

## Work Permit, Visitor Visa, and Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

### What international trainees require

- All foreign nationals appointed as residency trainees, clinical fellows or research fellows must apply for a **work permit** for the duration of their postgraduate medical training.
- Citizens of some countries (e.g. Brazil, India, and Thailand) must apply for a **visitor visa** to enter Canada as well as a work permit to train in Canada.
- Citizens of some countries (e.g. U.K., Singapore, and U.S.) are *exempt* from the visitor visa requirement. Until recently, these individuals needed to apply only for a work permit to train in Canada.
- Beginning November 2016, foreign nationals who are exempt from the visitor visa requirement need an **Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)** to visit Canada by air (with the exception of U.S. citizens).
- The website of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) includes an interactive tool that will confirm if someone needs a visitor visa or an eTA: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>

### What do these items look like?

#### eTA

- Electronically linked to passport, *not* a hard copy document
- Valid for 5 years or expiry of passport
- Online application process that IRCC states will result in approval within minutes (or may take several days)
- Application should be made before booking a flight
- \$7 CAD application fee
- Not required for travel by land or sea

#### Work Permit

- Hard copy document issued to the trainee at the Canadian port-of-entry by the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Officer when the trainee first enters Canada

#### Visitor Visa

- Hard copy document laminated onto a page of the trainee's passport by the Canadian Visa Office outside Canada



Questions? Contact John Kerr, PGME at [john.kerr@utoronto.ca](mailto:john.kerr@utoronto.ca) (tel. 416-978-8420)

April 2017