

PRE-ARRIVAL GUIDE TO LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE



BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Applying for your initial Study Permit

Before you can study in Canada, you must obtain a Study Permit by applying to your applicable visa application centre or Canadian embassy. Apply early, as Canadian representatives have deadlines for processing your request and, in some cases, the processing time can be up to four months. Please visit the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) website for details: www.cic.gc.ca.

Aside from your passport, your Study Permit is your most important immigration document. Study permits are generally issued for the duration of your program of study.

You must apply for your Study Permit from outside of Canada, unless you are from the United States, Greenland or Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon, in which case, you may apply at a Canadian port of entry.

For more information on procedures, deadlines for submission and additional information regarding your Study Permit, including application forms and the document checklist, please visit your applicable visa office, Canadian embassy or www.cic.gc.ca.

We recommend that you make copies of your letter of acceptance from Lethbridge College and any other important documents prior to submitting the original documents with your Study Permit application.



Almost ready to go...

The college does not have any influence on the decisions made by CIC and is only responsible for providing the letter of acceptance and cost sheet to the applicant. If you have any issues or concerns regarding the decision, please contact the Canadian embassy or visa office where you applied directly.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is recommended. Depending on your current insurance coverage, you may already be covered for travel. Travel insurance can be useful for unexpected events such as flight cancellations or delays, lost/stolen baggage and medical emergencies. Travel insurance can usually be purchased for a specific duration, like your trip from your home country to Canada for example.



On my way...



LIVING IN LETHBRIDGE

Residence living

The college offers several options of on-campus accommodations, including shared two-bedroom apartments, four-bedroom townhouse units, two-bedroom family units and single-suite apartments. All of the residences are located on-campus and are within a five-minute walk to instructional buildings, taking away any concerns about transportation to the college.

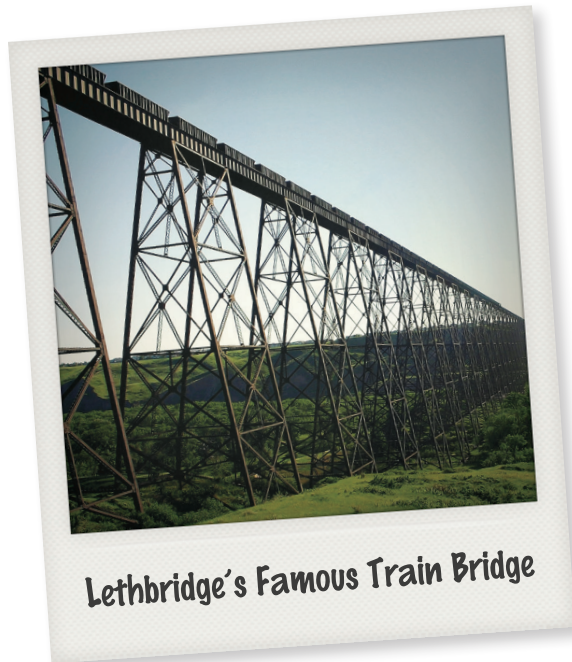
Residence living is also a great opportunity to meet other students, both international and Canadian. Our Residence Life team organizes activities and events throughout the academic year so you have many opportunities to be active and connect with others.

It is important to apply as early as possible because residence fills up quickly and we cannot guarantee availability. Please visit the Residence Life site for an application, costs and more information at: **lethbridgecollege.ca/residence**.



Off-campus living

Living off-campus may be a suitable option for some students. It is possible to arrange accommodation prior to your arrival, but it is usually recommended to view your accommodation and meet the landlord (person in charge) first. In Canada, it is common practice for landlords to have a tenant sign a rental agreement. Landlords may sometimes ask for references or proof of college enrolment, which is done for insurance purposes for the landlord. Once you arrive in Canada, we can provide you with a student ID card and a confirmation of enrolment letter that may help you secure accommodation.



Arrangements for children and family members

Some of our on-campus residences can accommodate families. You will need to complete this section of the residence application form if your family plans to come to Canada with you. With regards to off-campus living, the same information above would apply. Depending on the number of family members living with you, renting a house should be considered. The college has a daycare facility on site that is available to students. Details can be found by searching "Day Care" on **lethbridgecollege.ca**. If your children are of school age, please search "Minors Documents" on the following site for more information: **cic.gc.ca**.

Budgeting

It is important to make a budget for yourself so that you can make your transition to living in Canada easier. The cost sheet included in your acceptance package will help give you an idea of what your major expenses will be during your stay in Canada. Remember that the costs are estimated and are meant to be used as a guideline in preparing your budget. It might be possible to find work on-campus when you arrive, however you are not eligible for an off-campus work permit until you have completed a designated amount of time of study as outlined by CIC. With that in mind, you should budget accordingly. It is recommended that you ask your local bank how to transfer funds to a Canadian account.

