# POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT INFORMATION SESSION

This presentation is current as of July 23, 2024

Presenter: Sara Mosher-Mandel

Moderator: Amy Chen



#### HOUSEKEEPING RULES

To protect your personal information and privacy, we ask that you keep yourself muted and your video off throughout the session. Do not share your personal information in the public chat function.

Please add your questions in the chat towards the end of the presentation.

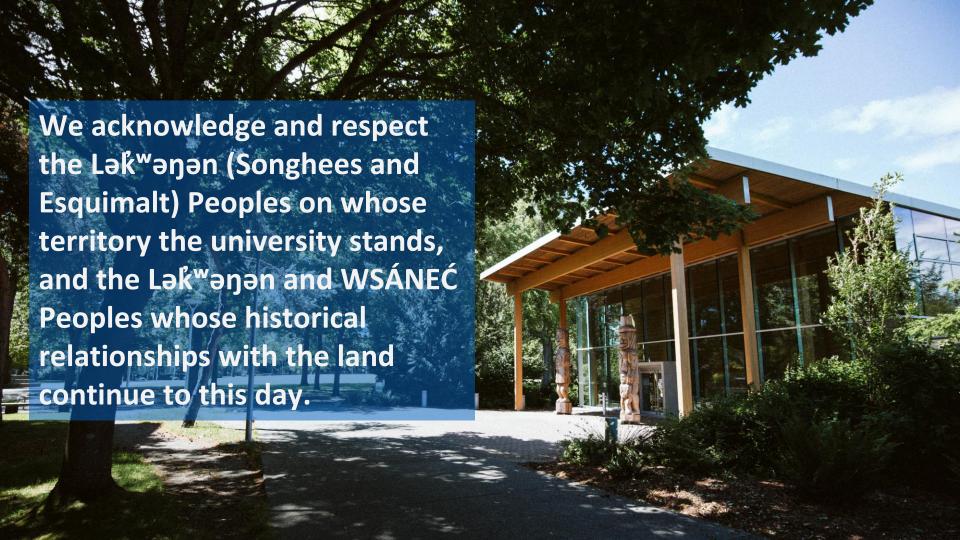
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#### DISCLAIMER

- This session provides general information.
- Information shared in this session is current as we speak and may be subject to change without notice.
- Please do not cite any of this information in an application.
- Refer to the <u>Immigration</u>, <u>Refugees and Citizenship Canada's</u>
   (IRCC) <u>website</u> for the most up-to-date information at the time you apply.

\*This session is not intended for students from Continuing Studies. Email <a href="mailto:uvcsimmigration@uvic.ca">uvcsimmigration@uvic.ca</a> for help.\*

# **CASE-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS?**

Email us after the session:

- <u>Contact the International Centre for Students</u> by phone (+1 250 721 6361) or email (<u>icsinfo@uvic.ca</u>).
- Business students should consult the Immigration Adviser in the Gustavson School of Business (gsbimmigration@uvic.ca).
- Continuing Studies students should consult the Immigration Adviser in the Division of Continuing Studies (<u>uvcsimmigration@uvic.ca</u>)

#### **AGENDA**

- On/Off campus career supports
- What is a Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)?
- o Who is eligible for a PGWP?
- UVic definitions & PGWP eligibility
- PGWP validity
- COVID-19 considerations
- How to apply for a PGWP
- IRCC resources
- FAQs

# FREE CAREER SUPPORTS FOR UVIC STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

#### **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS**

Visit our Career Services <u>Events</u> page Hiring Fairs, Employer Information Sessions, Career workshops

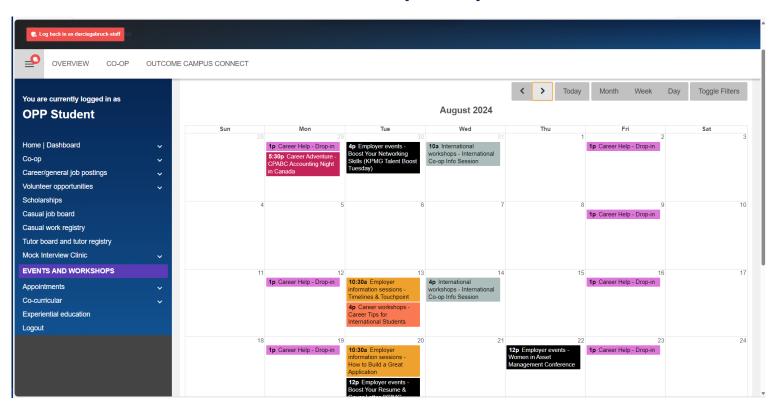
PRE-BOOKED APPOINTMENTS
30-minute meetings with a career educator
Career Services Website

