
Life at a Canadian university

Accommodation

Overseas students should keep the local immigration officer and the university registrar informed of their address at all times. If they wish, students may ask the dean, chaplain or foreign-student adviser of the university to allow mail from home to be addressed in his/her care until lodgings have been found. Students might also find it useful to have money similarly addressed, or sent to the university business officer, until they have opened bank accounts.

Residence: In Canada, university buildings and residence halls are generally grouped in one area, called the "campus". In addition to bedrooms, residences usually have dining-rooms and living-rooms for study and relaxation. Students from outside Canada would be wise to seek accommodation in a university residence, since this will give them an opportunity to get to know their fellow students. Students in residence, however, are subject to certain regulations imposed by the university administration. Reservations for places in residence should be made at the time of application for admission to the university, and requests should be addressed to the university housing officer.

Campus co-operative residences: At some universities, campus co-operatives are becoming popular, since housing is provided for men and women at lower rates than in university residences. Most rooms are for two or three people, and meals are taken in common dining-rooms. Occasionally, a few apartments are available for married couples. Non-resident members may arrange to take their meals in the co-operative. Details of this type of accommodation may be obtained from the university housing officer.

Rooming-houses: Since at most universities there are not sufficient residences to accommodate all students, many live in rooming-houses away from the campus. Most universities maintain a housing service that provides students with a list of places where rooms may be rented. In some cases, both room and board are provided at a weekly or monthly rate (about \$225-\$300 per month). In others, room only is provided and the student may have cooking facilities to prepare his/her own meals or eat at restaurants or in university cafeterias. If a student pays rent by the week, only one week's notice will be required if he/she wishes to move. Otherwise, a month's notice is generally required.

Apartments: If students are bringing their spouses or families with them to Canada, they may wish to rent an apartment with one or two bedrooms.