

Work Search For International Students

Where Are You Eligible To Work?

International Students may work on or off campus, provided that their Study Permit grants working permission in the “Conditions” section. Full-time Trent International Students with valid study permits may work on campus without a work permit for an unlimited number of hours. You may qualify to work off campus without a work permit. If you qualify, your study permit will allow you to work up to 20 hours per week during the school year, and full-time during breaks. International Students are allowed to work multiple jobs on or off campus, as long as they adhere to the conditions noted on their Study Permit. To determine if you qualify, and for current information on the rules and regulations, please see the Citizenship and Immigration website cic.gc.ca. Use their self-assessment tool to see if you are eligible to work off campus without a work permit. There is also info about Post-Graduation Work Permits.

- Visit the Trent International (TI) Office for specific questions regarding your eligibility as a Trent student and for advice about your application for a Social Insurance Number

Additional paperwork required to work on campus:

- Students must possess a valid study permit with working permissions to work on campus in Canada, and if they have not undergone a medical examination, students may be subject to specific terms and conditions.
- Additionally, all individuals in Canada require a Social Insurance Number (SIN) to work. A Social Insurance Number is a nine-digit number that you need to work in Canada or to have access to government programs and benefits. It allows an employer to process payroll while informing the Canadian Revenue Agency about the amount of money a person earns. If you do not have a SIN, please email international@trentu.ca for assistance.

Where the Jobs are... The Advertised Job Market

Advertised jobs are work opportunities that have been posted somewhere publicly. While these are easier to find, they tend to be more competitive and only make up 20% of the total number of opportunities.

1. On-campus:

- Student Job Board (also off-campus jobs, volunteer opportunities, etc.) – trentu.ca/sep
- Positions funded just for International students are posted on the Student Job Board, typically in August/September and have "TI" written in the job title and described in the job posting. Trent International students can also apply to any regular on-campus job (i.e. not TWSP funded).

2. Off-campus:

- Newspapers – The Examiner, Peterborough This Week
- On-line Job Boards – e.g. jobbank.gc.ca -- see Links section of trentu.ca/careerspace
- Company / Association websites
- Resource Centres – New Canadians Centre, Peterborough Employment Resource Centre

Where the Jobs are...The Unadvertised Job Market

An unadvertised job is any work opportunity that is not posted publicly. A great way to discover “hidden” jobs is through networking, which involves developing a broad list of people you know or have met. People in your network may be able to give you job leads, offer you advice and information, and introduce you to others so that you can expand your network.

Networking On Campus:

- Attend Career Events & Fairs
- Talk to professors
- Go to department events
- Join extracurricular activities and clubs
- Attend employer information sessions

Networking Off Campus:

- Inform your friends, family, and people you interact with every day that you are looking for work – most jobs come through “word of mouth”
- Volunteer or join community groups – try to find something career related to increase your professional contacts
- Do research – explore the companies you are interested in and how they recruit
- Attend off-campus job fairs and info sessions

Identify Your Skills

(Adapted from: Canadian Association for Graduate Studies)

As an international student, you have unique experiences that will be an asset when searching for jobs – whether on or off campus. Here are a few examples to help you identify some of the special skills you may have.

- Cultural awareness
- Adaptable & versatile
- Multi-lingual
- Intercultural communication skills
- Sense of adventure and confidence
- Ability to interact in diverse settings
- Broadened perspectives
- Able to learn new things quickly
- Ability to deal with stress
- Resourceful
- Knowledge about international aspects of specific field of work

Extra Tip! - Think of 5 other unique skills that you have, related to your international experience and how you can market them to potential employers.

Resources to Help You Find Work

Workshops

Trent International offers workshops specifically geared for international students. Topics include volunteering, community involvement, and eligibility.

Careerspace Services and Resources

Online

- Careerspace Website: trentu.ca/careerspace
- Jobs! On and off campus – Student Job Board: trentu.ca/sep

Appointments

- Résumé and LinkedIn Critiques
- Interview Preparation
- Career Counselling
- Career Talks

Book appointments at trentu.ca/sep .

Helpful Links

Citizenship & Immigration Canada -- cic.gc.ca
• Government site: immigration issues in Canada

Canadian Heritage -- pch.gc.ca
• Learn about Arts & Culture, Multiculturalism

Settlement.org -- settlement.org
• Provides info on settling in Ontario

Canadian Labour Market Information - jobbank.gc.ca
• Finding out about the labour market will help you understand more about working in Canada and help you in your job search

Canada International
canadainternational.gc.ca
• Info about visas, immigration, studying in Canada

For more information, visit trentu.ca/careerspace or drop by the Student Centre, Room 3.10.

Tips for Graduating Students!

Be knowledgeable of immigration and work permit matters so that you can explain the process to employers. Plan ahead to ensure you have the right combination of documents leading up to graduation.

Need help? Contact the Trent International Office.