ONE-ON-ONE DROP-IN CAREER COACHING Library room 135G (Monday and Friday) 1pm to 4pm\*; 10-15 minutes quick consults

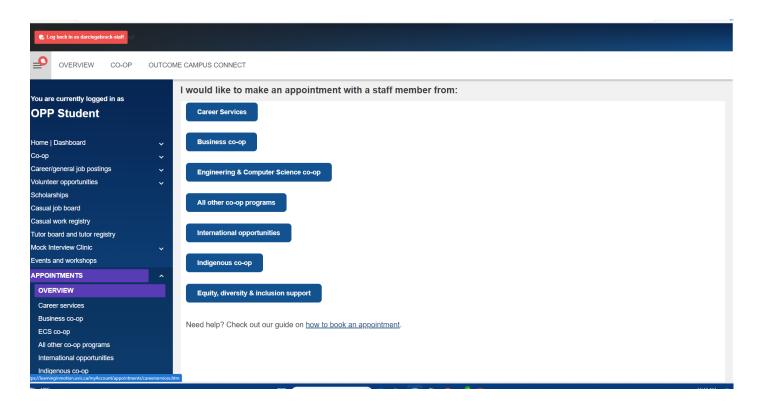
UVic LEARNING IN MOTION Free career events



# **LEARNING IN MOTION (LIM) PORTAL - EVENTS**



#### LIM PORTAL – BOOKING APPOINTMENTS



#### ICA NEWCOMER SERVICES

#### One-on-one Support

- Tailored information, orientation and referrals
- Assistance navigating immigration and transitioning to life in BC

#### Workshops & Group Activities

- Informal language training (conversation circles)
- Group information sessions
- Recreational activities to build community connections

#### Formal Language Training

 Short-term language training focused on developing the skills required for the labor market and navigating everyday life in BC.

#### Contact information:

Reception: 250-388-4728, nsp-safhavn@icavictoria.org



#### ICA EMPLOYMENT SERVICES SUPPORTS

#### British Columbia Newcomer Settlement Program (BCNSP)

- Tailored job search, employment counselling services
- Job Search Strategies group information sessions
- Mentorship opportunities

#### Success in Finding Work

- Cohort based program; 10 weeks skills training and employment readiness training
- Employment placements and job development supports
- Living Allowances provided; other financial supports based on need

#### **Employment Services Contact**

Alla Balatska, Employment Client Advisor, employmentadmin@icavictoria.org

Information, preliminary client assessments



# WHAT IS A PGWP?



### A PGWP IS...

- An open work permit
- Allows you to gain Canadian work experience after graduation (e.g., full-time, part-time, self-employment)
- Possible occupational restrictions (e.g. health care, primary/secondary school, childcare)
- Can only be issued once per lifetime



# UVIC DEFINITIONS & PGWP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



### **CURRENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

#### Some PGWP Criteria:

- ☐ Complete an eligible program in Canada that's at least 8 months in length
- □ Continuous full-time enrolment in all regular academic sessions except for authorized Leave of Absence or final term
- ☐ As of September 1, 2024, you must complete at least 50% of your program **in class** inside Canada

If applying from inside Canada, please ensure you have a valid study permit at the time you apply.

