



LUTHERAN  
theological seminary  
SASKATOON

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

and the

## Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon

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*INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE AN IMPORTANT AND INTEGRAL PART  
OF THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE AT OUR SCHOOL AND  
WE WELCOME THEM TO OUR CAMPUS.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) is an inclusive and affirming community that offers hospitality to all who participate in our programs of study. As disciples of Christ committed to public leadership among God's people in diverse and challenging cultural contexts, we eagerly learn from and welcome one another's diversity, including, but not limited to theological perspective, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender identity, relationship status, age, physical ability, social and economic status, and sexual orientation.

LTS is an affiliated college of the University of Saskatchewan, located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Canada. Our school is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). We are a Canadian Designated Learning Institution.

LTS offers programs at the graduate level. Courses are offered both onsite (synchronous) and/or online (synchronous and asynchronous). LTS is a member of the Saskatoon Theological Union (STU), which is a partnership between three other theology schools on the University of Saskatchewan campus. The three schools of the STU share professors, worship times, some programming and social gatherings.

## 2. APPLICATION PROCESSES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

### 2.1 Federal and Provincial Government Requirements

LTS is a Canadian Designated Learning Institute (DLI). This means that our school has been approved by the Saskatchewan (provincial) and Canadian (federal) governments to host International Students. To apply for a study permit from the Canadian government, International Students need an acceptance letter from their Designated Learning Institution (see more in section 3 below).

### 2.2 Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) Requirements

The LTS application process to apply for a particular program is the same for both International and Canadian students. Applicants must complete an online application form, pay an application fee and submit supporting documents.

**LTS Application Form:** Program application forms can be found at <https://lutherantheological.ca/admissions/how-to-apply>.

Required supporting documents are outlined in the application form and must be submitted to the registrar separately either by email at [registrar.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca](mailto:registrar.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca) or by postal mail, to

Registrar  
Lutheran Theological Seminary  
1121 College Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W3 CANADA

Please note that official school transcripts and references must be sent directly to the LTS registrar from school(s) and referees. The Seminary will not accept these supporting documents

that are sent by the applicant.

**LTS Application Fee:** The application fee (and any handling fee) must be paid in Canadian dollars. For those who require a Canadian Study Visa, the application fee is \$200. Applicants may make the payment in one of the following ways:

1. debit card or cheque (from Canadian banks)
2. electronic-transfer (to [finance.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca](mailto:finance.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca))
3. credit card (Mastercard or Visa); credit card information can be provided to the registrar by telephone at 1-639-398-2544 or by email at [registrar.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca](mailto:registrar.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca)
4. money transfer through Western Union or Money Gram (student must pay all fees)

Note: Applicants may contact the Seminary's finance manager for banking information that may be required to enable a money transfer (email: [finance.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca](mailto:finance.lts@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca)).

### **3. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT VISAS AND PERMITS FOR STUDY IN CANADA**

Information respecting federal requirements for study in Canada, including the visa process, study permits, work permits and other immigration related issues can be found at [www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp) and [www.saskimmigrationcanada.ca](http://www.saskimmigrationcanada.ca)

International Students who wish to study onsite in Canada must provide (to the Canadian Government) their fingerprints and a photo (i.e. biometrics). Please see the Government of Canada website for information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/campaigns/biometrics/facts.html>.

Once a student has been officially accepted into an LTS program, the LTS registrar will issue an acceptance letter to the student. The letter is one of several documents required by the Canadian Government, for the student's Study Visa application.

### **4. LTS TUITION POLICY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

International Students pay tuition and other fees at the same rate as Canadian students. Please check our website ( <https://lutherantheological.ca/admissions/tuition-fees> ) for details.

### **5. LTS LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT**

Individuals whose first language is not English are normally required to submit English fluency test scores through one of two venues:

- a) TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language): Students must attain an IBT score (including the speaking component) of 88 with no component less than 20, or if the TOEFL IBT is not available, a minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper based) is a prerequisite. Test scores must be forwarded by the administrator of TOEFL directly to the Registrar.
- b) DUOLINGO English test: Students must attain, at minimum, an overall score of 110. Test scores must be forwarded by the administrator of Duolingo directly to the Registrar.

#### ***Available English Language Programs in Saskatoon.***

English Language programs, to improve the student's command of English, are

available at the University of Saskatchewan Language Centre whose website is [www.learnenglish.usask.ca](http://www.learnenglish.usask.ca).

Off-campus “English as a Second Language” programming and services are also available at no cost at *The Global Gathering Place* in Saskatoon. Their website is located at [www.globalgatheringplace.com](http://www.globalgatheringplace.com).

## **6. FOREIGN GRADE AND DEGREE EQUIVALENCIES**

Methods of recording grades and conferring degrees differ from country to country. Consequently, International Students wishing to enter the MDiv and MTS degree programs must write to the registrar, submitting details of their academic careers including, wherever possible, transcripts of academic work and copies of any degrees or diplomas held, together with some information about the institutions granting the degrees. As mentioned above, transcripts must be sent directly to the registrar from the school, not from the applicant.

Foreign equivalency assessment for all programs is conducted internally at LTS. If the expertise is not available among our faculty then faculty in the country from which the credits originate are asked to evaluate the credits and provide academic assessment. We are able to utilize this process due to the small size of our student population. In the case where faculty from the country of credit origin are not available, we will make use of the University of Saskatchewan Credential Assessment Service. A fee for this service will be charged to the student.

