

## **Bridge Extension and Restoration of Status for Caregivers in the LCP<sup>1</sup>**

*This fact sheet explains the law in general. It is not intended as legal advice for your particular problem. Because each person's situation is different, you may need to seek legal advice. A lawyer at MWC reviewed this information in May 2018.*

This fact sheet covers two scenarios that may arise:

1. Your **work permit is about to expire** and you **do not** have a new employer.
2. Your **work permit has already expired**.

Let's walk through these scenarios step by step:

### **Scenario 1- Work permit is about to expire and you do not have a new employer**

If your work permit is about to expire, you do not have a new employer, and you have been in Canada for less than 4 years, you can apply for a bridge extension.

#### **What is a bridge extension?**

A bridge extension is an interim work permit that you, the live-in caregiver, can obtain when your work permit has expired and you are in between jobs. Typically, the extension is granted for a period of two months. When you are on a bridge extension, you are only authorized to work for your previous employer and not a new employer. You will need to apply for an employer specific valid work permit in order to work for anyone else.

#### **How do I apply?**

The application for bridge extension is the same as the work permit application [IMM 5710 found at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/imm5710E.pdf>]. Make sure you write 'bridge extension' across the top of the form.

#### **What documents do I need to support my application?**

To make a bridge extension application, some of the documents you will need are:

- a \$155 fee receipt;
- copy of passport (which must be valid for at least one year);
- copy of current work permit; and
- an application form IMM5710 found at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/imm5710E.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup> LCP refers to Live-in Caregiver Program.

For a complete list of documents, refer to 'Document Checklist' on the CIC website at:  
<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM5556E.PDF>

### **Scenario 2: Your work permit has expired**

Immigration regulations allow temporary foreign workers including live-in caregivers to have their temporary resident status restored if a restoration application is submitted within 90 days of them losing status (ie within 90 days of work permit expiry). In most cases, in order to apply for restoration of status, the foreign national's prospective employer has to obtain a positive Labour Market Impact Assessment.

In order to apply for restoration, the applicant should complete the IMM 5710 and select 'Restoration of temporary resident status as a worker' in question 3 of the application **AND** select 'work permit with same employer' **OR** 'work permit with new employer' depending on your situation. You must also explain why you stayed in Canada after your work permit expired.

Applicants have to pay a \$200 processing fee for restoration of status and \$155 for the application for a new work permit (\$355 in total)

- Send your application with the following documents:
  - a \$355 fee receipt,
  - copy of your passport (which must be valid for at least one year),
  - copy of your current work permit,
  - copy of positive Labour Market Impact Assessment,
  - a letter from your employer,
  - a job confirmation,
  - a copy of your employment contract, and
  - an application form IMM5710 found at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/imm5710E.pdf>