

# Extending Your Canadian Dream

The Comprehensive Guide to Securing  
Your Canadian Visitor Record.



Presented by Dara Immigration Services (DIS)

[www.Daraimmigration.Com](http://www.Daraimmigration.Com)



NotebookLM



# You Want to Stay, But the Clock is Ticking

Whether it is for extra months with grandchildren, extended business explorations, or simply experiencing more of the Great White North, extending your stay is a valid legal pathway.

## The Invisible Deadline

Many visitors believe their status lasts as long as their visa. This misconception leads to accidental removal orders. To protect your ability to return, you must act before your current status expires.



# The Visa is the Key. The Record is the Lease.

Confusing entry documents with status documents is the primary cause of accidental illegality.

## The Visitor Visa / TRV



**Function:** Entry Document (Sticker in passport).

**Analogy:** The key that lets you open the front door.

**⚠ Rule:** A 10-year visa allows entry, not a 10-year continuous stay.



## The Visitor Record



**Function:** Status Document (Separate paper).

**Analogy:** The lease agreement that authorizes you to sleep in the house.

**⚠ Rule:** Sets the firm date by which you must leave.

**TAKEAWAY:** Your visa expiry date is NOT your stay expiry date.

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# What is a Canadian Visitor Record?

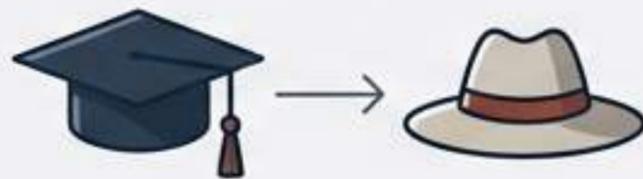
A status document issued by IRCC authorizing you to remain in Canada beyond the standard 6-month limit. It keeps you legal without requiring you to leave the country.

## Who Is This For?



### Tourists

Those wishing to extend a holiday beyond 6 months.



### Transitioning Residents

Work or Study Permit holders who have finished their contracts/programs but wish to remain temporarily as visitors.



### Super Visa Holders

Parents or grandparents needing to extend their authorized period beyond the initial entry allowance.

# The Four Pillars of Eligibility

To be approved, you must prove your temporary intent is genuine.



## 1. Valid Legal Status

You must apply before your current status expires. Check your passport stamp; if missing, the default is 6 months from entry.



## 2. Valid Passport

IRCC cannot grant a record past your passport's expiry date. Ensure your travel document covers the requested stay.



## 3. Financial Means

You must prove you can support yourself without working. The benchmark is approximately \$1,000–\$1,500 CAD per month.



## 4. Specific Reason

Vague intent is insufficient. You need a specific event, meeting, or family milestone to justify the extension.

# Money Talks: Proving Your Financial Independence

You are not allowed to work. Therefore, you must prove you don't need to work.

## Document Checklist

- ✓ **Tier 1 (Best): Liquid Funds**  
Recent bank statements (past 4 months) showing accessible cash.
- ✓ **Tier 2 (Support): Family Sponsorship**  
If staying with family, a notarized Letter of Support accompanied by their financial proofs (T4s, Paystubs).

## The Math

Calculate approx. \$1,000 to \$1,500 CAD for every month of extension requested.

**Warning:** Relying solely on cash or vague verbal promises of support will likely lead to refusal.

# Investment and Timeline (2026 Estimates)

Processing times for In-Canada applications can be lengthy. Apply early.



**Apply Now**  
(30 Days  
before expiry)



Processing Period



**Decision**  
(80 – 130 Days)

Gov. Application Fee  
per person



**\$100 CAD**

Online application processing.

Biometrics Fee,  
valid for 10 years



**\$85 CAD**

Required for most applicants.

Est. Processing Time  
due to high volume



**80-130 Days**

Based on current IRCC estimates.

