



LEGAL AUTHORIZATION TO WORK IN CANADA

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Established: July 1998

Revised: July 2001, January 2002, March 2003, May 2003, November 2007, May 2009, October 2011

Most recent revision: March 2014

Applicable Categories of Registration:

1. General Practising Certificate
2. Provisional Practising Certificate
3. Temporary Certificate

Type of requirement: Exemptible

Applicable Regulation

35 (1) 6. The applicant must be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, or be authorized under the *Immigration Act and Refugee Protection Act* (Canada) to engage in employment as an occupational therapist.

Principle(s):

In order to be employed as an occupational therapist in Ontario a registrant must have legal authorization to work in Canada; only Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada and individuals with valid Canadian work permits have the right to work in Canada.

Decision Criteria:

1. An applicant may meet the requirement by providing official documentation acceptable to the Committee of either Canadian citizenship, landed immigrant resident status or a valid work permit. Documentation may be provided to the College as a photocopy, fax or electronically as a PDF.

Possible Outcomes

1. An applicant who provides official documentation, acceptable to the Registrar, will be deemed to have met the legal authorization to work in Canada requirement.
2. An applicant who does not provide official documentation acceptable to the Registrar will be notified that they are not eligible for registration until they have met this requirement. Exemptions will be rare and will generally only be granted in circumstances (if there are any) where practising as an occupational therapist is not inconsistent with immigration law.

NOTE: Once an applicant holding a valid work permit has been registered, he/she must continue to hold such a work permit, to have applied for a new work permit or meet the requirement through obtaining permanent residency or citizenship. Members holding valid work permits will generally be sent a letter by the College 30 days prior to the expiry date of their work permit informing them of this requirement. The certificate of registration will be revoked if the member does not provide acceptable official documentation by the work permit expiry date.