## **7. TRANSFER CREDIT FROM AN ATS ACCREDITED INSTITUTION IN THE UNITED STATES**

LTS is a member of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in Canada and the United States. The policy to transfer credit for the MDiv and MTS degree programs from a post-secondary institution accredited by the ATS in Canada and the United States is found in a document on our website at <https://lutherantheological.ca/admissions/how-to-apply>. The document is entitled *Applying to Study at LTS*.

## **8. FINANCIAL AID**

The Lutheran Theological Seminary is a small school and cannot promise potential students financial support. Each student is expected to be able to finance their own education. Full-time students are eligible to apply for financial aid after classes have begun in each academic term and depending on finances available, support may be given.

## **9. WITHDRAWAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is important to note that withdrawing from a program of study, or ceasing to be full-time student at a Designated Learning Institution will have an impact on an international student’s immigration status and eligibility to work in Canada. Federal regulations state that the holder of a study permit in Canada is subject to the following conditions:

- Enrollment at a Designated Learning Institution,

- Remaining enrolled until completion of studies, and
- Actively pursuing the program of study.

## **10. LIVING IN SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA**

Information about studying and living in the province of Saskatchewan can be found at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/moving-to-saskatchewan/live-in-saskatchewan/to-study>.

Please note that the cost for one person to live in Saskatoon is approximately \$1700/month (minimum, Canadian dollars). Applicants may find useful information posted on the following website to consider various living costs: <https://costof.live/cost-of-living/in/saskatoon>.

## **11. ACCOMMODATIONS IN SASKATOON**

The Lutheran Seminary does not provide housing facilities for students. However, our seminary is affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan. Options for living on campus are listed on the [University Housing and Residence Webpage](#). In addition, our students have access to information respecting off campus housing through the University of Saskatchewan's Students' Union (USSU) Housing Registry. The USSU Housing Registry website link can be found at <http://ussu.ca/main-page/services/housing-registry/>.

## **12. HEALTH AND DENTAL CARE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

*Saskatchewan Health Care* provides basic health care coverage for all full-time students, including International Students. Once in Canada with a valid study permit and registered as a full-time student, students may apply for a Saskatchewan Health Card (which provides general health coverage while in Canada). The processing time to obtain the card takes approximately 6 to 8 weeks. More information on the Saskatchewan Health Card can be found at: <https://www.ehealthsask.ca/residents/health-cards/Pages/Apply-for-a-Health-Card.aspx>

All students of LTS are also eligible to become enrolled in the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) Additional Health and Dental Care Insurance Coverage when they take out a membership in the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) of the University of Saskatchewan and pay the GSA membership fee and the applicable Health and Dental plan fee. The GSA website at [www.gsa.usask.ca](http://www.gsa.usask.ca), under the "Services" tab, "Health and Dental" section provides more information. You may also meet in person with someone from the Health and Dental Plan Office in Room 121, Main Level, Place Riel Student Centre, 1 Campus Drive, or by email at [www.ihaveaplan.ca](http://www.ihaveaplan.ca), or by calling locally 306-933-0093 or toll free long distance at 1-877-795-4428.

For a more detailed listing of health care services, please review the *LTS Student Information and Policies Handbook* on the LTS website at <https://lutherantheological.ca/programs/handbooks>. A basic listing of medical treatment facilities is listed. Furthermore, the LTS Sexual Assault Policy and the Prevention of Discrimination and Harassment Policy are contained in this handbook. Should a student need help, the Seminary Assault and Harassment Officer's contact

information is listed.

For a listing of off-campus dental and additional health care practitioners (e.g. optometrists, massage therapists, physiotherapists, and chiropractic doctors), please see the “Complete Network Listing” located on the [www.ihaveaplan.ca](http://www.ihaveaplan.ca) website. Click on the “List of Student Associations” link and choose the “University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students (GSA)” from the list of student associations. Under the “Discover the Networks’ Advantages” heading in the top right-hand corner of the home page, select the “Complete Network Listing” option.

### 13. OTHER SUPPORT RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The following offices provide further assistance for International Students. Please contact them if you have particular questions or are seeking connections with other International Students.

- a. **International Student Advisor’s Office:** There is International Student Advisor’s Office on the U. of S campus is a valuable resource for members of our LTS community. For further information, call 306-966-4923.
- b. **International Student and Study Abroad Centre:** International Students of LTS have access to the International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) of the University of Saskatchewan as a resource centre. Information about their services can be found at <http://students.usask.ca/international/>
- c. **Regional Newcomer Gateways:** In addition to the International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) as referenced above, Regional Newcomer Gateways are welcome centres for newcomers coming to Saskatchewan where international students can get information and connect to their new community. Saskatoon’s newcomer gateway is through the *Newcomer Information Centre* located at 106-129 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North, phone: 306-343-8303. More information on this Centre can be found at [www.nicstoon.org](http://www.nicstoon.org).
- d. **Academic Writing Support:** The Student Learning Service at the University of Saskatchewan offers help in writing. Their website can be found at <https://library.usask.ca/studentlearning/>.

### 14. MORE INFORMATION

For more information on studying and working in Canada please see [www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp) and [www.saskimmigrationcanada.ca](http://www.saskimmigrationcanada.ca) or contact the International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) at <http://students.usask.ca/international/>.