

Foreign Nationals Entering Canada

What visitors, students, and employees of U of T need to enter Canada

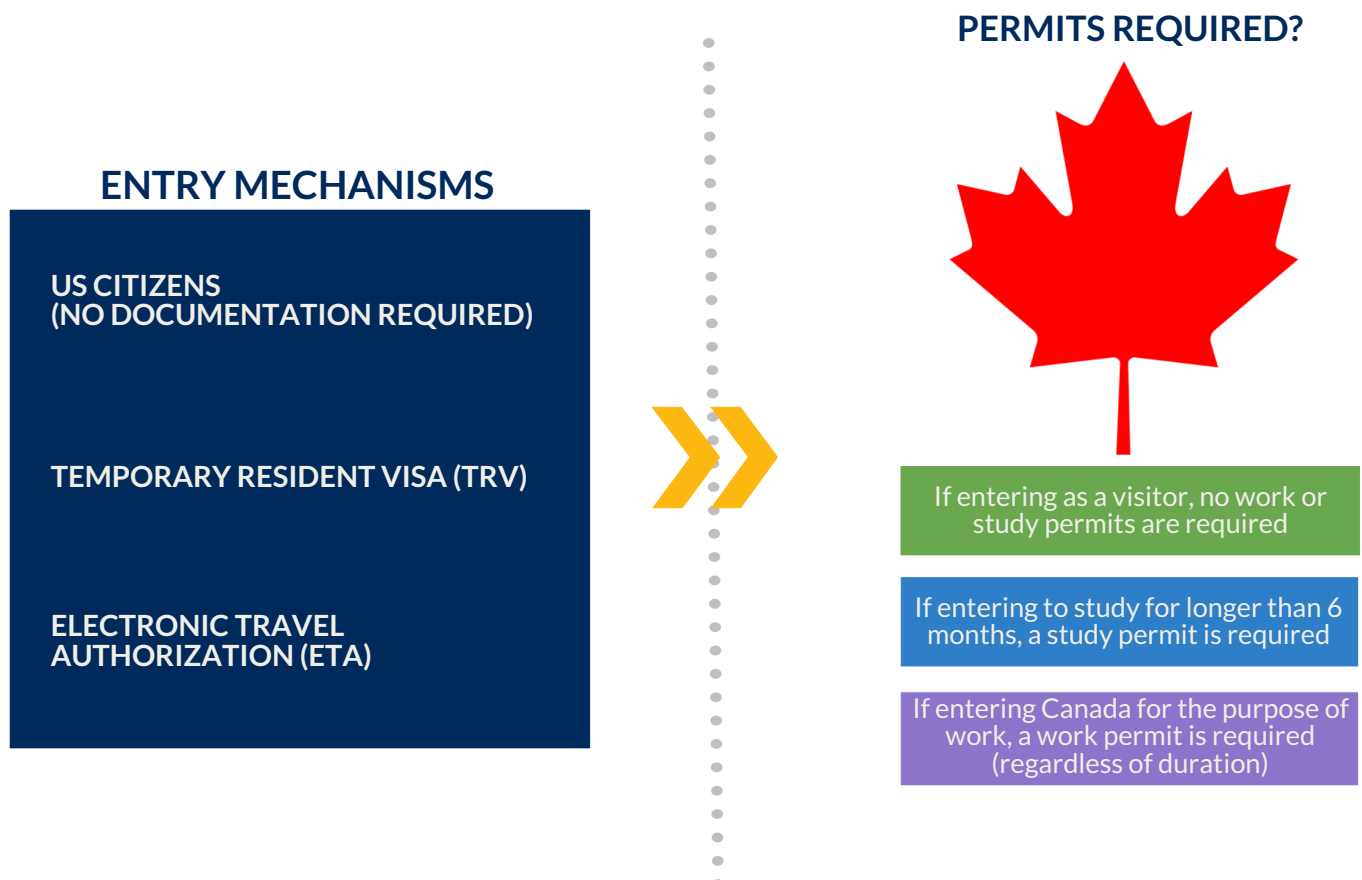
Foreign nationals entering Canada fall into one of three categories which define the status of the individual while in Canada:

- Visitors
- Students (require study permits if entering to study for more than six (6) months)
- Temporary workers (require work permits)

While status is based on the activities being conducted while in Canada, the ability to enter Canada requires various documentation based on the country of citizenship.

For citizens of countries other than the United States, either a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) or Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) is required to gain entry.

To determine which entry mechanism applies, please refer to Citizenship & Immigration Canada's website at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>.



Overview: Entry Mechanisms

NO TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISA OR ETA REQUIRED

There are no additional requirements for US citizens to obtain entry to Canada.

If required, work or study permits can be obtained at the border. Work or study permits are not required for visitors.

TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISA (TRV) REQUIRED

Foreign nationals from certain countries are required to obtain a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) before entering Canada.

TRVs are issued as either single entry or multiple entry.

Single entry TRVs allow one-time entry into Canada. Foreign nationals must apply for a new TRV each time they travel outside of Canada and require re-entry into the country.

Multiple entry TRVs allow foreign nationals to come and go from Canada for six (6) months at a time and are valid for up to 10 years.

Foreign nationals should be encouraged to apply for a TRV with sufficient time prior to their period of travel. Processing timelines are extremely variable - TRVs can take more than six (6) months to be issued.

Work or study permits may be applied for at the same time as the TRV

ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (ETA) REQUIRED

Electronic Travel Authorizations (ETAs) are required for foreign nationals (except US citizens) who are entering Canada by air, and who are exempt from a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) requirement.

ETAs are electronically linked to the holder's passport, and are valid for up to five (5) years or the expiry of said passport (whichever comes first).

Foreign nationals must apply for ETAs prior to entering Canada by air.