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1

Do I have to start my program inside Canada (in person) in Sept 2023?

Bow Valley College requires all international students whose program starts in September 2023 to begin their studies on campus and only with proof of IRCC study approval.

Documents required to start classes in September 2023:

Students who wish to start their program must first receive and submit to Bow Valley College:

<u>Letter of Introduction/Port of Entry letter</u> issued by IRCC	The document issued by a visa office which confirms approval of the study permit application. Students must present this document at the Port of Entry when arriving in Canada.
OR	
<u>A valid Study Permit</u>	The document issued at the Port of Entry in Canada which authorizes a foreign national to study at an educational institution.

To enter Canada prior to starting classes you will require:

<u>Study Visa or eTA</u>	In addition to the Letter Of Introduction/Port of Entry letter issued by the visa office, international students also require a Temporary Resident Visa for students, or an electronic Travel Authorization (eTA). The visa office determines which of these you receive.
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Note: We recommend using Google Chrome to open all links

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What should I do if IRCC refuses my study permit application?

Submit a copy of IRCC’s refusal letter no later than the **Study Permit Deadline, August 4, 2023**, to qualify for a refund of the confirmation deposit and any additional tuition fees paid. Deferring your program start date is not an option if your study permit application is refused.

Attendance Decision	Refund Outcome
If you submit proof of study permit refusal by the August 4 (Study Permit Deadline)	The \$1,500 confirmation deposit and any additional *tuition and fees paid will be refunded.
If you submit proof of study permit refusal <i>after</i> August 4, or you start your program but then decide to drop all courses on or before the September 14 (Add/Drop Deadline)	The \$1,500 confirmation deposit is forfeit (non-refundable). Any additional *tuition fees paid (excluding student association and health and dental fees) will be refunded.

*To qualify for a tuition refund students **must** first drop all registered courses in their MyBVC student portal. This includes **students of ELL, Health Care Aide, and all Centre for Entertainment Arts programs**; although course registration is automatic, students in these programs are personally responsible for emailing registrar@bowvalleycollege.ca to request their courses be dropped to qualify for a refund.

We recommend you review the [tuition and fees](#), [refund](#) and [important dates and deadlines](#) pages for additional relevant information.

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Provide your decision for your Fall (September 2023) Application

CLICK HERE to log into the VAS portal and confirm your attendance for Fall 2023

After you sign into your account in VAS:

Leave a message on your application informing us of your attendance decision and upload the required supporting documents in VAS **NO LATER THAN AUGUST 4, 2023.**

- **Message: “*I received my IRCC study approval and will start classes in September 2023*”**
 - Upload a copy of IRCC’s approval letter/student visa/study permit (& co-op work permit if applicable) by **August 4, 2023.**
- **Message: “*I received a IRCC study refusal letter*”**
 - Upload a copy of IRCC’s refusal letter by **August 4, 2023.**
- **Message: “*I want to request a deferral*”**
(*approval not guaranteed; and previously deferred applications cannot be deferred a second time*)
 - Upload a copy of the study permit application submission confirmation letter from IRCC (showing the date you submitted the application to IRCC) by **August 4, 2023.** *Deferral requests received after the deadline will be denied.*

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Provide your decision for your Fall (September 2023) Application

- *“But, what if I am still waiting for IRCC’s decision on my study permit application?”*
 - Message us in VAS **now** if you have questions about your situation – do not wait until close to the deadline to get advice. You also need to upload a copy of the study permit application submission confirmation letter from IRCC (showing the date you submitted the application to IRCC) by **August 4, 2023**.
 - **IMPORTANT** – All international students **must have** IRCC approval and **must register for in-class courses** for the Fall 2023 intake.
 - If you register in online courses without IRCC study approval, ensure you first **read and understand the Learner Account Policy** available under the Refunds section of this page: [International Documents and Resources | Bow Valley College](#)

If you do not provide any attendance update and the required supporting documentation in VAS on or before August 4, 2023, the college will consider you registered for the September 2023 intake and you will be subject to the Learner Accounts Policy.

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Provide your decision for your Fall (September 2023) Application

- DEFERRALS REQUESTS ONLY FOR STUDENTS WITH DUOLINGO SCORE UNDER 110**

→ Starting May 2024, the minimum required Duolingo score for admission has increased from 95 to 110.

