

CANADA

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# OVERVIEW ABOUT CANADA

- ➔ Canada is world's second biggest country which covers total landmass of approximately 3,855,100 square miles. Canada is country in North America made up of ten provinces and three territories
- ➔ There is Federal parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy. Official head of state is UK monarch (currently Queen Elizabeth II), who appoints a governor general (currently David Johnston) and head of government is Prime Minister (currently Stephen Harper).
- ➔ Capital city: Ottawa
- ➔ Largest city: Toronto
- ➔ Official languages: English and French (French is spoken mostly in Quebec province)
- ➔ Major religion: Christianity
- ➔ Population of Canada is around 34.88 million (as per 2012)
- ➔ Currency: 1 Canadian dollar = 100 cents
- ➔ Most popular sport: Ice hockey, with lacrosse, curling and Canadian football also popular

- ➔ Student from India interested in studying in Canada has soared as it was 3,000 in 2008 which went to 12,000 in 2010 and has doubled in 2013.
- ➔ Unlike India, Canada doesn't have a central education system, and hence is under the jurisdiction of each province
- ➔ All major universities in Canada are publicly funded whereas the private universities are relatively new and usually offer undergraduate courses.
- ➔ There are approximately 92 universities and 175 community colleges in Canada
- ➔ All Canadian universities/ community colleges have intakes in August/September. Some also provide January/February or May intakes. Some colleges have three to four intakes in a year.
- ➔ Certificates are usually categorized into diploma, advanced diploma, bachelor's degree, postgraduate diploma, postgraduate certificates, master's degree and PhD.

- ➔ **TOEFL** (Test of English as a Foreign Language) - Top most universities in Canada requires (iBT>90-120) score of TOEFL and score of 580 for PBT – Paper based test.
- ➔ **IELTS** (International English language testing system) - IELTS is most widely recognised and accepted English language test in Canada and 7.0 is the generally accepted score for IELTS in Canada. The minimum score accepted for a course ranges from 5.0 to 7.5, depending upon courses and institutes you are applying to.
- ➔ **GRE** (Graduate Record Examination) - GRE is one of the most prestigious exams in the country for master's level admissions. GRE score of 315 can be considered good, 320 – 325 is high, 325 - 330 is very high and 330+ score is superb.
  - ❖ Some universities don't require GRE scores for grad school admission.
  - ❖ Some Canadian universities require GRE scores, but don't specify minimum scores
  - ❖ Some require GRE score and have minimum GRE Scores for admission
- ➔ **GMAT** (Graduate Management Admissions Test) – GMAT is standardized test for MBA aspirants. The average GMAT score required by MBA schools in Canada is 550, ranging from a low of 500 to a high of over 600.

- ➔ Once you have shortlisted your university, so next step is to get in touch with the international office of the university, as there is no centralized application procedure so need to apply directly to each institution.
- ➔ Most Canadian higher education institutions require the completion of a high school diploma.
- ➔ International students may also be asked to provide proof of language proficiency (either in English or French).
- ➔ All international students are required to provide an essay, statement of intent or personal statement of experience.
- ➔ Even student can produce letters of reference, examples of extracurricular involvement, evidence of community service, athletic participation, and details of awards and scholarships won.

- ➔ Some of the prominent courses at the graduate level are MBA, PGD in management, MS and LLB.
- ➔ While at the undergraduate level, it is the Bachelor of administrative studies or Bachelor of engineering.

## ❖ Duration Of Courses

- **Doctoral Or PHD**

A minimum of 2-5 years of full-time study for doctoral programs is required.

- **Master's**

For Master's degrees generally require at least 2 years of full-time studies including a thesis (a long essay based on original research), practicum or research paper.

- **PG Diploma**

Generally are of one year duration and exceptionally of two years also.

- **Undergraduate**

Depending on the province, all undergraduate programs leading to a bachelor's degree generally require three or four years of full-time study.

- **UG Diploma (Post Secondary Diploma)**

Undergraduate Diploma generally requires two years or three years of full time study.

→ There are around 92 universities and 175 community colleges in Canada. Can find the list of some of the world ranking as below.

