If you have any questions about passports, consult www.ppt.gc.ca or call 1 800 668-6381.

Visa and Work Permit

All countries require you to obtain special permission for entry when you plan to work. This permission is called a visa or work permit.

Only the country concerned can provide you with definitive and official information on entry requirements. Before you go, you should obtain the required visa or work permit from that country's embassy or consulate accredited to Canada. Check our Country Travel Reports for contact information and Web addresses. Initiate the process well in advance of your departure date, as obtaining a visa or work permit can take several months.

Note that your work visa may have special provisions concerning departure and re-entry. If you plan to travel while working overseas, enquire about the process of obtaining a multiple-entry visa to avoid future difficulties.

To change your employment after your arrival, you may have to leave and re-enter the country under

a different visa or work permit. Verify the requirements with the Canadian embassy or one of its consulates in the host country before moving to a new job.

Working without an appropriate visa or overstaying a visa is illegal; if caught, you may be subject to imprisonment, a fine and/or deportation. You may also be barred from re-entry to that country.

Medical Certificate or Proof of AIDS Testing

Some countries include a medical certificate or proof of AIDS testing as an entry requirement, particularly for long-term residents and students. Again, contact the embassy or consulate of the country concerned for the latest information. Have the test conducted and obtain the results before you leave.

Residency Permits

If you are planning to work for a long time abroad, you may need a residency permit. This permit gives a non-national the right to live in a foreign country. Consult the embassy or a consulate of the country concerned for further information.

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