

WELCOME TO PACIFIC FLYING CLUB INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Pacific Flying Club welcomes international students. We strongly suggest the student review the following material and direct any questions regarding specific visa requirements to the Canadian embassy or consulate nearest you or the Citizenship and Immigration Canada website at www.cic.gc.ca. Information on programs and services is available on our website at www.pacificflying.com

COURSE DURATION OF LESS THAN SIX MONTHS

To be admitted to Canada, an international student will not require a Canadian Study Permit (Student Visa) from the Canadian Immigration Authorities if the length of stay in Canada and training program is less than six months duration. For studies of less than six months, you can enter Canada as a Visitor. Some countries require a Visitor's Visa to enter Canada. Some do not. Students should visit the following site for information on which countries require a visitor's visa: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada.html> or contact their nearest Canadian embassy or consulate or their travel agent. Students do not require a formal letter of acceptance from the school. We recommend you advise us of your arrival date so that we may plan your bookings.

COURSE DURATION OF MORE THAN SIX MONTHS

A student visa is required for all programs/courses of more than six months duration. The following links provide specific information required by the student:

- Information from Citizenship and Immigration Canada for foreign students:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/immigration-citizenship.html>
- Application for Study Permit:
http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/student.asp?_ga=2.74340496.327670893.1520381361-641588944.1507312660
- Listing of Canadian Consulates and Embassies:
<https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates>

One of the requirements for the application to obtain a Study Permit (formerly known as a student visa) from immigration authorities is an original Letter of Acceptance from a Canadian school. Letters of Acceptance from Pacific Flying Club are issued upon receipt of a request by the applicant. Email all requests to Bal Lidhar, blidhar@pacificflying.com.

An application fee of \$750 Can.(nonrefundable), is required either by calling the office and paying by credit card or by bank transfer. Though this fee is nonrefundable (should a student opt not to attend training at Pacific Flying Club), \$500 of this fee will be put towards flight training fees once the student starts their training.

- Replacement Letters of Acceptance required for Canadian Immigration purposes to obtain a Study Permit will be billed an administrative fee of **\$75**.
 - There is no administrative fee for the first Letter of Acceptance issued for the student for CIC purposes if the student has paid the \$750 application fee.
- The following documents requested by students are subject to an administrative charge of **\$25** per document:
 - Letters confirming enrolment for third parties.
 - Letters outlining costs for obtaining funding and for third parties.
 - Letters outlining student progress and reports.
 - Any replacement letters
- All Letters are sent via email and by via post (2-4 weeks at no charge) or by Fed Ex courier for \$150 by request only.

Students will be required to provide the Canadian Immigration officials with proof of available financing for their program of study and living expenses in Canada. As a rule of thumb, students should budget a minimum of \$18,000 for living expenses per year.

Students are advised that some countries may take up to 90 days to process the required documentation and that delays may be encountered if the student does not submit all required documentation to the immigration authorities.

DURATION OF STUDIES

Generally, based on full time study, allow the following timeframes to complete a course:

- **Private Pilot Licence** – minimum of two months (student must be highly proficient and encounter no weather disruptions or delays). **Four to six months** is recommended.
- **Commercial Pilot Licence** – assuming the student holds the PPL and requires approximately 150 hours of flying, allow four months assuming no weather disruptions or delays; again, student must be highly proficient). **Six to nine months** is recommended.
- **Multi Engine Rating** – allow **one month**
- **Multi IFR Rating** – allow **two to four months**

The time of year will also affect student completion times. For instance, November, December and January present more inconsistent weather and may impact a student's ability to complete in minimum times.

ACCOMMODATION

Pacific Flying Club recommends students be booked in one or two local bed and breakfasts close to Boundary Bay Airport. Once there, they can opt to make long term arrangements with the owners or look for more suitable accommodation based on their needs and preferences. Many students will opt to rent a room in a house or a furnished apartment. Alternatively, students may arrange a homestay prior to arrival in Canada by contacting www.vancouverhomestay.org. With this company, you tell them what you want, the location, what you want to pay and they will make these arrangements for you including a pickup from Vancouver International Airport if required.

Pacific Flying Club does not make accommodation arrangements. We have no way of knowing the student's requirements and expectations and find students like to arrange their own accommodation once they get a feel for the local area.

There is a bus service to Boundary Bay Airport from the local bus loop in Ladner than runs to 6:30 pm daily hourly (1/2 hour in rush hour).

CONVERSION OF CANADIAN LICENCES TO FOREIGN LICENCES

Students are strongly advised to contact their local civil aviation office to confirm the requirements for the Canadian licenses to be converted to a license in their country of origin. Canada is an ICAO country and meets the ICAO standards. Requirements for the conversion of foreign licenses to Canadian licenses should be confirmed with Transport Canada (www.tc.gc.ca) or the local civil aviation authorities. Generally, for a foreign commercial license to be converted to a Canadian Commercial License, the student must meet the requirements of the Canadian License in terms of time, experience, instrument and cross country time as well as do the Canadian written examination and flight test. For the PPL, the conversion to a Canadian license often involves no more than a Canadian medical, the presolo written test and the foreign PPL. However, some countries may be different. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they meet the licensing requirements of their country of origin.

CANADIAN TRAINING

Students are reminded that all training is based on meeting the Canadian licencing standard. A student must demonstrate competency and proficiency to meet the Canadian flight test and written examination standards. Canadian licences are not issued solely on the basis of meeting the hour requirements. The student must demonstrate competency to hold the Canadian licence. Students who require remedial flights or repetitive lessons will require more hours to meet the licencing standard. It is imperative that a student invests a significant amount of self study and preflight preparation to be successful and reduce remedial flights.

CANADIAN AVIATION MEDICAL

Students must hold a Canadian Aviation Category 1 Medical to pursue a Commercial Licence (a Category 3 Medical is required for the Private Pilot Licence only). Students can obtain the Canadian medical upon their arrival in Canada or have the medical done by an approved Transport Canada Civil Aviation Medical Examiner in their own country prior to arrival. We recommend this be done no later than 1 month prior to your intended departure for Canada. A list of the approved doctors for your country can be obtained on Transport Canada's website at www.tc.gc.ca in the Civil Aviation information section.

DESIGNATION

Students are advised that all schools must be registered with the Private Training Institutions Branch of British Columbia. Some schools go beyond this mandatory registration and obtain designation of their school, facilities and programs. Our recommendation to all students is that they choose a school that is designated. Pacific Flying Club is designated as well as a member of the Air Transport Association of Canada and the British Columbia Aviation Council. We would also counsel students to be wary of any school that demands a large deposit upfront. Pacific Flying Club also holds Education Quality Assurance Certification (EQA).