

What is a Study Permit?

The study permit is a document the IRCC issues that allows foreign students to study at [designated learning institutions](#) (DLI) in Canada. Most foreign nationals need a study permit to study in Canada. Make sure you have all the documents you need before you apply. You should apply **before you travel to Canada**.

Your study permit is not a visa. It doesn't let you enter Canada. You may also need a [visitor visa or an electronic travel authorization \(eTA\)](#). If we approve your study permit, we'll issue one to you with your study permit.



Study Permit Requirements:

Letter of Acceptance and Proof of Financial Support: We will provide you with an official Letter of Acceptance (LOA) indicating that you are accepted into one of our Designated Learning Institutions (DLI). The LOA also satisfies the Proof of Financial Support by indicating that tuition and homestay fees have been paid in full.

Custodianship Declaration: Unless the student is accompanied by a legal guardian, any minor must include the Custodianship Declaration with the application. The custodian in Canada must sign the first page, and the parents or legal guardians of the minor child in the child's home country must sign the second page.

Passport: **Important** Your study permit will not be issued past your passport's expiry.

- If you do not have a passport, **apply immediately**.
- If your passport will expire soon, extend it before you apply for your study permit.



Make sure your photo meets the specifications required for the online application. Find digital photo specifications on the "*Your document checklist*" page by clicking on the question mark, in the "*Instructions*" column, for "*Digital photo*".

Biometrics: Because you are applying for a study permit from outside Canada, you will be required to submit your biometrics (fingerprints and a photo) in-person at a biometrics collection point outside of Canada.

The time it takes to submit your biometrics is not included in the processing time for your study permit and your application will not be processed until biometrics are received by the visa office. You only need to give biometrics once every 10 years.

The following link provides a list of biometrics collection points:

<https://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/where-to-give-biometrics.asp>

Note: If you do not have a biometrics collection point available in your home country, you may need to travel to another country to give biometrics

1. Pay the biometrics fee at the same time you submit your study permit application for faster processing.
2. Receive your biometrics instruction letter. How and when you receive it will depend on how you submit your study permit application. For online applications, you will receive an electronic biometrics instruction letter within 24 hours (including online applications at Visa Application Centers).
3. Submit your biometrics within 30 days of receiving your biometrics instruction letter.

Other Supporting Documentation: Extensive supporting documentation must be submitted with all study permit applications. This documentation varies from country-to-country. Remember to check for **any additional documents** required by your country's visa office.

If you're applying online:

- **To avoid delays or rejection**, submit the required documents listed on the "*Your document checklist*" page in your MyCIC account **and** any visa office-specific documents with your application.
- Merge all visa office-specific documents into one file (such as a PDF) and upload the file in the "*Client Information*" section under "*Optional Documents*" in your online checklist.



Study Permit On-line Application Process:

Step 1: Determine if you are eligible to apply for your Study Permit online by going to the [Apply online page](#) of the Immigration Canada website and fill out the “[Check your eligibility to apply](#)” questionnaire. The application should be filled out by the student (with family support) unless you are using a paid representative (i.e. Agent).

- Once you have successfully completed the questionnaire, you will be prompted to answer questions about your studies in Canada, for example: if you are an exchange student, if you will require a co-op work permit, if you have dependents accompanying you, etc. Ensure that your answers are correct and continue.
- If you are eligible to apply for your Study Permit online, you will be provided with a personalized reference code (example: AP756967260) on the top of your personalized "Document Checklist".

Step 2: Print your "Document Checklist" and take note of your personal reference code (found on the first line) as you will need it to start your online application.

Step 3: Log onto your MyCIC account (register for an account if you don't have one already) and refer to steps 5,6, and 7, on your "Document Checklist" for further instructions.

Step 4: You must complete the "Application for a Study Permit Made Outside of Canada (IMM 1294)" PDF form (included in the "Document Checklist").

Step 5: Collect all of the supporting documents listed on your personalized "Document Checklist"

Step 6: Pay the required fees. Processing fee = \$150 CAD, and must be paid online using a credit card. (*Tip: take a screenshot of the payment confirmation screen, as proof of payment*)

Step 7: Wait to receive your Study Permit [Letter of Introduction](#), which will be issued through your MyCIC account. Print this letter and present it to the Canadian Border Services Agent upon arrival into Canada, and your actual Study Permit will be issued.

