

# Western International

## Graduating International Students – What you need to know

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# AGENDA

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- Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)
  - Eligibility criteria for PGWP
  - Length of PGWP
  - Documents needed from Western for PGWP application
  - PGWP application process
- Work authorization during this time
- Travel during this time
- Career Services at Western
- Q & A

# POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT (PGWP)

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA—APPLYING FOR A PGWP FROM INSIDE CANADA

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You have up to 180 days to apply for a PGWP after completion of program

- You need to have a valid study permit when submitting your PGWP application

Completed a study program

- at an eligible DLI
- at least 8 months long for public post-secondary DLIs
- leading to a degree, diploma or certificate

Maintained full-time student status throughout your program, except:

- Studying part-time only in your final academic session
- Taking approved leave of absence
- Special measures between March 1, 2020 and August 31, 2022\*

Received final transcripts AND a PGWP letter

- from Registrar's Office

### NOTE:

**Don't let your status expire!**

Your study permit expires as of the expiry date on the permit **or** 90 days after the day you complete your studies, **whichever comes first.**

**You must submit your PGWP application from outside Canada if your study permit expires, even if you have maintained your status as a visitor.**

# POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT (PGWP)

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA—SPECIAL MEASURES

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“**Full-time student status in Canada**” is waived for who meet the following conditions:

- were enrolled or started a PGWP-eligible program between **March 1, 2020 and August 31, 2022**
- Was in one of the following situations:
  - had a study permit or
  - Was approved for a study permit or
  - applied for a study permit before starting their study program and **study permit must eventually be approved.**
- Applied for PGWP within 180 days after completion of a PGWP-eligible program.
- **You must meet all the other eligibility criteria for PGWP.**
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/temporary-residents/study-permits/post-graduation-work-permit-program.html#s6>

# PGWP: CAN I STUDY ONLINE IF MY IN-PERSON PROGRAM ALLOWS ME TO?

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Temporary policy for students studying online **ends on August 31, 2024.**

- **Study online from outside Canada:**
  - **March 2020—August 31, 2022:** All of the time counts
  - **September 1, 2022—August 31, 2024:** If you started your program or submitted SP application during this time, you may count the time studying from outside Canada **before August 31, 2024**, as long as you complete at least 50% of your program from inside Canada (online or in person).
  - **On or after September 1, 2024:** If you started your program or submitted SP application **on or after September 1, 2024**, you must complete at least 50% of your program in person from inside Canada and the time spent studying outside Canada will be deducted from the length of your PGWP.
- **Study online (due to the pandemic) from inside Canada:**
  - **Before August 31, 2024:** all of the time counts but it's recommended to attend in-person classes.

**NOTE: Time spent studying before you applied for a SP doesn't count toward the length of your PGWP.**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/after-graduation/eligibility.html#outside-dl>

# LENGTH OF PGWP

Official length of program	PGWP validity
< 8 months	NOT ELIGIBLE
> 8 months & < 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to the same length as your program</li> <li>3 years for <b>Master's degree programs</b> (applications received on or after <b>February 15, 2024</b>)</li> </ul>
2 years or more	3 years
A 16-23 month, Master's or doctoral degree program with no scheduled 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

You **may** be eligible for a Work Permit that is valid for up to 3 years *depending on the length of your program of study*.

## NOTE:

- You can't get a PGWP if you already had one after completing an earlier program of study.
- Make sure your passport is valid to cover the length of PGWP that you are eligible for.

# PGWP: DOCUMENTATION FROM WESTERN

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- **A PGWP Letter:**

- Order a PGWP letter via Student Center (can be delivered by pick-up, eLetter, mail, courier or fax)
- PGWP letter is only available upon completion of program (after adjudication)

- **Final transcript:**

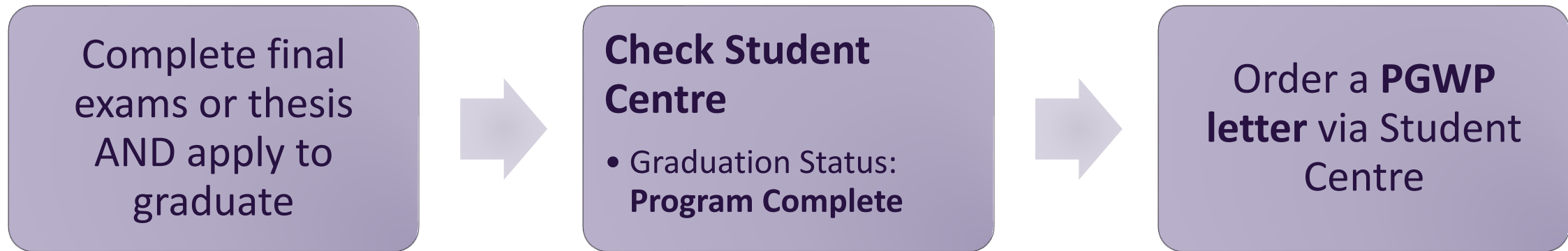
- an official transcript, or
- an unofficial transcript from Student Centre under Web Academic Report

