



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Purpose:

The International Student Program is designed to give students from abroad the opportunity to study in Alberta, to obtain Canadian credentials, and to develop their English language skills. Students who study with Canadian Rockies Public Schools will also learn about Canadian lifestyles, will develop a better understanding of Canadian culture, and form friendships with Canadian students.

Alberta Advantage:

Alberta is a desirable location for many international students because of its natural beauty, space, and pollution-free environment. In addition, the province's highly-trained teaching force provides quality educational services, including expert instruction in English as a second language.

Services Provided:

- meeting students at airport on arrival
- orientation program for new students
- provision of counselling services
- encouraging students to become involved in school and community activities
- facilitating the sharing of cultural experiences
- providing regular reports to host families and to international students
- selecting the home stay family
- disbursing home stay fees to local families
- monitoring home stay arrangements
- transferring student when the need arises

Host Families:

The host families are expected to:

- accept and treat the student as part of the family
- provide a private bedroom for the student
- assist in the familiarization of the student to the school, community, customs, and cultures of Canada
- provide parental guidance and support including assistance with homework assignments and support for student in school activities
- maintain communication with foreign parents, school, and other host families.

Structure of School Program:

Students will be, as far as possible, integrated into the regular school program, but with ESL support. The students may start in the 13-23 stream and transfer to the 10-20 stream when they demonstrate they can manage the higher level course work.

Where possible, courses which are not language dependent such as art, band, and physical education, should be selected for options.

Payment of Fees:

Fees are paid to Canadian Rockies Public Schools in Canadian dollars.

Medical Insurance:

Student must acquire medical insurance before leaving their native country. Proof of medical insurance must be presented to the Homestay Coordinator upon arrival in Canada.

Legal Requirements:

Canadian Rockies Public Schools requires the parents of all students participating in the program to sign a contract with the Board. This ensures the parents are aware of the terms of student acceptance.

Financial Considerations:

Parents of international students must be prepared to meet the following costs:

- tuition and incidental school fees
- registration fee
- home stay registration fee
- home stay
- health care insurance
- visa application
- allowance for personal needs such as clothing, toiletries, and spending money for recreation
- private lessons or tutoring

Desirable Qualities:

Students who have the following personal characteristics or qualities are likely to have a successful experience as an international student:

- good health
- good academic record and self-motivated student
- active participation in school and/or community activities
- regular participation sports and/or hobbies
- genuine interest in attending school in Canada
- willingness to adapt to new conditions and environments
- maturity and self-reliance

Application Process:

International students who wish to study with Canadian Rockies School Division should submit:

- Completed International Student Application form
- Signed copy of the International Education Student Participation Agreement
- Completed International Student Application - Home Stay Placement Form
- Statement from the parent naming an adult guardian who resides within the boundaries of Canadian Rockies School Division - *is required only if home stay placement is not required*
- Letter of reference from the student's school principal
- Most recent report card
- Copy of the student's academic record for the last two years.
- *These documents must be translated into English and must be certified as true copies.*
- Letter of introduction from the student to include a description of family life, school life, hobbies, reasons for wanting to study in Canada.
- Photograph of student.
- Non refundable registration fee - \$150.00 (Canadian)
- If home stay is required, a non refundable home stay placement fee of \$500.00 (Canadian)

Canadian Rockies Public Schools reviews the application and advise the student immediately of the status of the application. If the student is approved, Canadian Rockies will issue a Letter of Acceptance.

Applying for a Student Authorization (Visa):

Prospective students must meet all the screening requirements for Canada Immigration. To obtain a student authorization, a student must contact the nearest office of Canada Immigration. You may be asked to submit the following documents:

- Application form (Immigration Canada - Applying for a Student Authorization)
- Letter of Acceptance from Canadian Rockies Public Schools
- Copy of passport
- Bank Statement or letter of guarantee from parents
- Medical certificate

As it may take from three to ten weeks to obtain a Student Authorization, student should apply early for this authorization.

The Student Authorization is issued for a specific period, usually for the school year, and students must either leave Canada before the expiry date or obtain an extension of their authorization.

Students coming to Canada on a Student Authorization may require a visa to enter the United States of America for any visit which is other than in-transit.