



Government
of Canada

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Study permit

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How to apply



Mail delivery is resuming but there will be delays

We're still processing applications normally, but there may still be delays with

- sending applications mailed within or to Canada
- getting mail from us

We still encourage you to **apply online if possible**. If you need to apply on paper, use a courier to send us your application more quickly.

Generally, you must apply for a study permit **before you come to Canada**. Some people can apply for a study permit from within Canada. In some cases, you can apply when you arrive in Canada at the port of entry. Make sure you understand which option is available to you.

Get your documents ready

When you apply, you should submit

- the **letter of acceptance** from the designated learning institution (DLI) you'll be attending
- a provincial attestation letter (PAL) or territorial attestation letter (TAL).
 - You can upload your PAL/TAL into the **Provincial attestation letter (required)** field in your application. If this option is missing, you must upload your PAL/TAL to the **Client information** field. If you meet an exception, you must provide any evidence in the **Client information** field.
- as many of the documents needed for a complete application as possible
 - We won't be able to finalize your study permit until you've submitted a complete application.
 - Waiting to submit documents will cause delays in processing.

Apply online

If you're applying for a study permit, you **must apply online**, whether you're outside of Canada or already in Canada.

You're only eligible to apply on paper if you

- have a disability that prevents you from applying online

- hold an identity or travel document for non-national residents, refugees or stateless persons

Get specific instructions on how to apply



New rules about applying for a study permit at a port of entry

As of December 23, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. ET, most foreign nationals in Canada will no longer be able to apply for a study permit at a port of entry. You must apply online for

- your [study permit](#)
- your [study permit extension](#)

If you leave Canada as a student on [maintained status](#), you'll lose your ability to study when you return. This means you can't study until your application is approved.

[Read more about the changes](#), including who can still apply at a port of entry. We'll provide more updates on this page in the near future.

Venezuelan passport holders

You may need to [complete extra steps when you fill out your application](#).

Answer a few questions to get the next steps for your situation.

* Where are you applying from? (required)

Outside Canada

Inside Canada

At a port of entry

After you apply ➔

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