Results	Minimum Required Score
BVC Academic English 1	Not accepted
BVC Academic English 2	Minimum grade of Grade B-
Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL)	50
Canadian Language Benchmarks	8 in each strand (listening, speaking, reading, writing)
Duolingo	For programs starting prior to May 2024: 95 For programs starting May 2024 or later: 110
IELTS Academic	6.0 with minimum band score 6.0
Pearson Test of English (PTE) A	59 - 64
TOEFL	83

- If you are **NOT** requesting a deferral and wish to remain confirmed to September 2023, **you do not need to submit a new Duolingo score.**
- If you are requesting a deferral from Sept 2023 to a later intake, you must retake your Duolingo test and score a **minimum of 110 overall** before we can review your deferral request and upload the new Duolingo result in VAS no later than the Study Permit Deadline, **August 4, 2023**, to have your deferral request reviewed
- If you are unable to meet this updated minimum Duolingo requirement, please message us in VAS for advising.

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Provide your decision for your Fall (September 2023) Application

Upload the following immigration documents (submit each document when/if you receive it):

- Passport request letter
- Letter of Introduction/approval letter
- Student visa
- Study permit (+ Co-op work permit, if applicable)
- Refusal letter

How to upload your documents in VAS:

Change status Send message Print offer Print offer details **Upload document** Edit profile More

Upload other documents (Optional)

Select document

Save

Type	Name	Size / Type	Updated by	Updated on	Action
Passport*			<input type="text" value="select a file to upload"/>	Maximum file size 5.00 MB	
High school transcripts - diploma/certificate and marksheets/transcripts (Scanned to include original AND translation in one PDF)*			<input type="text" value="select a file to upload"/>	Maximum file size 5.00 MB	
Add more documents					

Questions? Please send a message in your [VAS portal](#).

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Register for courses

*****DO NOT WAIT! REGISTER EARLY IN FIRST-TERM COURSES FOR BEST SELECTION. NEW STUDENTS CAN BEGIN REGISTERING FOR COURSES [JUNE 26 – 29, 2023](#), DEPENDING ON THE PROGRAM*****

Fall 2023: Course Registration & Delivery Mode

International students **must** register for **in-class courses** when available and must take a majority of courses in-class throughout their program to satisfy study permit and post-graduation work permit (PGWP) requirements. If no in-person course is available, you can register for an online course (*only when no other option is available*).

Registration in a **minimum of 9 course credits per term** is required to maintain full-time student status and is required of all international students.

If your program includes an in-person practicum/clinical experience course or capstone project: You will need an approved Co-op Work Permit in addition to your approved Study Permit. For more information, please visit our webpage: [Co-op Work Permits](#).

Detailed information about [course registration](#) will be emailed to you separately before registration opens.

Contact [International Student Advising](#) for questions about [course delivery modes](#).

NOTE: Students registered in the [English Language Learning \(ELL\)](#) program, [Health Care Aide](#) program, or [any program in the Centre for Entertainment Arts \(CEA\)](#), will be *automatically* registered in courses.

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Travel information

Entering Canada:

For important updates, we encourage you to review our [Pre-Arrival Resources page](#). Students are responsible for checking additional travel requirements through the below webpages:

- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC): www.canada.ca
- Travel Canada: www.travel.gc.ca
- Canada Border Services Agency: www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca
- If you're traveling with minor children, please review important information [here](#)

We invite and *strongly encourage* you to register for our webinar [Travel to Canada: Crossing the Border](#) on **July 14, 2023**, from **7:30 AM-8:30 AM MST** (Mountain Standard Time) with Colleen Wi, International Immigration Advisor and international student advisor. Information about travel requirements will be shared and participants will also have an opportunity to ask questions.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

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Prepare for start of term

Important information about start of term activities will be sent to your MyBVC student email account – which you are responsible for checking regularly to ensure you remain updated.

Orientation activities will be delivered online and in-person. Attendance at [orientation](#) sessions is **strongly encouraged** for international students.

An email invitation to register for the following will be sent to concerned international students on July 26, 2023.

- **[International Student Welcome](#)**: August 30, 2023 (In-person and online)
- **[New Student Orientation \(NSO\)](#)**: August 30 – September 1, 2023 (In-person and online)
- **[Program Breakout Sessions](#)**: September 1, 2023 (Online)
- **[English Language Learning \(ELL\) Orientation](#)**: August 31, 2023 (Online)

For questions about orientation days please email issc@bowvalleycollege.ca or book an appointment with an [international student advisor](#).

New student FAQs: [Answers to frequently asked questions](#)