

Green.Skyler

From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: February 8, 2023 8:51 AM
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: RE: Clarification on C20 – Reciprocal exemption code for Coaches and Athletes -- REP-2023-0053 --

Hello,

Please see our response to your question.

QUESTION:

We are writing to seek clarification on the C20 – Reciprocal exemption code for Coaches and Athletes (new exemption code C26).

In particular, when showing that reciprocity for coaches and athletes exists, does the reciprocity need to exist in the same sport as the one that they intend to undertake in Canada. Our understanding and a review of the policy related to this exemption indicates that reciprocity for the particular occupation (**not sport**), simply needs to be shown. I.e. Proof of opportunities for Canadian hockey players in the foreign coaches country of Citizenship can be used to show reciprocity for foreign coaches who are set to coach Curling in Canada.

Your clarification on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Experts and website links to policy below for your ease of reference:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/temporary-residents/foreign-workers/exemption-codes/canadian-interests-reciprocal-employment-general-guidelines-r205-b-c20.html>

RESPONSE:

In order for a client to be eligible for a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) exemption under per [R205\(b\)](#) (administrative code C20) for coaches and athletes, they must demonstrate that reciprocity exists for the particular occupation in their home country. An example of a particular occupation is “hockey coach”. For reciprocity to exist, a hockey coach client would have to demonstrate employment opportunities exist for a Canadian a hockey coach in the client’s home country. The onus is on the institution and/or applicant to demonstrate that reciprocity exists.

For example, if the client’s home country only allows work permits for Canadian curling coaches, then there would not be reciprocity for Canadian hockey coaches. If the client’s home country provides opportunities to all types of coaches, then the argument could be made that there is reciprocity afforded to Canadian hockey coaches.

For this LMIA exemption, “coach” is not considered a particular occupation.

Thank you for contacting the Temporary Resident Program Division of IRCC. We are unable to respond to case-specific enquiries, but encourage you to contact the appropriate resource below for assistance:

- 1) For more information about IRCC programs, please visit our [Help Centre](#).
- 2) For case status updates, you can [check the status of your application online](#).
- 3) For other enquiries, please contact the Department using the appropriate method provided on the [Contact Us](#) page.

- 4) If you have already contacted the Client Support Centre or migration office, and submitted a request via the IRCC [Webform](#) on the processing of your application and the reasons for decision and require further information, then you may contact the [Cases and Advice Unit](#) of the Immigration Cases Division at Case Management Branch.
- 5) For technical issues with the Employer Portal, please contact the [Employer Portal Mailbox](#). Employers should review the Employer Portal [Enrolment](#) and [User](#) Guides.
- 6) For employers wishing to hire temporary workers who are outside Canada and from visa-exempt countries who may be exempt from a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) or a work permit, you are encouraged to contact the [International Mobility Worker Unit](#) to seek an opinion. There are no costs associated with the opinion request. The opinion provided by the IMWU may be considered by the border services officer but will not guarantee that the temporary worker will be exempt from needing an LMIA / work permit or entry into Canada.

We hope this information is of assistance.

Thank you kindly,

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:

Sent: January 10, 2023 1:26 PM

To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.IRCC@cic.gc.ca>

Cc:

Subject: Clarification on C20 – Reciprocal exemption code for Coaches and Athletes

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Other examples of C20

s.19(1)

Professional and semi-professional coaches and athletes working for Canadian-based teams

Full or part-time paid coaches and trainers, and professional or semi-professional athletes working for Canadian-based teams require work permits. Given the international mobility in this field, they may be eligible for exemption from an LMO pursuant to R205(b), C20, if they can prove that reciprocity exists for the particular occupation in their home country.

A full-time coach is a worker who earns significant income from coaching - enough to support themselves. A part-time coach earns a significant portion towards supporting themselves in Canada.

Best Regards,