

Info Sheet 5

Work without a work permit - Self-funded researchers

Individuals doing research as part of their field of study at a Canadian academic institution and who are not receiving any official funding for that research to simply enter Canada as *visitors/temporary residents*.

"Self-funded researchers" are persons who will be conducting research activities in their field of study at a Canadian academic institution, and who have autonomous funding arrangements other than an award. Academic institutions include any institution, public or private, authorized to grant degrees in Canada, and their affiliated hospitals or research facilities.

Self-funded academic researchers need not be students, though some may be registered as students at a foreign post-secondary institution. As they are not the direct recipient of an award, they do not qualify for an employment authorization as an academic researcher or fellow .

Such persons may be admitted as visitors/temporary residents if they are in a non-work situation. The following conditions may apply:

- no displacement of Canadian or permanent resident workers;
- no employer-employee relationship;
- no remuneration. The individual or the Canadian academic institution must not receive remuneration for the research. The activity being performed must not be one for which remuneration is normally paid. This does not preclude some small compensation in kind (e.g. use of research facilities).

Self-funded academic researchers must present evidence of their purpose of entry and anticipated duration of stay. This could be a letter from the Canadian academic institution that is hosting the researcher. They must have sufficient funds to support themselves for the period of time requested.

These persons should be processed and documented as visitors/temporary residents. Regular visitor medical requirements apply. Extensions may be granted if the above criteria continue to be met.

For information on temporary resident visa requirements please refer to www.cic.gc.ca/