

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have enough <u>money for your stay</u> (the amount depends on the length of stay and whether you pay for hotels or stay with friends/family).
<p>HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO APPLY FOR A VISITOR VISA?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>\$100 CAD per person, or \$500 CAD for a family of 5 or more people</u> applying together. • If you have never given <u>biometrics</u>, or if they have expired, biometrics fees are \$85 CAD per person, or \$170 CAD for 2 or more people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You can check if your biometrics are valid here: https://onlineservices-servicesenligne.cic.gc.ca/extapp/bioStatusQuery. ○ Biometrics are generally valid for 10 years from the date of collection. However, a visa or permit cannot be issued for a period longer than 10 years from the last time you provided your biometrics.
<p>HOW DO I APPLY FOR A VISITOR VISA?</p>	<p>You can apply for a visitor visa three ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Via your IRCC Secure Account: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/account.html 2. Via your IRCC Portal: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/portal-application-process.html 3. By paper application, mailed to the visa office for your region. <p>Application process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Complete the online form</u> (or, if using paper/Secure Account, complete Application for a Temporary Resident Visa (IMM 5257): https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/imm5257.html) 2. <u>Gather documents:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Receipt showing you paid the application fee. b. Copy of the passport information page for all applicants. c. Two photos (photo specifications can be found here): https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/temporary-resident-visa-application-photograph-specifications.html). d. Proof of financial support. e. <i>If applicable:</i> A letter authorizing a minor child to travel, adoption papers, custody decree etc. 3. <u>Submit application</u> online or mail to your local visa office. Local visa offices mailing addresses can be found here: https://ircc.canada.ca/english/information/applications/visa.asp
<p>WHAT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS CAN YOU INCLUDE WITH YOUR APPLICATION TO INCREASE ITS CHANCES OF APPROVAL?</p>	<p>It is recommended to submit additional documentation that demonstrates that <u>you will be able to financially support yourself</u> while in Canada and that <u>you will return to your home country</u> before your visitor status in Canada expires. For example:</p> <p>Examples of supporting documents applicable to all visitor visa applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bank statements, proof of investments etc. showing you will be able to support yourself while in Canada. ○ Letter from a family member/friend in Canada attesting that they will support you financially while you are in Canada. • Evidence of strong ties to home country: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proof of owned property, mortgage statements, land registry documents, etc. ○ Employment documents, such as contracts, payroll statements, etc. ○ Education records, such as university acceptance letters, course schedules, etc.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A personal letter explaining your ties to your home country and confirming you will return before your visa expires. <p>Examples of supporting documents for visiting Canada as a tourist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hotel reservations. ● Proof of reservations for tourism activities. <p>Examples of supporting documents for visiting family or friends in Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A letter of invitation from the person you are visiting. ● If your family/friend will be hosting you at their house, they should indicate that in their letter. ● If your family/friend will be supporting you financially while you are in Canada, they should provide bank statements and proof of employment to show they are able to do so. <p>Examples for supporting documents if travelling to Canada for business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proof of registration for a conference, evidence of planned business meetings, etc. <p>Examples of supporting documents when visiting a partner/spouse who is sponsoring you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proof of submitted sponsorship application.
<p>HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO RECEIVE A DECISION ON AN APPLICATION?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you apply for a visitor visa from outside Canada, the processing time depends on the visa office for your region. You can check the average processing time for your country here: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/check-processing-times.html. ● You should apply at least 3 months before you plan to arrive to Canada.
<p>WHAT ARE COMMON REASONS VISITOR VISAS ARE REFUSED?</p>	<p>Common reasons for a refusal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purpose of visit not consistent with a temporary stay (the reason you are coming to Canada suggests you will remain longer than 6 months). ● Not enough proof of financial support. ● You have serious health issues. ● You are linked to political groups or organizations accused of crimes. ● You have a criminal record. ● You do not have strong ties to your home country (like a job, school enrollment, property, or close family). ● You come from a country in crisis (such as war, economic collapse, or natural disasters) and authorities worry you might make a refugee claim. ● Incomplete or incorrect documentation. <p><i>For prospective visitors, the key challenge is persuading the Canadian government that they will leave after a maximum of 6 months.</i></p>

<p>ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (eTA)</p>	
<p>WHAT IS AN ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (eTA)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is like a “mini” visitor visa for citizens of countries that do not need a visitor visa to enter Canada. For example, the United States, Australia, Germany, UAE, etc. ● It is an online pre-screening to identify travelers who may pose a security risk or stay longer than allowed. ● You can check whether you need an eTA or a visitor visa based on your country of citizenship here: https://ircc.canada.ca/english/visit/visas.asp

