

Responding to IRCC COVID-19 Measures

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March 27, 2020

How we support international students

- NSCC International is working with our partners and organizations in Nova Scotia and across Canada
- We are working with groups that are advocating for information and clarification from IRCC for international students
- We share information with students and our colleagues at NSCC as soon as we receive it
- We are working to help solve immigration issues you may have. Please keep in mind that everything has a process and takes time.

IRCC – COVID-19 Measures

What should foreign nationals who are in Canada with valid temporary status as a visitor, worker or student do if their status is about to expire?

Temporary residents who are currently in Canada are able to apply to extend their status online if they need to extend their status. A temporary resident who has applied to extend their status is allowed to remain in Canada until a decision is made on their new application, even if their initial status expires while they are waiting for that decision. This is called implied status.

They should not travel to a port of entry (POE) to apply directly to a border services officer. Travelling to a POE from inside Canada for the purpose of getting immigration services is not considered essential travel, and they will not receive these services.

IRCC – COVID-19 Measures

What about international students who are concerned about restrictions on distance learning to be able to apply for a post-graduation work permit?

Courses of study being delivered online on an exceptional basis due to COVID 19 will not affect Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) Program eligibility.

IRCC – COVID-19 Measures

What happens to people trying to apply for temporary or permanent status in Canada?

As announced, there are travel restrictions in place. However, no application in progress will be closed or refused due to a lack of documentation or inability to complete the application process in time, such as giving biometrics or completing an immigration medical exam, when travel reopens.

Should I renew my study/co-op work permit?

- Your study permit must be valid until the end of your program
- Your co-op work permit must be valid for the entire work placement

- Most programs will complete by August 7, 2020
 - **Still valid after this date** – no need to renew
 - **Will expire before this date** – renew (online application)

- You will have *implied status* if you submit your application while your permit is still valid – you can continue to study/work

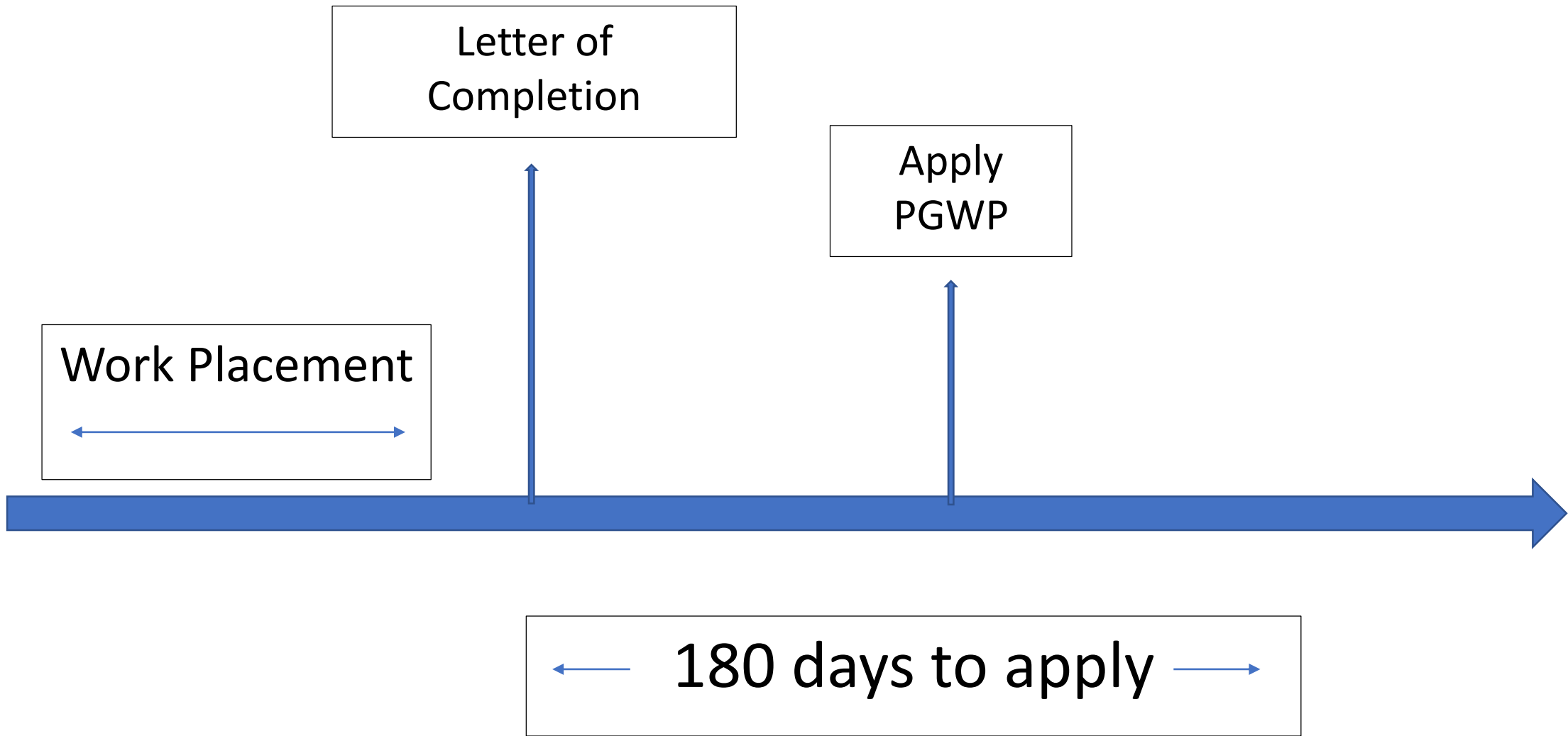
I have to extend my study permit – where can I request a letter?