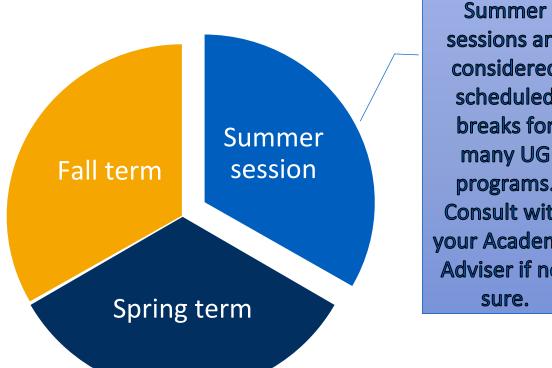
See full eligibility details on the IRCC website

#### FULL-TIME DEFINITION AT UVIC

- Full-time Definitions at UVic
  - Undergraduate Calendar
  - Graduate Calendar
- Regular Academic Sessions
  - Winter session (September-April)
    - Fall term (September to December)
  - Spring term (January to April)
  - Summer session (May-August)

### FULL-TIME DEFINITION FOR UNDERGRAD

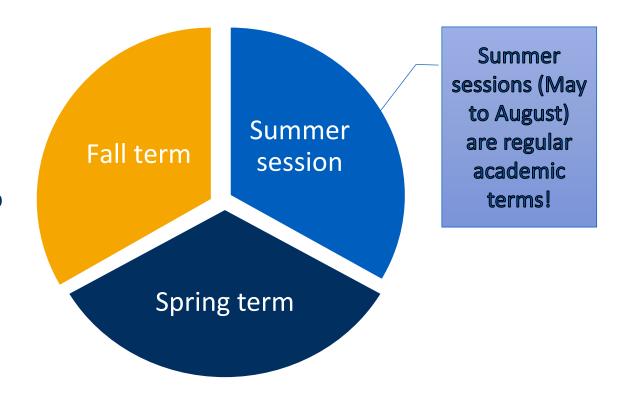
- Minimum 6 units in a 4-month term
- Minimum 12 units in fall term and spring term combined (Winter session)
- A co-op term enrollment in a 4month term



sessions are considered scheduled breaks for many UG programs. Consult with your Academic Adviser if not

# FULL-TIME DEFINITION FOR GRAD

- Continuous enrollment required
- Minimum 3 units in single term
- Enrollment in a Co-op term



#### POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT VALIDITY

A PGWP can be granted for a minimum of 8 months to a maximum of 3 years.

- 8 months to < 2 years = the length of the program completed</p>
- 2 years or longer = 3 years
- As of February 15, 2024, students who graduate from master's degree programs of less than 2 years (8 months minimum) may be eligible for a 3 year PGWP.

Refer to the <u>IRCC website</u> for processing guidelines.

# COVID-19 SPECIAL MEASURES



#### TEMPORARY POLICY: DISTANCE LEARNING

- Distance Learning from outside Canada
  - You can complete up to 100% of your studies online from outside Canada between March 2020 and August 31, 2022, because of a temporary COVID-19 policy.
- Distance Learning from inside Canada
  - If your courses were moved online due to the pandemic, the time you spend studying online from within Canada until August 31, 2024 still counts toward the length of your PGWP.

#### TEMPORARY POLICY: DISTANCE LEARNING

All students who started or will start a program of study between September 1, 2022, and August 31, 2024, are required to complete at least 50% of their program of study in Canada (online or in class).

• For the above group of students, up until **August 31, 2024**, time spent studying outside of Canada can be counted toward the overall length of the PGWP only if it constitutes less than 50% of the program.

\*Any time a student spend studying outside of Canada **after** August 31, 2024, and any time spent studying outside Canada before applying for a study permit, will be deducted from the length of the PGWP, regardless of when the student started or will start their program of study.\*

#### **PGWP ELIGIBILITY**

- If you had to stop studying or changed your status to part-time between spring and summer 2020 for reasons related to COVID-19, you can still apply for a PGWP.
  - Official UVic letter regarding COVID-19
  - Personal letter of explanation and relevant supporting documents

# APPLYING FOR PGWP



#### HOW TO APPLY FOR A PGWP

- Apply online
  - As of June 21, 2024, you can no longer apply for a PGWP at a port of entry (POE).
- In Canada: apply within 90
  days after you receive your final
  grade AND have a valid study
  permit at the time of application
- Outside Canada: apply within
   180 days after you receive your final grade



Refer to the IRCC website for full information

# DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- Application form IMM5710
- Degree completion letter
- Official transcript or Administrative transcript from UVic Online tools
- Valid passport
- Digital photo
- Credit or debit card to pay your fees online
- Medical exam (if applicable)
- Biometrics (if applicable)

#### PGWP APPLICATION TIPS

- Apply for graduation in your final term.
- Only request a degree completion letter when your final grades are available in your <u>UVic Online tools</u>.
- Only submit your PGWP application when you receive UVic documents (a degree completion letter AND final transcript).
- Consult the <u>Instruction Guide [IMM 5580]</u> as needed.
- Read the questions carefully and answer them honestly.