Sr.No	Universities
1	University of Montreal
2	Concordia University
3	University of Toronto
4	York University
5	Ryerson University
6	University of British Columbia
7	University of Victoria
8	Vancouver Island University
9	Simon Fraser University
10	Laval University
11	University of Quebec
12	University of Alberta



➔ **Cost of studying Canada can be divided in to three parts** (for ease of understanding):

- I. Tuition Fees and Living Cost.
- II. Cost of Application
- III. Other Costs (like insurance, air travel to Canada, visa fee, etc.)

➔ **Tuition Fees and Living Cost :-**

- Tuition fees in Canada ranges from CAD\$6,000 to CAD\$30,000 per year (approx. Rs. 3,12,000 to Rs.15,50,000 p.a)
- Average cost of living per month including everything should be between \$600 to \$800 (approx. Rs. 33,000 to Rs. 44,000 p.m)

## → Cost of Application :-

- Application fees - \$50 to \$150 per University
- Courier Charges - Rs 1200 to Rs 1500 per University
- Academic test exams - \$100 to \$200 per examination
- Scores reporting - may cost up to \$ 20 per University

## → Other Costs (like insurance, air travel to Canada, visa fee, etc.) :-

- Air tickets - \$500 to \$2000
- Health / Medical Insurance - \$300 to \$500 per year
- Visa Fee - \$125 (may change; check the VFS Canada website for updated information)

➔ More than 50% Indian students study using Canadian Scholarships. Admitted university & course can play huge role in getting scholarships.

➔ **List of various scholarship :-**

- ❖ Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship Program
- ❖ Canada Asia-Pacific Awards (CAPA)
- ❖ Professional Development Awards (PDA) by International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- ❖ Doctoral Student Research Award (DSRA) is funded by Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT)
- ❖ International Research Linkages funded by Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT)
- ❖ Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship is funded by Government of Canada
- ❖ Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship is funded by Government of Canada
- ❖ Industrial Postgraduate Scholarships Program funded by Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
- ❖ Visiting Fellowships in Canadian Government Laboratories Program funded by Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
- ❖ Sauvé Scholars Program by the Jeanne Sauvé Youth Foundation

- ➔ To study in Canada you will need to obtain a Canadian study permit, which serves as a Canadian student Visa for the duration of your stay. You do not need a Canadian study permit if your course or program lasts six months or less.
- ➔ Once you have a Canadian study permit, you can apply to renew it from within Canada if you decide to continue your studies.
- ➔ For full-time students a study permit also allows you to work on campus without requiring a work permit.
- ➔ To work off-campus, international students need to apply for a work permit, as part of the Off-Campus Work Permit Program. This permit allows students to work for 20 hours per week during term time and full-time during holidays and semester breaks.
- ➔ Student visas take 15 working days or three weeks to be processed.
- ➔ A study permit costs INR 5,470, plus processing charges.
- ➔ International students graduating from Canadian universities can take up employment in the country through Post-Graduation Work Permit Program, which offers work permit for a period of time equal to the duration of course, for a maximum of three years. You must apply within 90 days of graduating.

## Process for obtaining a Canadian student visa is as follows:-

- Before applying for Visa you need to have letter of acceptance from a recognized higher education provider. For Quebec must also apply for a certificate of acceptance, known as a CAQ, from the government of Quebec. You can get this online, by printing out a form, or by requesting a paper form from your university.
- Next step is to get a Student visa application package, either from the CIC website or by contacting your local visa office, or Canadian embassy or consulate in your home country. For application package you need to answer few questions about yourself at CIC website to be eligible for applying online student permit.
- If you are found eligible, you will receive a personal checklist code, valid for 60 days, which you will need in order to submit your application online.
- Create CIC account by entering your personal checklist code after which you will receive your documents list which allows you to upload and send your document to CIC.
- Once you have your documents and application form ready and have paid your fees, you can submit your completed application to CIC.
- Some applicants may have to attend an interview at their local visa office.

