

Social Insurance Number (SIN) for International Students



Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)

oversees the SIN. Their website is found here:

canada.ca/en/employment-social-development.html

IRCC regulates Temporary Residents (visitors, students and workers) and who is eligible to work in Canada.

Canadian employers require individuals to have a SIN for employment in Canada. If an employer offers you cash and does not ask you for a SIN, the type of work might be considered illegal. You can verify with ESDC to confirm.

IMPORTANT! A SIN does not mean that an international student is permitted to work. Employers might not ask you if you are authorized to work. This is your responsibility to know if you are allowed to work based on your situation/status in Canada.

WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY AND HOW TO APPLY

Learn more about **what you need in order to apply for a SIN** here:

canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/before-applying.html

What you need:

1. Proof of address

You may be required to provide a document with your Canadian address. If you do not have any of the documents listed on the website above such as a bank letter or letter from landlord etc., you can update your local address on your ACSIS account and then download your timetable (also on ACSIS). The timetable will normally support the proof of address requirement for the SIN.

2. Study permit or work permit (for work that is required by your program)

Use your study permit that has the remark indicating that you can work on or off-campus to support the SIN application. If you have a work permit for work that is a requirement of your studies, you can also use this to support the SIN. This work permit is also referred to as a co-op/internship work permit. Note that this work permit can only be used for work that is required by your program. The work permit will likely have Algonquin College as the employer.

International Education Centre (IEC)

The IEC is located in room C021. On-campus services are limited due to the pandemic.

The **IEC Support Team** can help answer some of your questions. Current international students can email iecsupport@algonquincollege.com for assistance. Be sure to include your AC student number in your email. IEC Support work hours are from Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:45 pm excluding holidays- unless otherwise specified.

How to apply for the SIN (on-line or by mail)

The pandemic has changed how applications are submitted for the SIN. Learn about the current process here:

canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html

See more about **studying and working** in Canada here:

canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work.html

Important – Studies must be the priority for international students in Canada while on a study permit.

You can only start working in Canada when you start your study program. You can't work before your studies begin, as per IRCC.

Maintaining status

Learn more about maintaining status here:

canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/temporary-residents/visitors/implied-status-extending-stay.html

If you are maintaining your status, you can keep working under the same conditions of your initial study permit and/or work permit if your Social Insurance Number (SIN) is expired. More information is found here:

cic.gc.ca/english/helpcentre/answer.asp?qnum=1505&top=17

As per the web link above: If you applied to extend your study permit and/or work permit before your initial permit expired, you can keep working, even if your SIN is expired.

Renewing your SIN

When you get your new study permit and/or work permit, you can renew your SIN.

You can give your employer proof that you've applied to renew your SIN. Once you get a new expiry date for your SIN, you must give it to your employer within 3 days, according to ESDC.

Most Up-to-Date Information

For the most up-to-date information about Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), please refer to the IRCC web site at: canada.ca/immigration or call them at **1-888-242-2100**. It is the international student's responsibility to know the rules and regulations that apply. See the conditions of a study permit holder here:

canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/prepare-arrival/study-permit-conditions.html



Work Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

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General Contact

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