#### PGWP APPLICATION TIPS

- Online applications are saved in your IRCC secure account for up to 60 days only.
- Keep paper or electronic copies of your application form and supporting documents.
- Take screenshots at different stages.
- Monitor your application status online.
- Consult us before you submit the application if you have questions.
- Use the <u>IRCC Web Form</u> to raise questions if needed.

#### YOUR IRCC ACCOUNT

Sign in to your IRCC secure account

Sign in

#### **IRCC** secure account

We have different accounts for some applications.

You may need a different account to apply, depending on the application you submit.

#### Check if this is the right account for you

➤ Apply for these applications

➤ Check the status of these applications

➤ Upload requested documents for these applications

➤ Study permit applicants

➤ Delays with the status of your medical exam results

➤ Student Direct Stream applicants



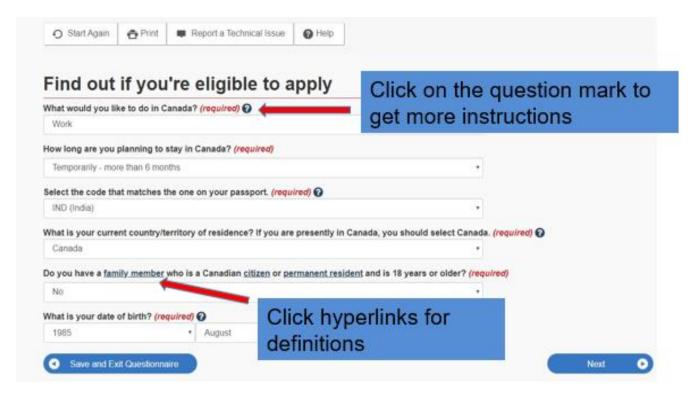
# YOUR IRCC ACCOUNT

View the appl	ications you subn	nitted					
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Includes applications for visitor visas, work and		benefits		citizenship			
study permits, Express Entry and International		Use this application if you are a protected person		Use this application to apply for proof of			
Experience Canada. You will need your personal reference code if you have one.		or refugee claimant who wants to apply for the Interim Federal Health Program.		citizenship (citizenship certificate) or to search citizenship records.			
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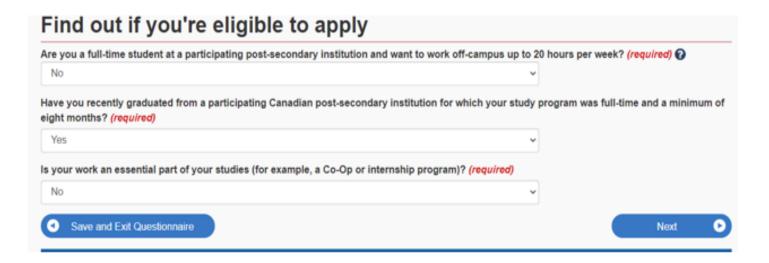
#### YOUR IRCC ACCOUNT

#### Personal checklist

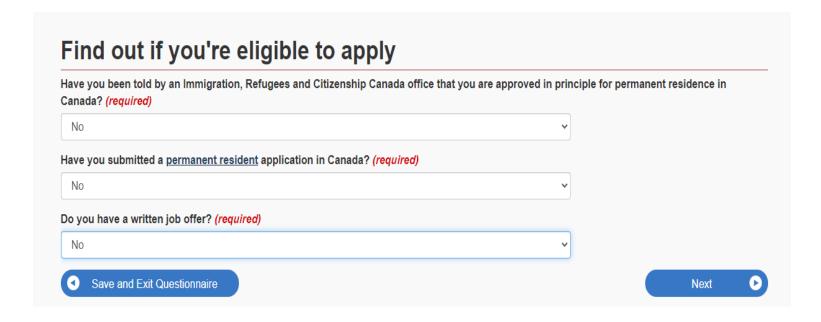
#### Personal Reference Code If you have already completed the Come to Canada or the Express Entry wizard, you would have received a document checklist and/or a personal reference code, based on the answers you provided. \* Please enter your personal reference code to begin your application. (required) 0 Cancel I do not have a Personal Reference Code If you do not have a personal reference code, you may answer a series of questions to find out if you are eligible to apply for a visa and/or permit, apply for Express Entry, and begin an online application. If you begin your application after you have logged into your account, you will not receive a personal reference code, as the system will save your document checklist right into your account. Determine your eligibility and apply online: Visitor visa, study and/or work permit Express Entry (EE) International Experience Canada (IEC)



