

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
- 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>



Updates

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.

As of June 5, 2020:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/notices/public-policy-biometrics-exemption.html>

Incoming trainees who have not been able to complete biometrics can now come to Canada and have this requirement completed at the port of entry.

The numbers

- Total number incoming visa trainees - **411**

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 - **26**
- Letter of Approval (aka letter of introduction) - **176**
- Incomplete Biometrics and Medical Exams - **109**



What we have done

- PGME has provided personalized advocacy letters signed by the Vice Dean and Associate Dean to incoming visa trainees who have a letter of approval to assist them with entering Canada.
- Trainees have been asked to carry this letter on their person, along with their program offer letters, PGME LOA, and any other documentation proving their residency in 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)



Updates & Reminders

- Upon arrival trainees must self isolate 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
- PGME will extend the deadline for applicants to PGY 1 positions to provide flexibility (mid-August)
- In keeping with last year, the PG National Deans will institute principles and deadlines for 2021 offers for visa sponsored trainees, including PGY 1, MSM, PSM and FM-ES. These will be communicated when final.