ARRIVING IN CANADA

Immigration

Be prepared to produce all of the necessary documents to the immigration officials when you arrive in Canada. Carry them in a secure place and don't pack your documents in your suitcase. In most cases, your Study Permit will be awarded to you at the point-of-entry and stapled to your passport.

Transportation

There are many airlines that fly directly or with connections to Canada. Calgary International Airport is the closest international airport to Lethbridge.

Air

Calgary International Airport has connecting flights between Calgary and Lethbridge. The flight duration between Calgary and Lethbridge is approximately 45 minutes.

Bus

Red Arrow and Greyhound Bus Lines provide passenger bus service between Calgary and Lethbridge and make several trips throughout the day. The duration is approximately two and a half to three hours. Red Arrow has a bus terminal located at the Calgary International Airport. Greyhound Bus Lines has an airport shuttle to its main bus terminal, which is located in a different part of Calgary. From the main terminal you can connect to a bus to Lethbridge.

Red Arrow website: redarrow.ca

Greyhound website: greyhound.ca

Car

There are car rental companies located at the Calgary International Airport and throughout Lethbridge. You will need a valid Alberta or international driver's license to rent a car. Age restrictions may apply. The driving time between Calgary and Lethbridge is approximately two and a half hours.

Shuttle

LA Shuttle provides direct shuttle service from the Calgary International Airport to your desired destination in Lethbridge. One-way cost from Calgary to Lethbridge is approximately \$65.00. For more information or to book a pick-up, please visit: lashuttle.net.



Playing pool in the Cave



ARRIVING AT LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE

Course registration

As a service to our new students, Lethbridge College will automatically register you in your classes, with the exception of General Studies and Upgrading students. Please check your myHorizon account (the college portal that connects you to your email, schedules, policies and more) to view your schedule for the upcoming semester. Students in the General Studies diploma or Upgrading programs will receive instructions in their Lethbridge College e-mail account about registering for classes through myHorizon, or with the help of an Academic Advisor.

If you have technical or scheduling difficulties, contact: registration@lethbridgecollege.ca.

Tuition payment and refund policy

Tuition is due prior to the last day of the Add/Drop period. Students who have not paid in full by this deadline will have all registrations cancelled. Please review the calendar included in the acceptance package for important dates and deadlines. The Finance office accepts payment online, by money order, credit card or wire transfer.

If you are unable to attend Lethbridge College for any reason please e-mail international@lethbridgecollege.ca immediately. The International Services office will advise you regarding the tuition refund policy.

International New Student Orientation

Please check your Lethbridge College e-mail for your International New Student Orientation (NSO) invitation. International NSO is our orientation for new students and as an international student you will attend specific sessions to meet your needs. This is a great opportunity to meet other new students like yourself and discover all the services available to you as a Lethbridge College student. Please confirm your attendance by email: international@lethbridgecollege.ca.

Pre-arrival checklist

- ☐ Log into myHorizon (**myhorizon.lethbridgecollege.ca**) to access your Lethbridge College e-mail through the link at the bottom of our homepage, lethbridgecollege.ca. Important information will be sent to your college e-mail account from now until you arrive.
- ☐ Your student number (i.e. s0123456) acts as your username and your birthdate (YYMMDDLC) as your password. For example, if your birthdate is April 15, 1993, your temporary password would be 930415LC. You will be prompted to change your password after you log in for the first time.
- ☐ Apply for your study permit. Visit: **cic.gc.ca** to get started.
- ☐ Apply for residence if you plan on living on-campus. Visit: **lethbridgecollege.ca/residence** for an application.
- ☐ Make arrangements for international travel.
- ☐ Ensure that you are registered for classes. You can verify your class schedule through myHorizon. All students will be registered in their classes with the exception of General Studies and Upgrading students. General Studies and Upgrading students will receive directions on how to register through their Lethbridge College e-mail account.
- ☐ Confirm attendance to the International New Student Orientation (NSO). Confirm your attendance by e-mail: **international@lethbridgecollege.ca**.
- ☐ Like us on Facebook to stay connected with all the international student events: **facebook.com/LCInternationalServices**.
- ☐ Remember to carry the following items with you when arriving in Canada:
 - ☐ Passport
 - ☐ Letters of reference or other documents provided by the visa office
 - ☐ Copy of the letter of acceptance from Lethbridge College
 - ☐ Medical and immunization records
 - ☐ Proof of funds to support your stay in Canada
 - ☐ Canadian/U.S. currency or traveller's cheques

If you have questions about your arrival to Lethbridge College, contact us at: **international@lethbridgecollege.ca** or **1-403-320-3202 ext. 5532**