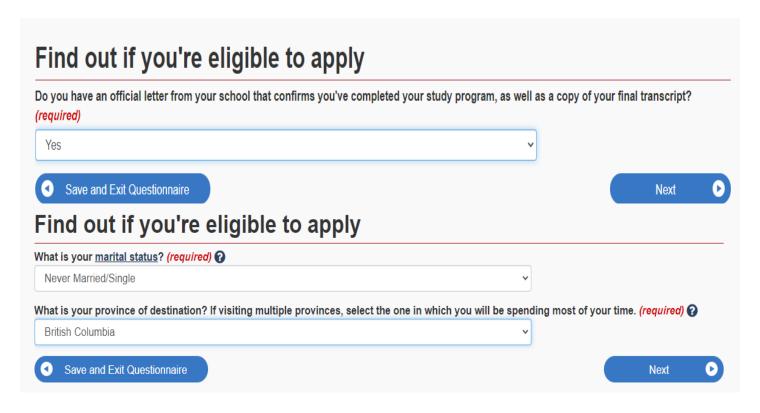
Use this to modify your answers Home → Online Services A Print Report a Technical Issue Start Again Modify my Answers Help Find out if you're eligible to apply Are you a lawful permanent resident of the United States with a valid alien registration card (Green Card)? (required) Please make a selection 0 Save and Exit Questionnaire Next What is your current immigration status in Canada? (required) Student 0 Save and Exit Questionnaire Next Find out if you're eligible to apply Do you plan to work on campus? (required) Save and Exit Questionnaire Next



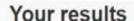
Note: Your application and documents checklist are created based on your answers.



# **ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE**



### YOUR RESULTS



Based on the information you provided, the result(s) below indicate(s) whether you may be eligible to come to Canada.

#### **Temporary Resident Visa**

You will need a temporary resident visa to return to Canada.

If you are working or studying in Canada, your temporary resident visa may expire at the same time as your work or study permit. If your work or study permit is expiring soon, please renew your study or work permit first. Once your study or work permit is approved, you may apply for your temporary resident visa.





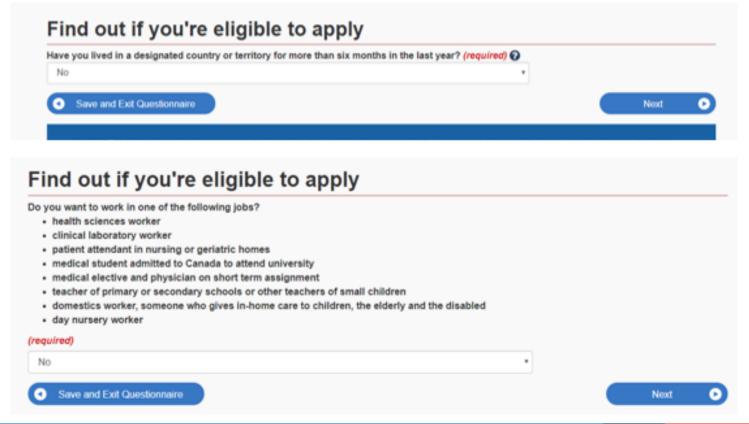
#### Post-Graduate Work Permit - in Canada

You may be eligible to work in Canada with a post-graduation work permit.

