

Missing Months on Your 2-Year IEC?



There have been a number of errors with respect to the 2-year IEC permits.

If you arrive at the border and the officer gives you 1 year instead of 2, ***check to be sure your passport is valid for the entire 2 years and that your insurance covers 2 full years.*** If all is in order with your documents, it is likely a inputting error. This can be corrected. You must apply for a work permit extension.

- Fill in the application here:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/extend-worker.asp>

- Write N/A in the LMIA section
- Complete the document checklist and include the required supporting documents
- Include a cover letter explaining that Irish nationals are to be issued a 2-year permit as per the Canada-Ireland bilateral agreement and that Exemption Code C21 should have entered into the FOSS/GCMS program when they issued your permit. In your letter, note that IRCC has confirmed that the fee for the extension will be waived as the error was not yours and you have already paid for the permit.

HOWEVER, if you arrive at the border to activate your IEC permit and ***you do not have 2-years passport validity***, the error is yours. The officer will only issue a work permit up to the expiration date on your passport. You need to apply for a new passport and then follow the process above—apply for a work permit extension and include a cover letter noting that the error was yours but as per the Canada-Ireland bilateral agreement (Exemption Code C21) you are now requesting an extension for the full 2-years. You ***must pay*** the fees for the extension (please see our Work Permit FAQ to be sure you pay the ***2 required fees***).

CRITICAL INFO: In both of the above scenarios, you *must apply for the extension while your current work permit is still valid*—not your IEC Letter of Introduction but rather the work permit issued to you at the border. If you apply for the extension after the work permit has expired, you will be refused the extension. You must be in status as a worker in order to extend to your full 2 years.

Apply for an Irish passport in Canada:

<https://www.dfa.ie/irish-embassy/canada/passports/>