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of an eTA arrives in the form of an email. It usually looks like this: <div data-bbox="737 149 1256 428" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>HOW LONG IS AN eTA VALID FOR?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An eTA is valid for 5 years, or until your passport expires (whichever comes first).
<p>HOW IS AN eTA DIFFERENT FROM A VISITOR VISA?</p>	<p>Lower eligibility criteria. eTA applicants only require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A valid passport from a visa-exempt country. A credit card to pay the eTA processing fee. An email address to receive the Eta. <p>Cheaper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An eTA costs \$7.00 CAD. <p>Simpler application process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application can be made online here: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/eta/important-reminders-apply-eta.html <p>Faster processing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> eTA's are generally processed within 72 hours.

<p>VISITOR RECORD</p>	
<p>WHAT IS A VISITOR RECORD?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Visitor Record (VR) is an official document that lets you stay in Canada longer than the expiry date on your visa (visitor, study, or work) or your eTA. It gives you a new date for how long you are allowed to stay. A VR is <u>not</u> a visa – it does not let you re-enter Canada once you leave. A VR can only be obtained when already inside Canada. A VR can be issued by CBSA when you enter Canada, or by IRCC if you apply for one from inside Canada. A VR usually looks like this: <div data-bbox="857 1415 1133 1776" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>WHAT DOES A VISITOR RECORD ALLOW ME TO DO, OR NOT ALLOW ME TO DO, WHILE IN CANADA?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It does <u>not</u> allow you to work or study without a proper permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>*Some exceptions (e.g. for minor children, religious workers etc.) To find out if you meet one of these exceptions, please consult a lawyer or paralegal.</i> It does <u>not</u> allow you to re-enter Canada if you leave. It does <u>not</u> give you access to public health care or IFHP.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>*Some exceptions (e.g. when you successfully apply for discretionary coverage).</i>
HOW LONG DOES A VISITOR RECORD LAST?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Length depends on your application and the officer's decision. ● Usually valid for 6 months to 2 years. The expiry date is written on the VR.
WHEN SHOULD I APPLY FOR A VISITOR RECORD?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Apply before your current status expires.</u> This gives you “implied status,” meaning you can stay in Canada legally while waiting for a decision. ● If you apply after your status expires, you have no legal status while waiting, and CBSA could remove you.
HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO APPLY FOR A VISITOR RECORD?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$100 CAD per person. ● If your biometrics have expired: \$85 CAD. ● If you apply after your status expires: \$200 CAD to restore your status plus \$100 CAD for the visitor record (total \$300).
WHO CAN APPLY FOR A VISITOR RECORD?	<p>You can apply for a VR if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People who entered Canada legally. ● People whose status (visitor, student, worker) is about to expire.
HOW DO I APPLY FOR A VISITOR RECORD?	<p>You can apply for a VR two ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Via your IRCC Secure Account: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/account.html 2. By paper application. <p>Application process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fill out Application to Change Conditions, Extend my Stay or Remain in Canada as a Visitor or Temporary Resident Permit Holder (IMM 5708), which can be found here: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/imm5708.html. 2. Gather the required documentation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Receipt for the payment of IRCC's fees. b. Photocopy of the information page of your passport. c. Two photos (photo specifications can be found here: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/application-forms-guides/temporary-resident-visa-application-photograph-specifications.html) d. Proof of financial support. e. Copies of past visitor records (<i>if applicable</i>). f. Explanation of why you need a visitor record (<i>if applicable</i>). g. Invitation letter from the friend or family member you are visiting (<i>if applicable</i>). 3. Submit application online or mail to your local visa office. Local visa offices mailing addresses can be found here: https://ircc.canada.ca/english/information/applications/visa.asp
WHY APPLY FOR A VISITOR RECORD?	<p>Examples of situations where you might need to apply for a VR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You are in Canada as a visitor and want to stay in Canada after your visa expires. ● You had a work/study permit and want to maintain status while waiting for PR. ● You filed a humanitarian & compassionate (H&C) application and need to stay legally while it is processed.
COMMON REASONS FOR VISITOR RECORDS ARE REFUSED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not enough proof of financial support. ● Weak ties to your home country (the officer believes you will not return when your VR expires). ● Incomplete or incorrect documents.