



Immigration and Employment related Issues during COVID-19

COVID-19- Emerging Immigration Issues , updated April 30, 2020

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COVID19 and immigration matters

Presentation

- Travel Ban
- Measures in Canada
- CBSA/ POE / Service Canada
- NWT
- Client Impact

Fact Sheet - Immigration: Outside Canada

- Restriction & Exemption - TRV
- LMIA based work permits
- Entry to Canada & Penalties
- Permanent residents

Fact Sheet - Immigration: Inside Canada

- Temporary Resident - Expired Status
- Temporary Resident - Status hasn't expired
- Permanent Resident applying for Citizenships



Travel Ban: Due to Coronavirus

- Canadian Citizens and Permanent residents allowed to enter Canada (U.S. allowed only for essential travel)
- Travellers on transit, air crews, diplomats and family members of Canadian citizens allowed to come. (Definition of Family member / COVID-19 Analysis, P5)
- Prohibition of entry to Canada - Dates
- Canadian Citizens and Permanent residents or expected from travel restrictions returning asked to isolate themselves for 14 days, if not there are Penentilities (Immigration outside, P 6)
- New applications for PR and TRV are being accepted (slower process, PR are receiving ITA- 90% within Canada)
- Foreign nationals with temporary resident will not be able to enter (except Essential services)
- Persons holding a permanent resident visa and confirmation of permanent residence who cannot travel within the validity of their document must inform via web form. If document expires they have to inform IRCC and the file will be reviewed in 90 days (More senario, immigration outside canada, p 6)



Measures in Canada

- CIC cancelled all in-person permanent resident landing appointments until further notice. All landing appointments will be done by telephone whenever possible. [IRCC LINK](#)
- Inland offices operating at lower capacity but receiving applications
- Meds will be extended (in some cases re-done) - [IRCC LINK](#) (Q 10)
- If missing documents given extra time to submit, IRCC will not refuse or cancel applications (90 days) including medical examinations and biometrics (service Canada not processing Biometrics)
- Citizenship tests, ceremonies and itinerant services cancelled till further notice
- All interviews with IRCC cancelled
- Persons wishing to make refugee must notify in writing at IRCC.RefugeeClaim-Demandedasile.IRCC@cic.gc.ca



Measures in Canada

- Foreign nationals who can not leave may apply for extension of status (Q8)
- If out of status may apply for re-instatement within 90 days (Factsheet- Inside Canada, p3)
- If outside of the 90 days they may apply for TRP
- If unable to support self may apply for WP (For SP / VV) (Factsheet- Inside Canada, p3) (Q9)
- IRCC remains available for critical processing of the following streams and will use alternate means for program delivery to minimize client interaction for the following categories:
 - TRP issuance for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (VTIPs) (paper-only applications),
 - Open work permit issuance for vulnerable workers (online applications only),
 - Issuance of H&C Temporary Resident Permits (TRPs) for victims of family violence,
 - Detained PRRA processing (Pre-removal risk assessment – Refugee claims)



CBSA / POE operations

- Removals have been postponed except in cases of serious criminality
- Directive: limit the number of people in offices:
 - Work permit applications limited to essential service only
 - Pre-approved work/study permit printing
 - Foreign nationals with PR visa/CoPR landings
- No other work permit/study permit applications will be processed
 - Apply online (visa office/Edmonton)
 - POE application furthered/deferred (CBSA will hold applicant's passport and all documentation until they are ready to process)
- International flights limited to 4 airports



CBSA / POE operations

- Canadians, PRs, and First Nations are permitted re-entry to Canada, along with their family members
- International students/Foreign Workers outside of Canada will not be able to re-enter Canada by air
- Study Permit/Work Permit holders can return to Canada by air if they are accompanied by a Canadian citizen spouse



Service Canada operations

- Both SC and Job Bank call centres are closed
- Officers are working from home
- LMIA applications are still being processed, but extremely delayed (Q10)
 - Priority Processing min recruit waived till Oct 31, 2020 - eg Butchers, Fish, truck drivers
 - Validity of LMIA extended from 6 to 9 months
- Job bank ads are still being approved on a delayed basis
- For employers affected by business closures, no need to contact SC to approve reduced hours/lay-offs. Employers must issue ROEs.



NWT - PNP

- PNP offices are still operating at reduced capacity: they continue to receive Nominee Program applications and inquiries, however processing and responses may be slightly delayed. File can be dropped in the blue dropbox, outside of Lahm Ridge Tower.
- NWT PNP is still taking standard applications
- Employers who are not able to provide their nominee employees the required 37.5 hours per week as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, thus for applications not meeting eligibility criteria their applications will be put on hold if they don't meet the eligibility criteria.
- Business Stream of the nominee program is not accepting any new application at the moment.



