

General Information for applying for a visa to Canada

Many students and scholars are required to obtain visitor visas from the Canadian consulate prior to travel to Canada. Please check the list of countries whose citizens require visitor visa for travel to Canada at the website given below:

www.canadianconsulatebuf.org/

If you are going to apply by mail, you need to mail the following documents to the Canadian consulate:

- Valid passport to travel document
- Valid form I-94 (small, white card)
- Valid I-20 or IAP-66, signed by International Services
- Evidence of sufficient funds/financial support
- Canadian visitor visa application form
- Supplementary Information sheet
- Processing fee
- Two passport-size photographs

Be sure to mail your application by courier (e.g. Fedex, UPS etc)

To insure the safest and most timely return of your application, include a self-addressed, pre-paid, courier slip and envelop with the above items for the Canadian consulate to return your documents. Processing time to receive completed applications by mail ranges from one to three weeks. The Canadian consulate reserves the right to request that you appear for an in-person interview even though you have applied by mail.

Processing Fees

The fees must be paid by Bank Certified Check, bank draft or Money Order made payable to the "Canadian Consulate General".

Personal Check and Credit cards are not acceptable!

Visa Types

There are basically two types of Canadian visit visas, which a student can apply for:

Individual –Single entry visa

If you indicate to the Canadian Border official when entering Canada on this visa for the first time that you are planning several trips to Canada within the visa period, you should be able to use this visa for more than a single entry.

Individual-Multiple Entry Visa

Needed when you are planning to enter Canada overseas (other than the United States); Unlimited number of entries from any country into Canada.

Family Rate

For detailed information about the costs, please consult the fee schedule on the Canadian Consulate website.

Applying by Mail

Students wishing to apply by mail or in person may do so in Buffalo, NY at the following address:

Canadian Consulate General
Immigration Section
1 Marine Center
Suite 3000
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone (716-858-9500)

Please consult their homepage for more detailed information. They also have application forms, which you can print, plus a lot more.

www.canadianconsulatebuf.org/

VISITOR VISA EXEMPTIONS

Many people do not require a visa to visit Canada. These include:

- Citizens of Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Brunei, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel (National Passport holders only), Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Republic of Korea, St. Kitts and Nevis's. Lucia, St. Vincent, an Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Slovenia, Switzerland, United States and Western Samoa:
- Persons lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence who are in possession of their alien registration card(Green card) or can provide other evidence of permanent residence.
- British citizens and British Overseas Citizens who are re-admissible to the United Kingdom:
- Citizens of British dependent territories who derive their citizenship through birth, descent, registration or naturalization in one of the British dependent territories of Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena or the Turks and Caicos Islands:
- Persons holding a valid and subsisting special Administrative Region passport issued by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China:
- Persons holding passports or travel documents issued by the Holy See.

Citizens of the following countries and territories require a Visa to VISIT or TRANSIT Canada:

A

Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Angola
Argentina
Armenia
Azerbaijan

B

Bahrain
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi

C

Cambodia
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Rep.
Chad
Chile
China, People's Rep. of
Colombia
Comoros
Congo, Democratic Rep. of the
Congo, Rep. of the
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cuba
Czech Rep.

D

Djibouti
Dominica

M

Macao S.A.R.
Macedonia
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives Islands
Mali
Marshall Islands
Mauritania
Mauritius
Micronesia, Fed. States
Moldova
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar (Burma)

N

Nauru
Nepal
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria

O

Oman

P

Pakistan
Palau
Palestinian Authority
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland

Q

Qatar

R

Romania

Dominican Rep.

E

East Timor
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia

F

Fiji

G

Gabon
Gambia
Georgia
Ghana
Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana

H

Haiti
Honduras
Hungary

I

India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Israel (only Israeli citizens
holding valid Israeli “Travel
Document in lieu of National
Passport”)
Ivory Coast

J

Jamaica
Jordan

Russia
Rwanda

S

Sao Tomé e Príncipe
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of
Senegal
Serbia-Montenegro
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Slovak Rep.
Somalia
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Surinam
Syria

T

Taiwan
Tajikistan
Tanzania
Thailand
Togo
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu

U

Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
Uruguay
Uzbekistan

V

Vanuatu
Venezuela
Vietnam

Y

Yemen

K

Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kiribati
Korea, North
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan

L

Laos
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Lithuania

Z

Zambia
Zimbabwe