u> for more information.

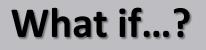
# What if...?



I am planning to take the Fall 2021 off, so I can work full-time/go back home to visit my parents. It's ok, right? My study permit is valid → mmm....Not a good idea...

#### Why?

- International students should be enrolled full-time (9+ credits) in the Fall and Winter semesters.
- Scheduled breaks depend on your program. Check <u>our website</u> for more information.
- Taking an unauthorized leave will impact your eligibility for a Post-Graduation Work Permit.
- Do you need take a semester off for personal reasons?  $\rightarrow$  Contact us!





You did not take the Summer semester off, so you can take the Fall semester off instead???



Fall and Winter are academic semesters and students are required to be enrolled!



 Familiarize yourself with <u>"Working as</u> <u>International Student"</u> page on Douglas College website

#### Take online survey to find out:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=OIj0OIPNB0Wef\_xtrDVeM6atm ONROk1BrBvJM\_I3uWhUMDBMOFoyN003TkINT0RDSUJPNVRQQ0U0Ni4u

## Can I work after I graduate?



- You may be eligible to apply for post-graduation work permit (PGWP) if you meet all requirements.
- One of the main eligibility criteria for PGWP is to be enrolled as a full-time student in every academic semester throughout your studies.
- Another important criteria is not to take any breaks other than "Regularly Scheduled Breaks".
- See here for list of <u>PGWP eligibility criteria</u>

## What is a "Regularly Scheduled Breaks"?



- Reading Breaks, Summer semesters and the time between semesters from the day AFTER the exam period until the first day of class of the next semester.
- Students are required to enroll in the semesters before and after the scheduled break.
- For example, if you are taking Summer semester off as your scheduled break, you are required to enroll in the Winter and Fall semesters of the year.
- Do not take any breaks other than during your <u>"Regularly</u> <u>Scheduled Breaks"</u>.

#### **Important to Remember**



#### Immigration + Enrolment Status + Academic Standing



## **Avoid Scenarios of Disaster**



- Dropping courses before contacting advisors
- Unfamiliar with available information and resources
- Creating your own breaks
- Taking breaks during academic semesters

## **Compliance Reporting to IRCC**



We are required to report the <u>enrollment status</u> of each students to the government.

- Compliance Reporting twice a year: in Winter and Fall.
- If your study permit is approved as Douglas student, you will be on our list.

			List of	Students		
Select	Student ID 11	Family name 11	Given name(s)	DOB 11	UCI 11	Status ↓1
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- We ask for your study permit copy, so we have accurate information about the details on your study permit.
- Email a copy of your study permit to: dci@douglascollege.ca

Orientation Workshops + Blackboard Course

- Have a Strong Start!
- Attend as many sessions as you can!
- Enroll in Blackboard and complete modules!





# **Upcoming Webinars & Workshops**

#### Today's presentation was just an overview. More to come!

**Study Permit Extensions** 

**Enrolment Status** 

**Immigration Rules for International Students** 

**Understanding Work Eligibility** 

**Post-Graduation Workshop** 

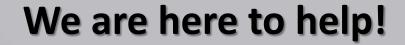


For schedules and to register, visit <u>"International student workshops"</u> page on Douglas College website!

# **Immigration is complicated!**



- You are all special and unique!
  - Everyone's case is different, even if you think your situation is the same as your friend!
- It is your responsibility to look for information.
- Stay informed , be empowered!

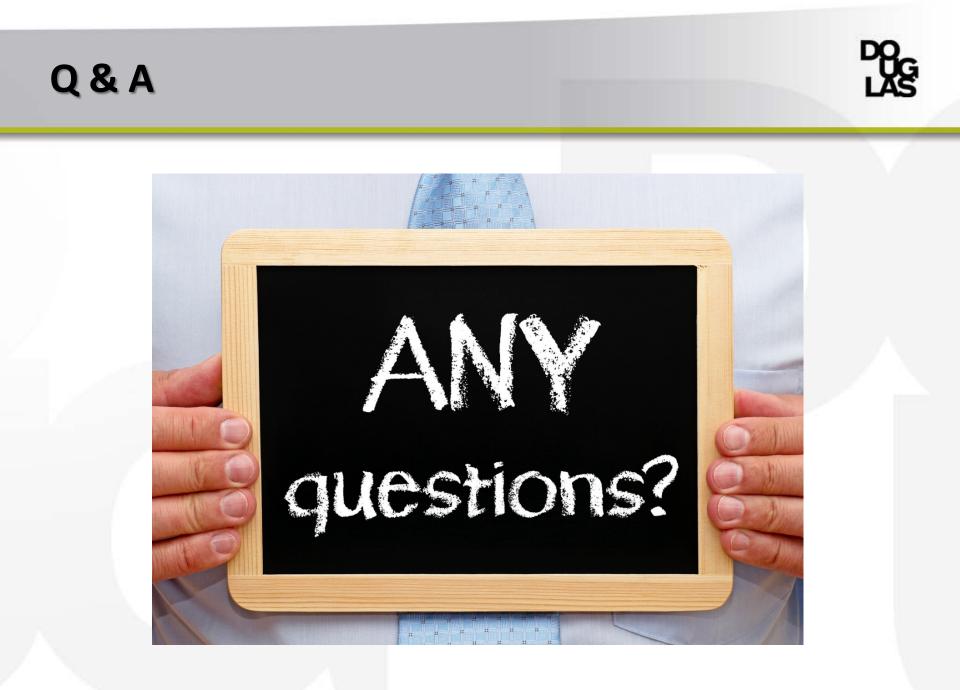




You can reach us via this link: <u>http://douglascollege.ca/contactdci</u>

To assist you better, we require your full name <u>AND</u> student ID in <u>ALL</u> your contacts!

Online Advising Drop-in sessions via Zoom Visit <u>Advising Services</u> page for schedules & links





## douglascollege.ca