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# Public policy: Open work permits for Hong Kong recent graduates

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As a Hong Kong recent graduate, you may be eligible to apply for an open work permit under a [temporary public policy for Hong Kong residents](#).

The open work permit is valid for **up to 3 years**.

## Who can apply

To be eligible, you must:

- hold a valid passport issued by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) or the United Kingdom to a British National Overseas (BNO)
  - The work permit will be issued for up to 3 years from the date of approval or until your passport expires, whichever comes first. For example, if your passport is valid for 6 months, then you will be issued an open work permit for 6 months.
  - To maximize the duration of the open work permit, make sure your passport is valid for at least 3 years from the date of approval.
- have graduated no more than 5 years before you apply for this open work permit, with:
  - a degree from a [designated post-secondary learning institution in Canada](#) or abroad, or
  - a diploma for a minimum 2-year program from a [designated post-secondary learning institution in Canada](#) or abroad

## If you got your diploma abroad

If you got your diploma outside of Canada, you must provide an Educational Credential Assessment (ECA) from an organization or a professional body designated by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. They'll give you a report that tells you what your education is equal to in Canada.

Processing times and costs vary by organization or professional body.

Once you choose a designated organization or a professional body, they'll tell you how to submit your documents to get your assessment.

## Designated organizations

You must use one of these designated organizations:

- [Comparative Education Service – University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies](#)
  - designated: April 17, 2013
- [International Credential Assessment Service of Canada](#)
  - designated: April 17, 2013
- [World Education Services](#)
  - designated: April 17, 2013
- [International Qualifications Assessment Service \(IQAS\)](#)
  - designated: August 6, 2015
- [International Credential Evaluation Service](#)
  - designated: August 6, 2015

## How to apply

You must apply for the open work permit online. You can't apply at a port of entry.

▶ If you're outside of Canada

▶ If you're inside Canada

## After you apply

Find out what to do and what happens after you apply for your work permit.

**Date modified:**

2021-02-08