# Maintained Status: Your Legal Safety Net

Formerly called "Implied Status". If you apply before midnight of your expiry date, you remain legal in Canada until IRCC makes a decision—even if your original permit expires during the wait.



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## Critical Constraint

**You must stay inside Canada.** If you leave while the application is processing, your maintained status is forfeited.

# The Application Roadmap: Phase 1 (Preparation)

Navigate the initial steps with precision and gather essential documents.

1

## The Date Check

Locate the stamp in your passport or check your digital entry record. Calculate your exact expiry date.



2

## Document Assembly

- **Identity:** Passport photo page and entry stamp.
- **Proof of Means:** Bank statements or support letters.
- **The Letter of Explanation:** Detail exactly why you need more time and your specific plan to leave.



### Pro Tip

Be specific in your letter. Vague timelines signal 'Resident in Disguise'. Mention specific dates like 'Attending niece's graduation in June'.

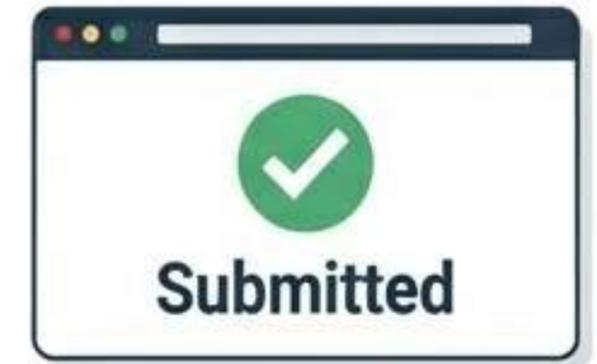


# The Application Roadmap: Phase 2 (Submission & Waiting)

3

## Submit Online

Log in to GCKey Portal. Select 'Apply to come to Canada' -> 'Visit' -> 'Extend my stay (Visitor Record)'.



4

## Pay Fees

Pay the \$100 CAD fee and save the receipt immediately.



5

## The Wait (Maintained Status)

- ✓ **DO:** Keep a copy of your application and receipt with you at all times.
- ✗ **DO NOT:** Work, study (unless authorized), or travel outside Canada borders.



# Why Applications Fail

Officers refuse applicants who appear to be 'Residents in Disguise'. Avoid these red flags.



## Vague Plans

Stating "I want to stay until I decide to leave" is grounds for refusal. Always provide a specific end date and reason.



## History of Non-Compliance

Past illegal work or overstays will haunt this application. Officers check historical records.



## Invisible Money

Lack of verifiable bank statements suggests you might work illegally to survive. Cash is not enough evidence.

# The Emergency Brake: Restoration of Status

**Scenario:** You forgot to apply and your status expired fewer than 90 days ago.

**The Fix:** You must apply for “Restoration of Status”.

## The Cost

### Financial:

\$200 (Restoration fee) + \$100  
(Permit fee).

### Legal:

You have lost status. You are technically in Canada illegally until a positive decision is made.

*Warning: This is a curative measure, not a strategy. Do not maximize this privilege.*

# Frequently Asked Questions: Restrictions

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## Can I work while on a Visitor Record?

No. It strictly prohibits employment. Working illegally is grounds for immediate removal and a ban from Canada.



## Can I use a Visitor Record to re-enter Canada?

No. It is a status document, not a travel document. If you leave, you need a valid TRV (Visa) or eTA to return, and the border officer will reassess you from scratch.

# Frequently Asked Questions: Logistics



## How long is a Visitor Record valid for?

Typically 6 months, but officers have discretion. It can be shorter or longer (e.g., 1 year) depending entirely on the strength of your strength of your financial proof and reason for staying.



## Can I convert a Work Permit to a Visitor Record?

Yes. If your work contract ends but you want to travel, you can change status to 'Visitor'. You must stop working the exact day your permit expires.



# Don't Risk Your Return

Extending your stay seems simple, but a calculation error on an expiry date or a vague explanation can lead to a removal order. Compliance today ensures you are welcome back tomorrow.



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