Canada Study Permit: Process Flowchart

The main steps from choosing a school to arriving in Canada. See the full Neximm guide for details.

1 Choose a program at a DLI
Check the school is on the DLI list, and whether the program leads to a PGWP

2 Get your letter of acceptance
The school issues the LOA and confirms it with IRCC

Studying in Quebec?

YES

3 Get a CAQ
From Quebec's immigration ministry

NO

3 Get a PAL/TAL
Most post-secondary students; some are exempt (Section 6)

4 Gather proof of funds
First-year tuition, living costs for your family size, and return travel (GIC optional)

5 Prepare your documents
Passport, study plan, academic records, language results, and any medical or police certificates

6 Apply online and pay the fees
Upload the LOA and PAL/TAL in their own fields in your IRCC account

7 Give your biometrics
Usually within 30 days of the instruction letter; ages 14 to 79

IRCC decision

APPROVED

8 Letter of introduction
Plus a visitor visa or eTA if you need one

9 Travel to Canada
The border officer issues your study permit. Check its conditions

REFUSED

Read the refusal reasons
Fix the gaps, such as funds or study plan, then reapply or get advice