

## YOUTH MOBILITY PROGRAMS CANADA-FRANCE FAQ 2010

### **I applied to participate in the Youth Mobility Programs for 2010. Can I leave for Canada before receiving my letter of introduction?**

If you leave for Canada before receiving your letter of introduction for your temporary work permit, it will be up to the Immigration Officer at the point of entry to Canada to determine whether you will be admitted as a visitor (tourist). This person must be convinced that you will respect the conditions of a temporary stay in Canada and not work without the authorization to do so. If you are in Canada when you receive your letter of introduction by email, you will have to leave the country with this letter and present it to an Immigration Officer at a point of re-entry to Canada (i.e. a border crossing) in order to obtain your temporary work permit.

### **I live in the “outre-mer” or the “collectivités territoriales”. Can I participate in the Youth Mobility Programs?**

You are eligible to participate in the programs if you live in the DOM or Saint Pierre and Miquelon. The Canada-France Youth Mobility Agreement does not apply to residents of the COM (except Saint Pierre and Miquelon), the TAAF, New Caledonia, or citizens and residents of Monaco and Andorra.

### **I am currently renewing my passport. Can I submit my application with a photocopy of my previous passport, my national identity card and/or a letter stating that my new passport is being renewed?**

No. You must submit a photocopy of the appropriate pages of your **new** passport, otherwise your application will be considered incomplete. The paid participation fees will be reimbursed and your application will be returned to you by mail.

## **What does “habitually reside in France” mean?**

We consider that a candidate’s habitual residence is in France if he/she lives in France, or if he/she is temporarily in a foreign country (i.e. for studies or short-term work).

## **I am/will be in Paris, can I drop off my completed application at the Embassy?**

No. Out of fairness, participation applications to the Youth Mobility Programs are ONLY accepted by mail.

## **I am in Canada/in another country. Can I participate in the Youth Mobility Programs without coming back to France?**

If your usual place of residence is France and you are temporarily out of the country, you may apply to the programs from the country in which you are. You can download the participation kit on our website and send your completed application by mail to the address indicated in the instructions. If your application is accepted, you will receive your letter of introduction by email. If you are already in Canada, you will have to leave the country with this letter and present it to an Immigration Officer at a point of re-entry to Canada (i.e. a border crossing) in order to obtain your temporary work permit.

## **My employment/internship/on-the-job training is starting soon but my application for a temporary work permit is currently being processed at the Canadian Embassy. Can I go to Canada before I receive my letter of introduction?**

If your employment/internship/on-the-job training contract starts in less than one week, please send an alert to the Youth Mobility Unit by filling in the form [available here](#). It may be necessary to postpone the starting date of your contract if the processing time is too short.

If you leave for Canada before receiving your letter of introduction for your temporary work permit, it will be up to the

Immigration Officer at the point of entry to Canada to determine whether you will be admitted as a visitor (tourist). This person must be convinced that you will respect the conditions of a temporary stay in Canada and not work without the authorization to do so. If you are in Canada when you receive your letter of introduction by email, you will have to leave the country with this letter and present it to an Immigration Officer at a point of re-entry to Canada (i.e. a border crossing) in order to obtain your temporary work permit.

### **Do I need a medical examination? Can you send me a list of designated medical practitioners?**

If a medical examination is required, for example if you intend to work in health or childcare, or teach at the elementary or secondary level, the Visa and Immigration Services will send you the appropriate form, instructions and a list of designated medical practitioners.

### **I obtained my temporary work permit. May I leave Canada during its validity?**

Yes. During the validity of your temporary work permit, you may enter and exit Canada the number of times you want. However, you must ensure that you meet the entrance requirements of the country you plan to visit. The Embassy of Canada in France cannot answer questions concerning entrance requirements or travel restrictions for countries other than Canada.

### **What is a "common law partner"?**

For more information on the common law status, click [here](#)

### **What type of insurance must I subscribe to before leaving for Canada?**

You must have and maintain insurance for the entire duration of your stay in Canada. Your insurance policy must cover you for:

- Health care, hospitalization and repatriation;

- The Canadian territory (the policy should specify North America, Canada/USA or worldwide);
- The entire duration of your stay in Canada.

You must be able to provide proof of this insurance to the Immigration Officer upon your entry to Canada.

