



Applying for your Canadian Visa

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Panelists

- **Carolyn Ford** - Director, International Undergraduate Recruitment, Western University
- **Heidi (Haixin) Liu** - International Student Advisor, RCIC, Western University
- **Joyce Agyare** - IEC, VP for Inclusion, Access, and Success, International ACAC
- **Erin Garcia** - Executive Director, International ACAC



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Agenda

- Overview of the visa process
 - ◆ Resources
 - ◆ Letter of invitation
- Visa process
 - ◆ the expert perspective
- Visa process
 - ◆ the lived experience
- Q&A



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Full Guide Online

Review information online

Helpful links to Canadian government websites

More information online: <https://iacac.uwo.ca/arrivals/travel-visa.html>



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Visa Application Process Overview

1. Do you need a visa?
 - a. <https://ircc.canada.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>
2. Request Letter of Invitation from International ACAC
 - a. <https://www.internationalacac.org/conference>
3. Apply for your visitor visa through IRCC Portal
 - a. Don't forget to include the Special Event Code included on your visa letter from International ACAC!
4. Complete your biometrics if required
5. Upon notice of approval, submit your passport to the nearest Visa Application Center (VAC) by post or carrier



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Visa Invitation Letter

- Confirms the purpose of your travel
- Contains the Special Event Code connected to the conference
- Your name is included on a list of visa applicants shared with the IRCC
- Scholars' visa letter includes information about the expenses covered by International ACAC

Request Letter of Invitation from International ACAC

<https://www.internationalacac.org/conference>

REQUEST YOUR LETTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE



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Tips from the expert

Heidi (Haixin) Liu - International Student Advisor, RCIC

- Western University, London, Ontario, Canada



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The lived experience

Joyce Agyare - IEC & VP Inclusion,
Access, and Success - International
ACAC

- Accra, Ghana



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The lived experience

Applying for a visa can be a cultural experience.

- Do I understand the process - processing times, scammers etc.
- Are there inconsistencies in my application?
e.g. Travel time vrs flight booking
- Have I demonstrated enough ties - family, work etc.
- Have I stated the purpose of my visit clearly with no ambiguity
- Have I prepared for the interview if there's one?
- Will I give myself a visa if I was the counselor officer?



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Q&A



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Thank you



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