

PGME International Update

Incoming Visa Trainees

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Post MD Education

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Overview

- What we know
- Numbers
- What we have done
- Extensions of current trainees
- Updates



What we know

- As per Immigration Refugee Citizenship Canada (IRCC), trainees who have a work permit and/or a letter of approval can enter Canada, at this time

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/service-delivery/coronavirus/temporary-residence/work-permit.html>



The numbers

- Total number incoming visa trainees - 405

The PGME visa team has reached out to all incoming visa trainees to determine where they were in the process of obtaining a work permit.

Results

- Work permits - 22
- Letter of Approval (aka letter of introduction) - 97
- Incomplete Biometrics and Medical Exams - 146



What we have done

- PGME is working with the Government Relations Team at Central University to advocate for incoming visa trainees who have not yet received their work permits due to visa application centres (VAC) being closed.
- PGME has provided personalized letters to incoming visa trainees who have a letter of approval to assist them with entering Canada.
- PGME has provided overall and department specific data to all Department Chairs and Vice Chairs Education, in two stages:
 1. Review data on COVID-19 impact on incoming visa trainees (April 15, 2020)
 2. Departments to advise PGME on extensions due to COVID-19 by April 29, 2020 (April 21, 2020)



Extensions received to date by PGME

Total Extensions 63 (due to COVID-19)

Process for extensions:

As soon as possible, please send all extensions to PGME. This should include the following:

- Extension of letter of offer
- Educational objectives

****PGME has waived visa processing fee, and registration fees and visa trainees for trainees extended due to COVID-19**



Updates & Reminders

- Upon arrival trainees must quarantine for 14 days, prior to starting clinical activity
- International trainees arriving without previously made housing arrangements can seek assistance through PGME by contacting: lisa.bevacqua@utoronto.ca
- Both **MCCEE** and **MCCQE1** will be accepted from international applicants in keeping with other Canadian schools
- PGME continues to receive applications from international trainees. We appreciate your willingness and flexibility to review