To learn more about different insurance options, please consult *l'Assurance maladie en ligne* website [www.ameli.fr](http://www.ameli.fr). You can also consult *la Maison des Français de l'Étranger* (MFE): [www.mfe.org](http://www.mfe.org). Please note that the Embassy does not have the mandate of providing a list of insurers.

**I am a French citizen on a student exchange in Canada. I would like to do an internship as a requirement for my studies in France. Is this possible?**

Yes. You may apply to the “Internship / On-the-Job Training” category. To download the application kit, [click](#) here.

In addition to the required documents, you must also include a copy of the letter from your post-secondary Canadian educational institution indicating that you are enrolled in a student exchange program with that institution. You can send your completed application by mail.

**Is it possible to enroll in courses during my stay in Canada while under the Youth Mobility Programs?**

Yes. However, the courses must be part-time and considered as personal development/growth. Your courses cannot be part of a university degree. If you are in Canada under the Working Holiday category, you may enroll in language courses over a short period of time, i.e. less than six months.

**I am currently in Canada with a work permit issued under the Working Holiday category. My employer would like me to continue working after the permit expires. Is this possible? What should I do?**

Keeping in mind that a work permit cannot be renewed or extended under the Working Holiday category, two possibilities remain:

- If you are eligible, you may apply for a work permit under the Young Professionals category. You may send your application for this new work permit from Canada. Eligible citizens may participate in two different categories, but their stays must be discontinuous. Click [here](#) for more information.
- If you wish to prolong your stay in Canada, you must apply for an extension at least 30 days before the expiry date of your current status by contacting the Case Processing Center at the following address: CPC Vegreville, 6212, 55th Avenue, Vegreville, Alberta T9C 1W5 CANADA. For more information, you can contact the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) call center at 1-888-242-2100 or consult the CIC website by clicking [here](#).

Please note that your employer must first obtain a favorable Labor Market Opinion (LMO) from Service Canada in order for you to submit an application for a temporary work permit.

**I am a foreign student enrolled in a French institution but I am not a citizen of France. I want to do an internship/work term in Canada. Am I eligible to participate in the Canada-France Youth Mobility Programs?**

If you are not a French citizen, you are not eligible to participate in the Canada-France Youth Mobility Programs because these programs fall under the framework of a bilateral agreement between Canada and France. This agreement is based on reciprocity and applies only to citizens of Canada and France. However, there are other possibilities for obtaining an internship with a company:

- Canada has signed youth mobility agreements with a number of countries. To find out if your country is one of them, please consult the website of the Canadian

Embassy in your country. For the list of Canadian Embassies worldwide:

[www.international.gc.ca/world/embassies/menu-en.asp](http://www.international.gc.ca/world/embassies/menu-en.asp)

- If Canada has not signed a youth mobility agreement with your country, your employer will need to obtain a confirmation of your internship offer from the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) – Service Canada. Upon the reception of this confirmation, you will have to send your application for a temporary work permit to the Visas and Immigration Service of the Embassy of Canada in France. Please note that you will not be applying under the Canada-France Youth Mobility Programs and will therefore have to pay the appropriate processing fees.
- There are also “multilateral” organizations concerned with youth mobility that may be able to assist you.
- In an post-secondary institution in Canada: Certain post-secondary institutions in France have signed agreements with post-secondary institutions in Canada for the reciprocal exchange of interns. We suggest you find out from the International Relations Office of your institution, whether such an agreement exists. If it does, you must submit a copy of the agreement along with your application for a work permit to the Visas and Immigration Service at the Embassy of Canada in France, and include the name of at least one Canadian who is or will be doing an internship at your post-secondary institution this year. Please note that this approach does not fall under the Youth Mobility Programs and you must therefore pay them the appropriate fees. The forms are [available here](#).

### **Can I fill out my application form by hand?**

You are asked to complete the form on a computer. However, if this is impossible, you may fill in the remaining fields by writing LEGIBLY.

**I have an employment offer that only mentions a piece-work rate. I have a job offer that mentions an hourly wage, but doesn't mention the number of hours worked per week. Do you need the employment offer to be more precise?**

Yes. The employment offer must indicate at least an average salary earned over a given period (hour, day, week or month), along with the number of hours worked per week, in order to show that you will have sufficient financial resources during your contract.

**Can you provide me with a list of employers? Can you help me find a job/internship?**

It is not the Embassy's mandate to provide a list of job/internship offers. Nonetheless, there are a number of organizations involved with youth mobility that can provide support during the steps of your application process for a work permit, and/or help you find a job/internship.