**NOTE: PGWP application is based on completion of program. You do not have to wait for your degree or the Convocation.**

[https://iesc.uwo.ca/visas/documents\\_from\\_western.html](https://iesc.uwo.ca/visas/documents_from_western.html)

# HOW / WHEN TO REQUEST A PGWP LETTER

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## NOTE:

- For project and course-based students, program complete happens **after** the last day of your final term, e.g. January 1 for Fall, May 1 for Winter, September 1 for Summer completes.
- For thesis-based students, after your final thesis is verified and published, SGPS will then update your Student Centre indicating Completed.



# HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

Step 1:  
Sign in or Create an account  
on [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)

[Home](#)

## Immigration and citizenship

Apply to travel, study, work or immigrate to Canada, apply for citizenship, a permanent resident card or refugee protection, check the status of your application or find a form.

Follow:    



## Services and information

### [My application](#)

Sign in or create an account, check application status and processing times, find forms, pay fees, learn about medical and police checks, learn about representatives and protect yourself from fraud

### [Immigrate](#)

Find out what immigration programs you

### [Visit](#)

Find out if you need a visa to visit, do business or transit through Canada, and how to extend your stay as a visitor

### [Work](#)

Apply for or extend a work permit, learn

## Most requested

- [Sign in or create an account to apply online](#)
- [Check your application status](#)
- [Check application processing times](#)
- [Get answers to your questions](#)

# HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

## Step 2: Determine your eligibility

### Start an application

#### Apply to come to Canada

Includes applications for visitor visas, work and study permits, Express Entry and International Experience Canada. You will need your personal reference code if you have one.

### Determine your eligibility and apply online:

Visitor visa, study and/or work permit

Express Entry (EE)

International Experience Canada (IEC)

### Find out if you're eligible to apply

What would you like to do in Canada? *(required)* ?

Please make a selection

How long are you planning to stay in Canada? *(required)*

Please make a selection

Select the code that matches the one on your passport. *(required)* ?

Please make a selection

What is your current country/territory of residence? If you are presently in Canada, you should select Canada. *(required)* ?

Please make a selection

Do you have a family member who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and is 18 years or older? *(required)*

Please make a selection

What is your date of birth? *(required)* ?

Select year Select month Select day

Save and Exit Questionnaire

Next

# HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

## Step 3: Select Post-Graduate Work Permit – in Canada to continue

### Your results

Based on the information you provided, the result(s) below indicate(s) whether you may be eligible to come to Canada.

#### Temporary Resident Visa

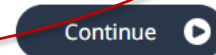
You will need a temporary resident visa to return to Canada.

If you are working or studying in Canada, your temporary resident visa may expire at the same time as your work or study permit. If your work or study permit is expiring soon, please renew your study or work permit first. Once your study or work permit is approved, you may apply for your temporary resident visa.



#### Post-Graduate Work Permit - in Canada

You may be eligible to work in Canada with a post-graduation work permit.



# HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

## Step 4:

Upload required documents  
and submit application  
(document checklist is personalized  
based on answers)

### Application Form(s)

Application to Change Conditions, Extend my Stay or Remain in Canada as a Worker (IMM5710)

### Supporting Documents

Recent Education Transcript ?

Completion of Studies Letter ?

Passport ?

Digital photo ?

### Fees

#### Fees

Application	Quantity	Price (CAD) per unit	Total (CAD)
Work Permit	1	\$155	\$155
Open Work Permit Holder Fee	1	\$100	\$100

The fee shown is an estimate based on the fees in effect on the day that this Personal Reference Code is issued.  
The actual fees to be paid will be calculated on the date of submission.

