

Info Sheet 4

Work without a work permit - Performing Artists

With the implementation of the new Immigration and Refugee Protection Act on 28 June, 2002, foreign artists and their essential supporting staff coming to Canada to perform do not need a permit if they are only performing in Canada for a limited period of time and will not be performing in a bar or restaurant.

The Chart below outlines which types of activities CIC/HRSD considers to meet the requirements of this Regulation, and which types of activities will require confirmed work permits.

Entry without a work permit	Work permit and confirmation required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foreign-based musical and theatrical individuals and groups and their essential crew, outside bars and restaurants. ▪ Street performers (buskers), DJs working outside a bar. ▪ A foreign or travelling circus. ▪ Guest artists (not employed) within a Canadian performance group. This would apply where an artist is contracted for a few days of rehearsal and one or two performances of a concert. ▪ World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) wrestlers. ▪ Persons performing at a private event, such as a wedding. ▪ Air show performers. <p><i>Please note: The following persons will be granted entry as visitors pursuant to other Regulations than 186(g)</i></p> <p>As business visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Film producers. ▪ Film and recording studio users (limited to small groups renting studios). <p>As guest speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Persons doing guest spots on Canadian TV and radio broadcasts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bands performing at bars, pubs, restaurants, etc. ▪ Exotic/Erotic dancers performing in a bar or club. ▪ Actors, singers, crew, etc. in Canadian theatrical productions, shows, circuses. ▪ Any individual involved in making films, TV, internet and radio broadcasts [with the exception of co-production agreements where actors, etc. will be issued work permits exempt from HRSD confirmation under R204, CEC T10. ▪ Any individual who will be in an employment relationship with the organization or business contracting for their services in Canada. ▪ A performer in a Canadian-based production or show.