**What is the difference between a visa and a permit?**

A temporary resident visa is a counterfoil or sticker placed in a passport or travel document which allows certain foreign nationals to travel to Canada. A permit is a document which confirms that the foreign national is authorized to work or study in Canada. One or both may be required and one cannot be a substitute for the other. As a French citizen applying in the Youth Mobility Programs, you are applying for a temporary work permit and not a visa or study permit. French citizens do not need a visa to enter Canada.

**Do I need a machine readable and/or a biometric passport to enter Canada?**

No, a machine readable and/or a biometric passport is not required to enter Canada.

**What is a letter of introduction?**

A letter of introduction is a document issued by the Visas and Immigration Service, confirming that your application for a work or study permit has been approved. It notifies you that you may leave for Canada in order to work, study or do both, upon its reception. You must present your letter of introduction to an Immigration Officer at a point of entry to Canada (airport, land crossing). The work or study permit will be issued to you by the Immigration Officer upon presentation of your letter of introduction and the other required documents.

**I am in Canada with a work permit under the Young Professionals category (or Professional Development). Can I extend the validity of my work permit to enable me to continue working? How can I do this?**

You may extend the validity of your temporary work permit to a maximum of 18 months by following the instructions on [this](#) page. Please note that you may not change employers.

You will not have to pay additional fees for this extension. You will have to mention that your temporary work permit in Canada is endorsed by an international program aiming young professionals, and is therefore exempt of treatment fees by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) according to the 299-2)(i) article of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations.

**Can I stay in Canada as a tourist after the expiration of my temporary work permit?**

Yes, you may change your status in Canada by following the instructions on [this](#) page.

**What kind of jobs can I hold with the WHP? Are there restrictions on the duration of the employment contracts, the language of the workplace, the location or the number of employers I can have?**

No. The WHP is valid for any type of job. This is regardless of the duration of the contract, the language or the location. There are no restrictions on the total number of employers for whom you can work within the 12 month period either.

**Are there any restrictions on the type of employment I can hold in Canada?**

No. However, certain professions in Canada are regulated. To learn more about this, please click [here](#).

**I am currently in Canada with a temporary work permit under the Youth Mobility Programs. Can I participate in a second category while my current permit is still valid?**

Yes. You may apply to participate in a second category, while you are in Canada and your current permit is still valid. An application to a second category does not annul the validity of your current permit. If you are in Canada when you receive your letter of introduction by email, you will have to leave the country with this letter and present it to an Immigration Officer at a point of re-entry to Canada (i.e. a border crossing) in order to obtain your new temporary work permit. Issuing the new permit will annul the previous one, regardless of its initial duration. Please note that you may participate in 2 different categories.

**I participated in the Youth Mobility Programs and now wish to apply for a permanent residence status in Canada. How do I go about doing this?**

To learn more about how to apply for a permanent residence status in Canada, please consult the [Citizenship and Immigration](#) website of the Embassy of Canada in France.

**Do I need to apply for a temporary work permit if my internship/on-the-job training in Canada is of short duration and/or unpaid?**

Yes. In Canada, internship/on-the-job training placements are all considered as employment, even if they are for a short period of time or unpaid. In order to obtain a temporary work permit authorizing you to undergo your internship/on-the-job training in Canada, you must submit an application to the [Internship/On-the-Job Training category](#).

### **Technical aspects: downloading the application kit**

**There is a grey square at the bottom of my application form with a number underneath, is this normal?**

Yes. Depending on your operating system, the version of Adobe used and/or if you are using a PC or a MAC, it is possible that you see a grey square with a number underneath instead of the barcode with a number underneath. This will not have a negative repercussion on your application when submitting your Download Certificate.

**What is the purpose of the barcode ?**

The barcode encodes the number you see underneath the barcode, in other words, the number of your application kit. It does not lead to a link nor URL. If you have a gray square instead of the barcode (MAC users), it will not impede the analysis of your file as long as the number below the grey square is visible. It is the number that is important because it links your personal information to your application kit.

**I am not able to display the application kit, what should I do?**

Make sure you are using a recent version of [Adobe Reader](#) (version 8 or 9).

For Mac Users:

We have established that personalized kits may not be downloaded using Firefox. However, it is possible to download them using Safari. In order to do so, you have to use Adobe

Flash Player. This program is available free of charge on the [Adobe website](#).