**Total Price (CAD) \$255**

# WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAM (2 WAYS YOU CAN WORK FULL-TIME)

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- **If you are starting a new study program and you meet all these conditions:**
  - You have officially completed your study program
  - You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  - You have a valid study permit or you applied to extend your study permit before it expired
  - You received a LOA to a new full-time program at a DLI
  - You will start your new program within 150 days after you complete your previous program

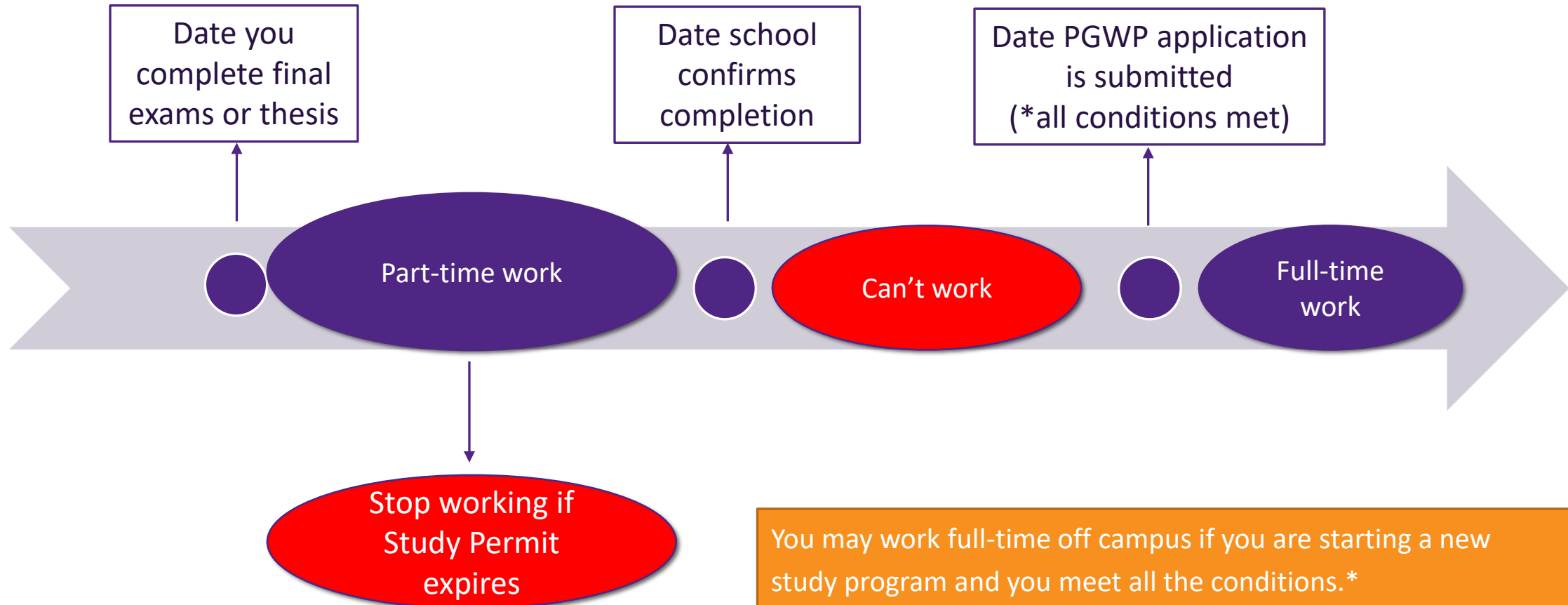
# WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAM (2 WAYS YOU CAN WORK FULL-TIME)

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- **If you have applied for a PGWP and you meet all these conditions:**
  - You had a valid study permit when you submitted your PGWP application
  - You have completed your study program
  - You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  - You didn't work more hours than you were allowed to

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

# WHEN CAN I WORK FULL-TIME AFTER I COMPLETE MY PROGRAM?



# TRAVEL DURING THIS TIME

Your study permit expires as of the expiry date on the permit or 90 days after the day you complete your studies, whichever comes first.

- **I have applied for my PGWP. Can I leave Canada and come back?**

Yes, you can, if your visa or eTA is still valid at the time of re-entry. When you return to Canada, you may be allowed to enter Canada as:

- A student if your study permit is still valid, or
- A worker if your PGWP has been approved, or
- A visitor if your study permit has expired and your PGWP is still under processing. You can work until you receive a decision on your application.

