Information Session
for
International Students Outside Canada

Information in the presentation is current as August 18, 2021.
Privacy Notice

This presentation is hosted on Zoom and will be recorded. To protect your personal information and privacy, please keep video off throughout the session.
Disclaimer

• Do not cite information from the presentation, information presented is current as we speak.
• This info session is not intended for Business program or Continuing Studies students.
• Business students should contact Business International team at gsbwelcome@uvic.ca.
• Continuing studies students must contact uvcsimmigration@uvic.ca for help.
• This session is not for Canadian citizens or permanent residents
International Student Services (ISS)

We are a centralized resource providing international services, information and support for students at UVic.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (PT), Weekdays

Time Zone Converter

Phone: +1-250-721-6361

Email: issinfo@uvic.ca

Website: www.uvic.ca/iss
International Student Advising

- ISS website: Living in Canada
  - Health Insurance: uvic.ca/iss/health-insurance
- In the Know – Advice for international students: UVic Global Community Newsletter
- Frontline advising (phone or email)
- Immigration advising (phone, Teams, email, drop-in hours)
- Information sessions and workshops
- ISS - COVID-19 information
International Student Advisers

Do

• Answer questions about study permit, student work authorization, co-op work permit, post-graduation work permit, your accompanying family member’s immigration documents.

Don’t

• Provide advice on academic planning
• Answer questions about Canadian citizenship or permanent residency related matters
Presentation Agenda

• Getting started
• Immigration documents
• Academic enrollment status and implications
• COVID-19 related special measures
• FAQs
• Q&A
GETTING STARTED
New student info

• Netlink ID
  ❖ Online Tools
• Back-to-School programming
• UVic Orientation
• Technology Integrated Learning
• Pre-arrival and arrival checklist: uvic.ca/intl-checklist
IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS
Do I need a study permit to study from abroad?

• Students engaged in online learning outside of Canada do not require a study permit. However, we recommend applying for a study permit as soon as possible as:

  - You must have a valid study permit or letter of introduction to enter Canada and engage in your studies in person

  - There may be implications on your post-graduation work permit if you start your program without applying for or having a study permit
Study Permit Application

• If you have not submitted your study permit application, you must [apply online](#) ASAP. When you apply, you should:

  ❖ submit all of the [documents needed for a complete application](#)

  ❖ include a letter of explanation if you have any missing documents due to COVID-19

  ❖ request for a co-op work permit if co-op is [mandatory](#) in your program (e.g., Engineering, Business and Some Grad program students)

• New countries added to [Student Direct Stream](#) (SDS)
June 09, 2016

[Your Name]
[Your Address]

Dear [Your Name],

Your application to study in Canada has been approved. A permit authorizing your studies will be issued to you on your arrival to Canada following an examination by an officer of the Canada Border Services Agency, subject to your compliance with the requirements of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act and its Regulations. The officer will ask to see this letter, your passport and may request to see your supporting documents, such as the letter of acceptance from your educational institution. Do not pack these or other valuable papers in your checked luggage. You can find out more about which documents you will need to bring with you by visiting www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/study-arriving.asp

As you gather your documents, please take note of the following:

• **This letter is not a passport or travel document.** You will not be permitted to board your flight without your passport, even if you have this letter with you.

• **This letter is not an authorization permitting you to enter or remain in Canada.** An officer of the Canada Border Services Agency will make that determination upon your arrival to Canada.

• **This letter is important** because it contains information that will be used by the Canada Border Services Agency to issue your study permit. Please do not misplace it.

You must seek entry to Canada to obtain your study permit by 2018/03/21 (yyyy/mm/dd). Your passport must be valid beyond the period you intend to remain in Canada. If not, the validity of your study permit will not be issued beyond the expiry date of your passport, or, for United States citizens and permanent residents, the validity date of your identity document.

**Note:** As an international student in Canada, it is your responsibility to ensure that you continue to meet the conditions of your study permit, including the requirement to actively pursue studies. Your study permit will automatically become invalid 90 days after you complete your study program, regardless of the expiry date indicated on your study permit. For more information, please consult http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp

POE Letter Sample

Not a study permit
STUDY PERMIT/PERMIS D'ÉTUDES

CLIENT INFORMATION/INFORMATION DU CLIENT

Family Name/Nom de Famille: [redacted]
Given Name(s)/Prénom(s): [redacted]
Date of Birth/Date de naissance: [redacted]
Sex/Genre: MALE
Country of Birth/Pays de naissance: RUSSIA
Country of Citizenship/Citoyen de: RUSSIA
Travel Doc No./N° du document de voyage: PASSPORT

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/INFORMATION SUPPLÉMENTAIRE

Date Issued/Délivré le: 2014/
Expiry Date/Date d'expiration: 2015/
Case Type/Genre de cas: [redacted]
Institution Name/Nom de l'institution: OTHER SECONDARY
Field of Study/Domaine d'études: ANY SECONDARY
In Force From/En vigueur le: 2014/

Conditions:
1. UNLESS AUTHORIZED, PROHIBITED FROM ENGAGING IN EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA.
2. MUST LEAVE CANADA BY 2015/

