

## TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISAS: VISITORS, STUDENTS AND WORKERS

### What is a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV)?

A TRV is a document issued by the Canadian Visa Office to people who want to come to Canada temporarily, who are not permanent residents or citizens. Some people call it an “entry visa”.

A TRV can be single entry or multiple entry, and can be valid for anywhere between a few months to a few years:

- **Single entry:** You can only enter Canada once and you have to leave before the time of your approved stay in Canada is over. If you leave Canada, you will have to apply for a new visa.

- **Multiple entry:** You can leave and enter Canada many times as long as your visa is valid. You can stay for a short period of time each time (generally 6 months).

The validity of your TRV is not the same as the time you are allowed to stay in Canada (called “authorized period of stay”). You can use your TRV to enter Canada and then:

- **As a visitor:** You are authorized to stay for a period of time that an immigration officer specifically lists (like a stamp in your passport). If nothing is listed, you can stay for 6 months from when you enter.

- **As a student/foreign worker:** You can stay for the length of time listed on your study or work permit.

### Example:

You have a multiple entry visa that shows that it expires in 10 years. When you enter Canada, the officer gives you permission to stay for 6 months.

This means you must leave Canada before the 6 months are over, but you can come back for another 6 months without having to re-apply for a TRV (which is sometimes called the “entry visa”). Once the 10 years are over, you cannot come back anymore unless you apply for a new visa. Also, if you want to stay in Canada for more than 6 months at a time, you have to apply for an extension of your stay before the 6 months are over.

### **Who is eligible for a TRV?**

To be eligible for a TRV you must apply under the visitor, student, or worker category.

### **You must also:**

- Meet all the requirements for the category you are applying under
- Convince the immigration officer that your stay in Canada is temporary (you will have to leave Canada at the end of your authorized period of stay). For example, you can show the immigration officer that you have enough ties in your home country such as a job, a home, or family members and that is why you have to go back.
- Show that you have enough financial resources for your stay in Canada (example: funds for a visit, money to pay for school, money for housing, etc.)
- Have a valid passport or other travel document issued by your country that allows you to travel.
- Not be inadmissible to Canada, meaning you're not barred from entering or staying in Canada. For example, if you are a security risk to Canada, have a criminal record, have health conditions that may create excessive demands on Canada's healthcare, or pose a danger to public health or safety, you may be inadmissible to Canada.

### **Conditions you must fulfill as a TRV holder**

- You must leave at the end of your period of stay.
- You cannot work or study in Canada without legal authorization.

### **Medical Exam**

You may need to complete a medical exam for an assessment of your health condition. This will be determined based on the type of permit that you are applying for, the length of time you want to stay in Canada, and what country you are applying from.

### **How to Apply**

- If you are coming to Canada as a visitor, you need to submit an application for a temporary resident visa.
- If you are coming as a student or worker, you need to submit an application for a study permit or a work permit. You don't need to apply separately for a TRV. The officer issues a TRV when you get your study or work permit.
- If you are on a study or work permit in Canada and your TRV has expired/is going to expire, you can apply for a TRV from inside Canada. You have to go into your online IRCC account and choose the temporary resident visa application.
- If you are on a study or work permit and your TRV expired while you were outside Canada (ex. while visiting your family back home), you have to follow the process for applying for a visitor visa from outside Canada to come home.

The application must be submitted online, but there are some exceptions where you can do a paper application. You will need to get the forms from the IRCC website. There is also a checklist available for you to make sure you provide the correct forms and documents to go with your application.

### Application Fees:

- \$100 individual – multiple or single entry.
- \$500 maximum fee for a family of five people or more – single or multiple entry.

**Note:** If you are a student or worker coming to Canada on a work or study permit, you don't need to pay any extra fees for your TRV.

### Extending your stay in Canada

- If you stay in Canada beyond the period you are allowed to, you no longer have status.
- If you are a visitor and you were allowed to stay for 6 months or a different period of time (if IRCC has said something different), you must extend your visa. Visitors can extend their authorization to stay in Canada before the time expires by applying to extend their visitor record.
- If you are a student or worker, you can extend your stay by applying for an extension of your study or work permit.

**Restoration:** If you didn't extend your stay in time, you can still get back your lost status. You can apply to restore your status from inside Canada within **90 days** of losing your authorization to stay in Canada.

### Getting TRVs from Within Canada

Normally you have to apply to visit, study, or work in Canada from your home country and then you can apply to extend your stay when you are here. In some cases immigration laws allow you to stay in Canada temporarily and to work and study in Canada when you started with no status.

**For example:**

- Refugee claimants can get a work or study permit while they wait for a decision on their application.
- People leaving situations of violence can apply for a Temporary Resident Permit (TRP) for victims of family violence.
- Applicants who have passed stage one of their application for permanent residence (known as “Approval In Principle”) under Humanitarian and Compassionate grounds, can apply for a work permit.