What to Include in Your Study Plan

Even though a study plan may not be listed as a required document in the application checklist in the IRCC account when you apply for your study permit online, we strongly encourage you to include this document in your application.

Your study plan can be uploaded in the Client Information section and should include copies of relevant documents (for example, transcripts of previous programs to support you’ve met the admission conditions, proof of language proficiency, documents supporting your ties to the country of citizenship/residence, etc.).

The points you need to address in your Study Plan include:

- Why do you wish to study in Canada in the program for which you have been accepted?
- What is your overall educational goal?
- Why are you not pursuing a similar program in your country of residence?
- What research have you done into studies in your country of residence or of citizenship?
- How will this program enhance your employment opportunities in your country of residence or of citizenship?
- What ties do you have to your country of residence or of citizenship?
- If it has been more than 2 years since you have left full time education, please provide your C.V. (résumé). Highlight how the new program ties in to your work experience where applicable.
- In the case of a minor applicant, what are your reasons for studying in Canada? What is your parents’ or guardians’ immigration status in their current country of residence?
- In case you/your family live in a country that is not your country of citizenship, include copies of the residence documents.

NOTE: you need to be specific in your explanation to show that you’ve done your research in looking up programs. You also need to show how this program aligns with your previous academic/work experience. Avoid general and/or vague statements such as “Canada is a safe and multicultural country”; focus more on the study plan and how the study program you have chosen at UAlberta is a “natural progression” to your academic and/or professional experience.