Remarks/Observations:

***THIS DOES NOT AUTHORIZE RE-ENTRY/CECI N'AUTORISE PAS LA RÉ-ENTRÉE***
What is a study permit?

• A status document that expires
• Allows you to stay in Canada and engage in a program of study
• May allow eligible students to work while studying in Canada
  ❖ On-campus employment conditions
  ❖ Off-campus employment conditions
Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) and Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

• Only required for certain nationalities
• Entry document
• When you apply for a study permit outside Canada, your TRV or eTA will be issued when your study permit is approved
• TRV usually shares the same expiry date as your study permit
• ETA may be issued for up to 5 years or to your passport expiry
• US citizens do not need TRV or eTA to enter

Refer to [IRCC website](https://ircc-ico.gc.ca) for detailed info
TRV Sample
Work Permits associating with study permits

- Co-op work permit
  - Work permit linked to study permit
  - Allows you to engage in UVic work terms, internships, or experiential learning

- Spousal work permit
  - Only spouses of full-time students are eligible
  - Open work permit

- Post-graduation work permit (PGWP)
  - Status document allowing you to stay in Canada and engage in work after graduation
PGWP Eligibility Requirements

• To apply for a post-graduation work permit, you must have:
  
  ❖ completed a study program that was at least 8 months long
  
  ❖ maintained full-time status during regular academic terms except for scheduled breaks or your final semester, which can be part-time, or if you took an authorized leave from your studies.
  
  ❖ have or had a valid study permit when you apply
  
  ❖ Completed at least 50% of the program in-person

• IRCC COVID-19 special measures in effect
ACADEMIC ENROLMENT AND IMMIGRATION IMPLICATIONS
Program Planning

• Seek academic advice early and often
• Program Planning:
  ❖ Resources for Undergraduate students
  ❖ Resources for Graduate students

• Connect with your academic adviser:
  ❖ Undergraduate students
  ❖ Graduate students

• UVic Academic Important Dates
Academic enrollment terms

• Full-time definitions at UVic
  - Undergraduate Calendar
  - Graduate Calendar

• Regular academic sessions
  - Winter sessions (September to April)

• Scheduled breaks
  - Summer break (does not apply to Business program students, Undergraduate Engineering or Graduate students)
  - Reading break
  - Winter break
COVID SPECIAL MEASURES
PGWP Eligibility

You’re still eligible for a PGWP if you can’t travel to Canada at this time and
• you have a study permit or
• you’ve been approved for a study permit or
• you will apply for a study permit before starting your study program
  ➢ Your study permit must be eventually approved
Online studies and PGWP validity

• All your time studying online outside Canada between spring 2020 and **December 31, 2021**, may count toward the length of a PGWP if you meet all the PGWP eligibility criteria and receive a study permit approval.

• After December 31, 2021, any time you spent studying outside Canada may be deducted from the length of your PGWP.

IRCC Post-graduation work permit measures
Immigration and travel

To be able to enter Canada as a student, you must meet 2 requirements:

- You must have a valid study permit or a valid letter of introduction that shows you are approved for a study permit. An approval-in-principle is not sufficient for travel.

- You must be attending a designated learning institution (DLI) with a COVID-19 readiness plan approved by its province or territory. UVic is a DLI with an approved COVID-19 readiness plan.
What documents do I need to carry when travelling to Canada?

• A valid study permit or a letter of introduction issued by IRCC (paper)
• A valid letter of acceptance (UVic study permit information letter. You can order this letter via UVic Online tools > Online request forms if your letter has expired.)
• Verification of Enrolment (You can print it out through UVic Online tools > Online request forms when you are registered in courses.)
• A valid entry document (TRV or eTA if required)
• Passport
• Proof of your valid medical exam (if required)
What documents do I need to carry when travelling to Canada?

• Proof of funds available to support you and any family members who come with you to Canada
• A self-isolation plan
• Proof of a valid pre-departure COVID-19 test result (paper)
• Proof that you have been vaccinated against COVID-19 (if applicable)
• ArriveCAN receipt (paper)
References

- IRCC International Student Program
- Travel Restrictions and Exemptions for international students
- COVID-19: Travel, testing, quarantine and borders.
- COVID-19: Post-Graduation Work permit eligibility special measures
- Contact CBSA if you have questions about border measures
FAQS
FAQs

• If I meet the travel exemption, can I come to Canada in the middle of the term?
• How can I prove my travel is essential?
• Do I need a letter to prove my classes are face-to-face?
• How will studying from outside Canada impact my PGWP eligibility? (special measures in effect)
• There are not enough online courses I can choose from to have a full-time enrollment in the fall, will it affect my PGWP eligibility?
FAQs

• Do I need a study permit to study online outside Canada?
• Can my parent(s) travel to Canada with me to help me settle?
• Does UVic provide any off-campus housing support? *(Finding housing in Victoria)*
• Should I register for the UVic Self-isolation program?
IRCC resources

- IRCC Website: https://www.cic.gc.ca
- IRCC COVID-19
- Help Centre
- IRCC Web Form
Q&A
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