

Authorization to Work in Canada

8-100

Section:	Registration
Applies to:	All applicants and occupational therapists in all classes of registration
Approved by:	Registration Committee
Date Established:	July 1998
Date Revised:	July 2001, January 2002, March 2003, May 2003, November 2007, May 2009, October 2011, March 2014, October 2021

Purpose

This policy explains how the College determines if applicants and occupational therapists meet the registration requirement of authorization to engage in employment as an occupational therapist in Canada.

Principle

To be employed as an occupational therapist in Ontario, applicants and registrants must have legal authorization to work in Canada.

Policy

Proof of legal authorization to work in Canada is a registration requirement in the College's registration regulation.

Process for providing authorization to work in Canada

All applicants to the College must provide copies of official documents showing that they:

- hold Canadian citizenship or
- have permanent resident status or
- hold valid authorization under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) to engage in employment as an occupational therapist (this will usually be a work permit).

Occupational Therapists holding work permits

The College will remind occupational therapists holding work permits of this requirement 30 days before their permit expires. To continue to hold a certificate of registration, the occupational therapist must provide the College with:

- a new work permit
- proof of permanent resident status

- proof of Canadian citizenship, or
- authorization under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) to engage in employment as an occupational therapist acceptable to the Registrar.

If the occupational therapist is not able to provide proof of meeting this requirement, the occupational therapist's certificate of registration may be revoked in accordance with section 35 (3) of the College's registration regulation.

Legal Requirement

[Ontario Regulation 226/96: General, under the Occupational Therapy Act, 1991, s. 35\(1\)6 and \(3\)](#)