



University at Buffalo  
The State University of New York

Office of International Education  
International Student and Scholar Services

## APPLYING FOR A CANADIAN VISITOR VISA

### Information for International Students, Scholars and Employees

#### How to Apply for a Canadian “Temporary Resident Visa”

Many students and scholars are required to obtain visitor visas, called “Temporary Resident Visas” (“TRV”), from the Canadian Consulate prior to traveling to Canada. To find out if you need a Canadian visa, please visit [www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp).

To apply for a Canadian Temporary Resident Visa, submit the following to the Canadian Consulate (by mail or in person):

- Completed **Application for Visitor Visa** (*Form IMM5257, attached*). *The application form must be legible and must be completed in block letters or typed*
- Completed **Supplementary Information form** (*attached*)
- **Certification Letter from ISSS** (showing full-time enrollment at UB)
- Two (2) recent **passport size photographs**. The photographs must have been taken within the last six months
- Your **original, valid passport** or recognized travel document
- Your **original I-94** card
- Your **original I-20** (or, if in J status, **original DS-2019**, or, if in H status, **original I-797**)
- Any other documents which will satisfy the officer that you are entering Canada for a *temporary purpose* (e.g. letter of invitation from a relative or a friend in Canada, bank statements, proof that you are enrolled in full-time classes, etc.)
- If the purpose of your trip to Canada is to **apply for a visa at a U.S. Consulate** in Canada, supply the **appointment / interview confirmation letter**. *\*\*\* Please also see the ISSS handout, “Applying for a U.S. Visa at a U.S. Consulate in Canada” for other important information regarding this procedure. \*\*\**
- **If applying by mail**, enclose a self-addressed envelope adequate in size to accommodate your passport and supporting documents. Please note that the Canadian Consulate will return documents ONLY via the U.S. Postal Service and will not accept responsibility for lost or stolen documents. For

this reason, ISSS highly recommends applying in person for your Canadian visa.

- Non-refundable **application processing fee:**

***Single Entry Temporary Resident Visa***                      **US \$75    Can. \$75**

The single entry visitor visa allows you to enter Canada only ONCE from ANY country. The single entry visa may also be used for repeated entries into Canada from the U.S. Such entries must occur between the validity dates on the visa stamp in your passport.

***Multiple Entry Temporary Resident Visa***                      **US \$150    Can. \$150**

The multiple entry visitor visa allows you to enter Canada from any country an unlimited number of times during the validity dates of the visa. This visa is often used by individuals traveling to their home countries via the Toronto airport. If applying for a multiple entry visa, you must also provide a detailed explanation of why it is required.

***Payment should be made by certified check or money order. Cash is accepted ONLY if you are applying IN PERSON. Do not send cash in the mail. Fees may be remitted in either U.S. or Canadian funds. Money orders and certified checks should be made payable to the “Canadian Consulate General.”***

***Since fees are subject to change and your application cannot be processed if the wrong fee amount is submitted, we urge you to confirm the fee amount at [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/can-am/main/visas/fee\\_schedule\\_us\\_dollars-en.asp](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/can-am/main/visas/fee_schedule_us_dollars-en.asp) BEFORE you apply for your visa.***

## **Address of Canadian Consulate**

The mailing address of the Canadian Consulate General in Buffalo is:

Canadian Consulate General  
Immigration Regional Program Center  
3000 HSBC Center  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2884

The Canadian Consulate is on the 30<sup>th</sup> floor of the *HSBC building*, which is located at the intersection of Main Street and Seneca Street.

Fax:                      716-858-9591 (no telephone support available; fax only for inquiries)  
Hours:                    Monday – Friday; 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Website:                ***www.can-am.gc.ca/buffalo***

## Visa Processing Times

- Most applications will be processed and returned within 48 hours. **However, any applicant may be subject to background checks and waiting periods as designated by the visa officer.**

- There is a **mandatory waiting period of 10 business days** for citizens of:

Afghanistan	Morocco
Algeria	Pakistan
Bangladesh	Palestinian Authority
Egypt	Saudi Arabia
Iran	Sudan
Iraq	Syria
Jordan	Tunisia
Lebanon	Yemen
Libya	

- *For an updated list, please visit:*  
[http://geo.international.gc.ca/can-am/buffalo/rightnav/  
temporary\\_resident\\_visas\\_-en.asp#MANDATORY](http://geo.international.gc.ca/can-am/buffalo/rightnav/temporary_resident_visas_-en.asp#MANDATORY)

- There **MAY** be a **waiting period of 10 business days** for citizens of:

Bosnia  
Croatia  
Macedonia  
Montenegro  
Serbia

- Please be advised that the Canadian Consulate General may change its procedures. For the most up-to-date information, you may visit their website:  
[www.can-am.gc.ca/buffalo](http://www.can-am.gc.ca/buffalo).