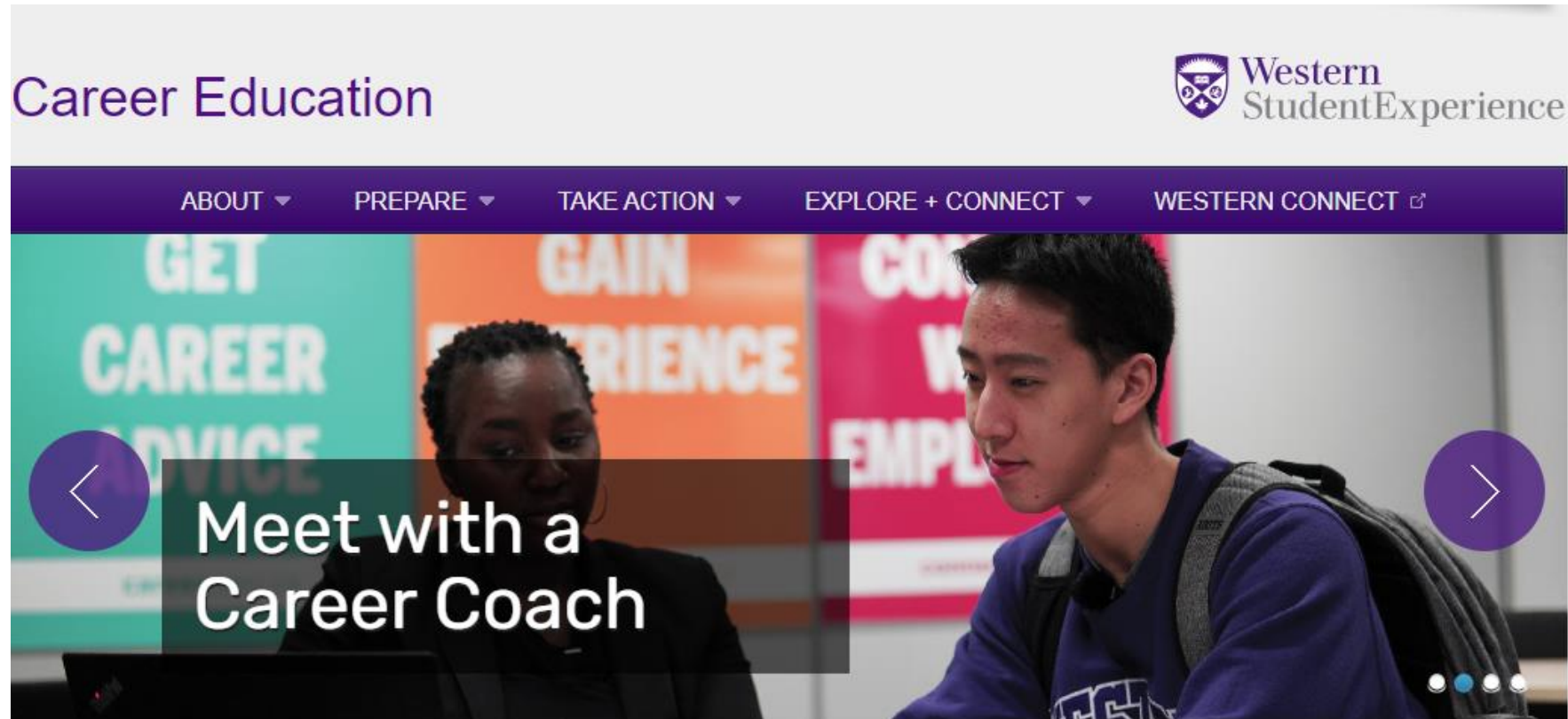
**NOTE:**

- A border officer will make the final decision on whether you can enter Canada.
- Be prepared for questions regarding the reasons you left Canada and purpose of entering Canada. Bring supporting documents with you, such as confirmation of PGWP application, PGWP letter from Western.



# CAREER SERVICES AT WESTERN

<http://career.uwo.ca/>





# ADVISING SERVICES WINTER 2024

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## Appointments

<https://iesc.uwo.ca/appointment/index.html>

- Virtual via Microsoft Teams or telephone appointment

## Drop Ins

- In person, IGAB 2nd floor
- Monday – Friday, 1pm – 4pm

## Immigration FAQ sessions

- Virtual on Zoom
- Select Fridays, 9:30am – 10:30am

## Immigration workshops

- Virtual on Zoom
- IESC events calendar: <http://www.events.westernu.ca/events/iesc/>

## Office Hours & Reception

- Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
- **Phone:** 519-661-2111 ext. 89309
- **Email:** [iesc@uwo.ca](mailto:iesc@uwo.ca)

# Q & A

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