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1

Do I have to start my program inside Canada (in person) in January 2024?

Bow Valley College requires all international students whose program starts in January 2024 to begin their studies on campus and only with proof of IRCC study approval.

Documents required to start classes in January 2024:

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

[Letter of Introduction/Port of Entry letter](#) 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

[A valid Study Permit](#)

The document issued at the Port of Entry in Canada which authorizes a foreign national to study at an educational institution.

OR

[A valid Work Permit](#)

Please contact us through your VAS account if you have a valid work permit (**not co-op work permit**).

To enter Canada prior to starting classes you will require:

[Study Visa or eTA](#)

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.

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, November 26, 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
<p>If you submit proof of study permit refusal by the November 26 (Study Permit Deadline)</p>	<p>The \$1,500 confirmation deposit and any additional *tuition and fees paid will be refunded.</p>
<p>If you submit proof of study permit refusal <i>after</i> November 26, or you start your program but then decide to drop all courses on or before the January 19, 2024 (Add/Drop Deadline)</p>	<p>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.</p>

*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 January 2024 Application

CLICK HERE to log into the VAS portal and confirm your attendance for January 2024

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 November 26, 2023.**

- **Message: “*I received my IRCC study approval and will start classes in January 2024*”**
 - Upload a copy of IRCC’s letter of introduction/student visa/study permit (& co-op work permit, if applicable) or work permit by **November 26, 2023.**
- **Message: “*I received an IRCC study refusal letter*”**
 - Upload a copy of IRCC’s refusal letter by **November 26, 2023.**
 - You can then request a refund for your confirmation fee and any additional tuition fee paid.

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Provide your decision for your January 2024 Application

- **Message: “I have a valid IRCC work permit and will start classes in January 2024”**
 - You **MUST** contact us through your VAS account by **November 26, 2023**, since we need to review your work permit and advise.

NOTE: Please note that Work Permit is different than Co-op Work Permit. If you have a Co-op Work Permit, then this DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU.
- **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 **November 26, 2023**. Deferral requests received after the deadline will be denied.
- **“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 **November 26, 2023**.

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Provide your decision for your January 2024 Application

IMPORTANT – All international students **must have** IRCC approval documents and **must register for in-class courses** for the January 2024 intake to be eligible for post-graduation work permit. For assistance with course registration, please contact [Academic Advising](#).

Please see the link below for course registration information:

<https://bowvalleycollege.ca/student-resources/academic-services/important-dates>

October 23	Online registration opens for <u>new</u> School of Health and Wellness learners (eligible programs)
October 24	Online registration opens for <u>new</u> School of Technology and Centre for Entertainment Arts learners
October 25	Online registration opens for <u>new</u> Chiu School of Business learners
October 26	Online registration opens for <u>new</u> School of Community learners

If you do not provide any attendance update and proof of your study permit approval (please see page 2 of this guide) in VAS on or before November 26, 2023, your application will be automatically closed, and your confirmation fee will be non-refundable. Please see the **Learner Accounts Policy:**

[International Documents and Resources | Bow Valley College](#).

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Provide your decision for your January 2024 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 January 2024, **you do not need to submit a new Duolingo score.**

If you are requesting a deferral from January 2024 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, **November 26, 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 January 2024 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)
- Work Permit
- 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	
<input type="text" value="Add more documents"/>					

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

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Register for courses

*****REGISTER EARLY IN FIRST-TERM COURSES FOR BEST SELECTION. NEW STUDENTS CAN BEGIN REGISTERING FOR COURSES [OCTOBER 23-26, 2023](#), DEPENDING ON THE PROGRAM*****

January 2024: 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.

Registration in a **minimum of 3 courses/9 course credits per term** is required to maintain full-time student status and is required of all international students.

All international students require a **Co-op Work Permit** along with a **Study Permit**, except Health and Human Services, Business Administration (certificate + diploma), Human Resources and CEA programs. 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 **November 3, 2023**, from **7:30 AM-8:30 AM MST** (Mountain Standard Time) with Colleen Wi, International Immigration 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 mid **November 2023**.

- **[International Student Welcome](#)**: January 5, 2024
(In-person and online)
- **[New Student Orientation \(NSO\)](#)**: January 4-8, 2024
(In-person and online)
- **[Program Breakout Sessions](#)**: January 9, 2024
(Online)
- **[English Language Learning \(ELL\) Orientation](#)**: January 9, 2024 (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](#)