- ➔ **THE STUDENT PARTNERS PROGRAM (SPP)** is as pilot project designed and implemented in partnership between the Canadian Visa office in India and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC).
- ➔ The SPP aims for expediting the student visa process with less documentation and delivering higher approval rates while maintaining program integrity.
- ➔ An SPP student visa application takes around 5 to 10 working days.
- ➔ SPP applications should be submitted by 1st of August in order to seek admission for September intake.

## ➔ **Rules and Requirement :-**

- ❖ If a visa is once refused under SPP, then after student has to apply outside SPP.
- ❖ Passed out from 12th Grade in the last two years or completed their Bachelor's Degree in the last five years. Atleast 50% score in their latest qualification required.
- ❖ Minimum score of IELTS 6.0 band is compulsory to under SPP.
- ❖ Most of the SPP Colleges offer diploma, Bachelors, Graduate diploma and PG Diploma.
- ❖ **Proof of Tuition Fee payment** : Copy of receipts for tuition payment (ONE Semester/ONE Year - as asked by the SPP institution)
- ❖ **Proof of funds (Living Expenses)** : You must demonstrate the purchase of a special Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) from a participating Canadian financial institution (Scotia Bank), in the amount of \$10,000 CAD to cover living expenses for your first year in Canada.

- ➔ Citizenship and Immigration Canada Department has recently confirmed that the following changed rules would be implemented for all international students coming to Canada. The main focus of the new regulations is to improve the quality & security of the students coming to Canada for higher studies from across the globe.
- After landing in Canada, the student must register with their designated educational institution & regularly attend the classes. Students who will not register or attend classes regularly would be deported from Canada without warning.
- There will be a pool of Canadian educational institutions who will be authorized to enrol international students, only these pre designated education providers would be able to offer admission to international student. The study visa/permit will not be granted for institutions which are not part of the designated pool.



- There would be no need to apply for off campus work permit separately while studying in any of the authorized educational institution in Canada, the student will be automatically eligible to work 20 hrs per week during academic session & full time during academic breaks from day-1 after registering with their designated educational institution in Canada . The minimum length of studies to be eligible for automatic off-campus work permit should be atleast six months or more leading
- The Co-op work permit will only be granted to students enrolled with authorized educational institutions in Canada, not all educational institution in Canada would be able to offer co-op options to international students unless they are designated by Citizenship and Immigration Canada department.
- If a student is already in Canada on Visit visa & enrol themselves with any of the authorized educational institutions in Canada at any level then they may get study permit within Canada itself, they would not be required to return to their home country to apply for Study Visa.

- Students would be required to apply for Post Graduate Work Permit or Study Permit Extension within 90 days of receiving official confirmation of graduation from their educational institution, failing to do so will make their stay in Canada illegal after 90 days of getting the confirmation from their University/College.
- After graduating from authorized University/College, the student would be allowed to work full time if they have already applied for Post Graduation Work Permit till the time their application is under process with CIC.
- If the student is already enrolled in any unauthorized Universities & Colleges for study permit, they will be allowed to complete their studies within three years after the new rules will be implemented. Same will be the case for co-op or off-campus work permit holders from unauthorized Universities & Colleges.
- There have been NO change in Post-Graduate Work Permit requirements & procedure.

- ➔ Student from India applying to study in Canada establish a **Guaranteed Investment Certificate** to apply for a Study Permit.
- ➔ Scotiabank is the only Canadian financial institution that participates in the Student Partner Program (SPP) in India. Through this program, you may choose to purchase a Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) from Scotiabank in the amount of \$10,000 CAD.
- ➔ To apply, simply complete the application form and submit it by email or mail.
- ➔ Once application is accepted Scotiabank will open a GIC for a 1 year term and email you the GIC account number within 10 business days, along with other remittance details, which will allow for a wire transfer of \$10,000 CAD (plus \$100 CAD to cover administration fees etc.) funds from India.
- ➔ After reaching Canada need to activate the GIC and open deposit account. Once the account is opened, an initial amount of \$2,000 CAD will be transferred to your deposit account. The remaining amount will be automatically transferred in four (4) equal installments of \$2,000 CAD every two months.