NWT - Medical & Language

Panel Physician: We are trying to work with NTHSSA to have a registered Panel physician in NWT. Panel physicians are still operating in Canada (**But traveling outside NWT is not Recommended**)

Medical Benefit: Temporary Foreign Worker that already has NT health care but was automatically cancelled due an expired visa. For this client to get a 90 day extension the client must provide proof of his Immigration document mailed to Immigration Canada. NTHSSA staff would then confirm with Immigration Canada if they received the client's information. If Immigration Canada confirms the application is received and advises the application will be approved, the information is provided to Management to approve the onetime 90 day extension. If Immigration Canada confirms the file was not received, the client will not be extended for 90 days. The 90 day extension does not apply to a new Immigrant with no NT health care coverage.

Language: As of April 17 BC has already started three test Centres, Alberta will follow soon. We are trying to setup a mobile test center for CELPIP in NWT when the borders will open.



Client Impact

- Apply for permit extensions early!
- Discourage all travel inside and outside of Canada and Territories
- New Fees have been implemented as on April 30, 2020 [LINK](#)
- TFW needs to be paid during 14 days quarantined
- Call CBSA superintendent at the Border and explain situation before going to POE for WP
- Biometric: A subsicont letter will not be sent after 90 days, but it's implied that the 90 day extension will be given.
 - **Discourage flagpoling!**

Source: [Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada](#) and [CAPIC](#)



Resource

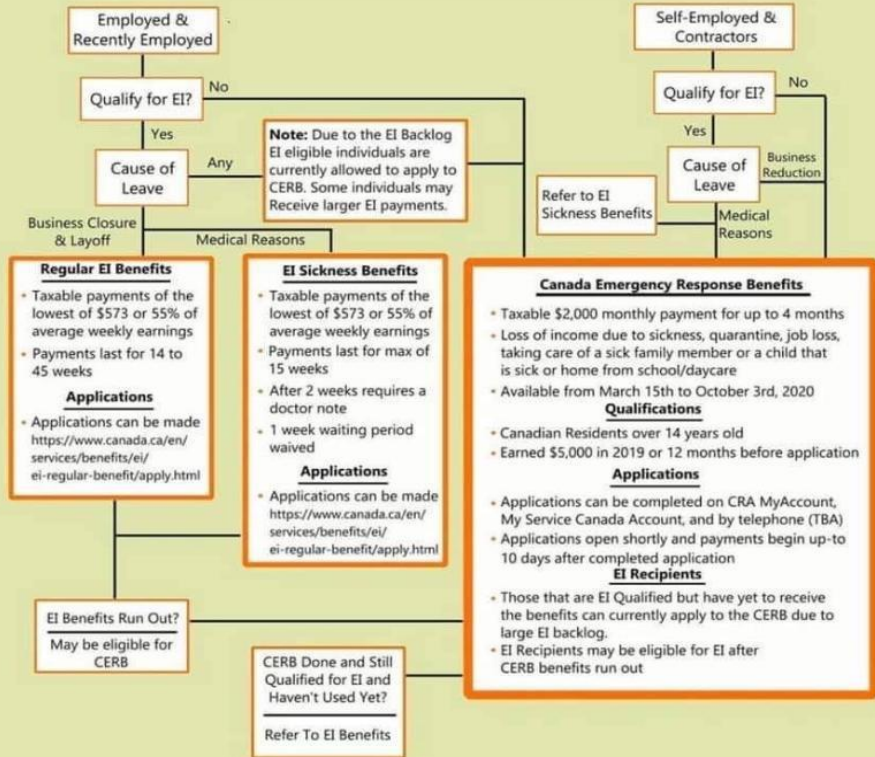
- Immigration Daily Update - CAPIC:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAYr_W42nzNILYRAboJmySA/videos
- Updated daily COVID19 page:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19.html>
- COVID-19 – World Customs Organization (WCO) updates
<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/facilitation/activities-andprogrammes/natural-disaster/coronavirus.aspx>
- COVID-19 - The International Air Transport Association (IATA) updates
<https://www.iatatravelcentre.com/international-travel-documentnews/1580226297.htm>
- COVID-19 – The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) – Airport Status – daily updates <https://www.icao.int/safety/Pages/COVID-19-Airport-Status.aspx>



COVID19 and Employment matters

Income support : Employed and recently employed +
Self employed and Contractor

Navigating The Canada Emergency Response Benefit & Employment Insurance



Note: This document is meant as a basic guide and does not replace professional guidance. Care has been taken in creating this guide, however there is not liable for any negative financial outcomes

- **Contact Number for Income support in NWT:** Government of NWT: Call: (867) 767-9000
- **Caring for someone:** You could apply for EI Caregiver Benefits (if someone is critically ill) [LINK](#)
- **Caring for dependent children:** Make sure you're getting your Canada Child Benefit In May, the federal government will automatically pay a lump sum top-up to your Canada Child Benefit (CCB). - [LINK](#)
- **Rent:** The territorial Rental Office has suspended evictions hearings. If you have a question about tenants' rights, you can contact them at: 1-800-661-0760 Make sure you are getting the benefits (see above) that you are eligible for.



Question & Answer

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