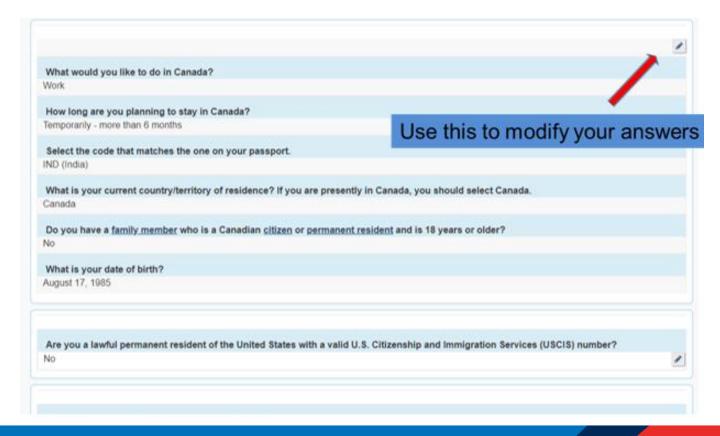




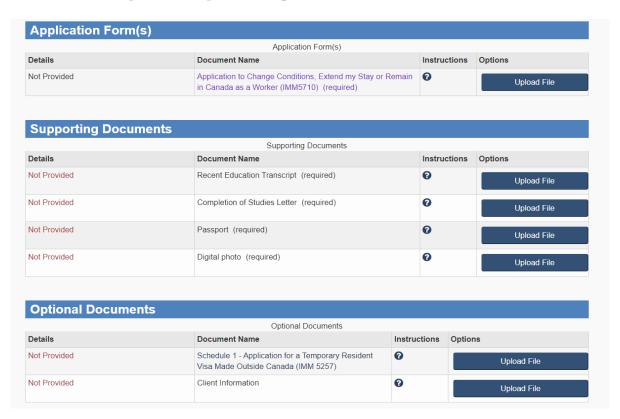
## **ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE CONTINUED...**



### **REVIEW YOUR ANSWERS**



### DOCUMENT CHECKLIST



# IF BIOMETRICS ARE REQUIRED

#### Fees

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Application	Quantity	Price (CAD) per unit	Total (CAD)
Work Permit	1	\$155	\$155
Biometrics Fee	1	\$85	\$85
Open Work Permit Holder Fee	1	\$100	\$100

The fee shown is an estimate based on the fees in effect on the day that this Personal Reference Code is issued. The actual fees to be paid will be calculated on the date of submission.

Total Price (CAD) \$340

Can I save my application and return to complete it later?

How do I upload my documents?

My documents are too large to upload. How do I reduce the file size?



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

- How early and where can I submit a PGWP application?
- How long does it take to process my application?
  - <u>Estimated processing times</u> (subject to change)
- Can I work after my final exam and before my final grade comes out on my online transcript? (<u>IRCC – working while</u> <u>studying</u>)
- Can I work while my PGWP application is being processed?
  - Check <u>Working while we process your application</u> on the IRCC website

# FAQS CONTINUED...

- Can I travel outside Canada while I have a PGWP application being processed in Canada?
- Do I need to have a job to keep my PGWP valid?
- Can I renew a PGWP?
- How can I prove to a potential employer that I am eligible to work while I await processing of my application? (IRCC)
- Can I apply to extend my family members' status while I apply for a PGWP?
  - Open Spousal Work Permit eligibility
  - Open work permit eligibility for family members of foreign workers

# FAQS CONTINUED...

- How long does it take to receive a degree completion letter?
- How can I update my mailing address after submitting my PGWP application?
  - Visit the <u>IRCC website</u> to see how to update your mailing address
- Can I apply for PGWP while holding maintained status?
- What if my study permit expires after applying for PGWP and before the approval?
- If I don't meet the PGWP eligibility requirements, what can I do?
- Can I submit my PGWP application upon completion of all my course work, but before completing my co-op terms?

# RESOURCES



### IRCC PGWP RESOURCES

- IRCC
  - www.canada.ca/immigration
  - Call Centre: +1 888 242 2100
  - IRCC Web Form
- Determine your eligibility
- Instruction Guide [IMM 5580]

### **IMMIGRATION ADVISING**

International Centre for Students (ICS)

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:30pm (PT)

Phone: +1 250 721 6361 Email: icsinfo@uvic.ca

Website: <a href="https://www.uvic.ca/international-">https://www.uvic.ca/international-</a>

experiences/contacts/index.php