- The College will be preparing updated letters for students.
- These should be available after April 6.

What about PGWP?

- NO change to the process:
 - Complete your program of study
 - Meet the eligibility criteria
 - Apply online – do not flagpole at this time

- You can obtain letters of support from Student Services



What about my spouse and children?

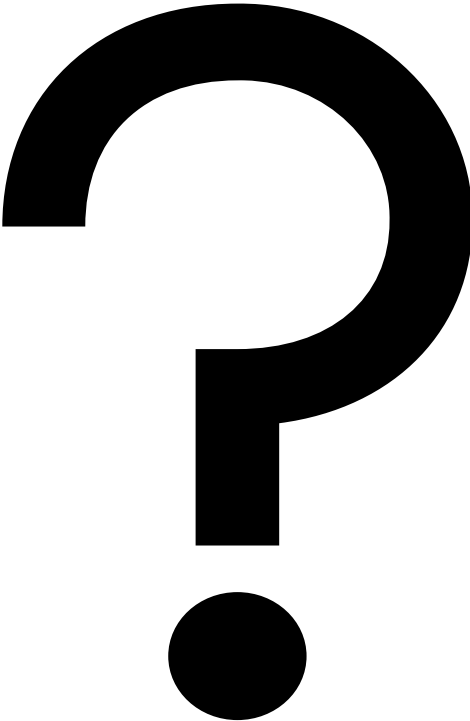
- NO change – spouse and minor children must maintain status
- Spousal work permits continue to be valid until the expiry date
- All permits can be renewed online
- Same criteria applies to Spousal Open Work Permit under PGWP
 - NOC level B, A or 0
 - 3 pay stubs

I am starting a new program at NSCC in September 2020. Will there be any changes because of COVID-19?

- We appreciate the uncertainty around the developing COVID-19 situation. At this stage, we have not made any changes to programs beginning in September and are continuing with our regular admissions process. Any changes made going forward will be communicated with you, so please keep an eye on your email. For the most up-to-date information, please visit nsc.ca/covid19

I am starting a new program in September 2020. Should I still apply for my study permit?

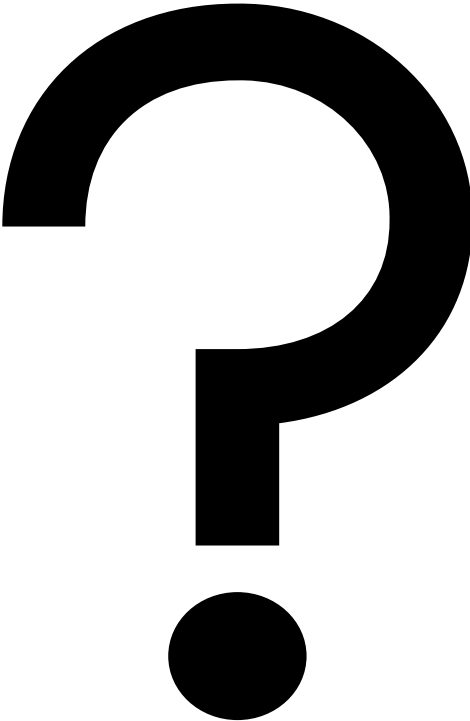
- Yes. IRCC is still processing applications. Processing times have been impacted (slowed down) by COVID-19 so it's a good idea to apply as soon as you have your Letter of Admission from NSCC.



Employment Insurance (EI)

- We are unsure if international students qualify for EI and the emergency response benefit.
- We have consulted with colleges and universities across Canada and there does not seem to be a definite answer. We will share information as soon as we have it.
- Our understanding is that a spouse of an international student *can* apply for EI if they meet the criteria.

- Is there any negative consequence for PR if we receive EI?



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