

Home Stay Manual 2026-27



British Columbia, Canada



Vernon International
Student Program

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1. Introduction

a) Welcome and Thank You

Thank you for becoming a member of the International Student Program. Your role as a Host Family is a vitally important one. You are the primary caregiver and support system for an international student who has made the significant decision to move to Canada to study and advance their academic goals, and in so doing, learn about Canadian culture.

This experience will be rewarding. Students can bring so much to your home and your family. This is a wonderful chance to experience another culture and a different way of life. We encourage you to see this as an opportunity to not only share your culture and experiences, but to learn from your student about theirs.

b) International Student Program

The Vernon District #22 International Student Program (ISP) exists in each of our secondary schools and some of our elementary schools as well. Most students will become very familiar with their International Coordinators/English Language Learning (ELL) teachers who are the first point of contact for any school or academic-related questions or concerns. They are dedicated staff in each of the secondary schools and act as advisors and supports for the international students registered in each school.

The International Student Program is administered out of the School Board Office. If you have any questions about the program, your first call should be to the International Student Program office at the School Board (250) 549-9246. (See attached International Student Program Contact List.)

c) Philosophy

The homestay experience is considered one of the most important elements of a student's Study Abroad experience. You are taking in *a new member of the family*. It is important to recognize that, while there may be challenges, this can be one of the most worthwhile experiences a family and student can have together. We believe that the impact of the memories and experiences your family and student will share together will far outweigh any classroom activity they might participate in. Therefore, we encourage you to take this to heart and make the most of your time together!

You have taken on the responsibility for this child's well-being, from stability and safety to food and homework, to doctor's appointments and recreational activities. We ask that you treat this child as you would your own child; give them the love, support, and structure that is needed by any child from any culture or background.

While the International Student Program is the legal custodian for your student in Canada (please see 2.g.), you are their *primary caregiver*. We trust your judgment and your ability to do what is in the best interest of your student. If questions or situations arise and you are not sure of the best choice to make for your student's well-being, please contact your Homestay Coordinator or the International Student Program Office. We are here to help.

d) Homestay Staff

The role of the Homestay Coordinator (HSC) is multi-faceted. The Homestay Coordinator interviews and screens prospective host families. From pre-arrival to departure, the Coordinator plays a key role in the student experience. They place students according to family and student profiles and do their best to ensure a good match is made. Ongoing supervision and support as well as mediation and conflict resolution are also part of the HSC's responsibilities. Essentially, you can rely on the HSC to be there for you if you have any questions, concerns, or just want to talk about your experience. An annual homestay visit also provides a great opportunity to review changes in your home, update your profile, review student experiences, and connect with your coordinator.

The HSC will also act as a support network for the students directly. Students will be encouraged to call or email their HSC with any questions or concerns. Often, you might find that the HSC hears things before you do. This is normal and the HSC will do everything possible to facilitate the lines of communication between host families and students.

Homestay Coordinators are responsible for long-term and short-term placements at their schools, as listed below:

Tayler Skultety

Vernon Secondary, Clarence Fulton, and Elementary

Cell: (250) 308-6893

vernonhomestay1@sd22.bc.ca

Fatima Nunes

Kalamalka, Charles Bloom, Seaton, and Elementary

Cell: (250) 260-0601

vernonhomestay2@sd22.bc.ca

Silmara Albi de Oliveira

Cell: (250) 309-3528

vernonhomestay3@sd22.bc.ca



2. Program Basics

a) Bedroom and Home Set-up

In order to be a host family, your home must be safe and comply with the BC Building Code and/or the local building bylaw, as applicable, and with the local fire code. The student's bedroom should be a private room, with a closet, window and door, and should include:

- a bed with box spring or frame and bedding (NOT a futon or blow-up mattress)
- a dresser and closet (or place to store clothing and items)
- a desk, chair, and lamp
- access to bathroom and bathing facilities, including towels
- access to laundry facilities including laundry soap
- adequate heat, light, and ventilation
- landline phone, *OR if you only use a cell phone you must provide the student with a means to seek help should there be an emergency and you are not home*
- access to the home 24/7, whether by key and/or access code
- Wi-Fi access

b) Expectations of the Host Family:

Additional services that the host family is to provide:

- Provide three (3) balanced and healthy meals per day, seven days per week, as well as an adequate supply of various food groups and snacks that are always accessible and available
- Meet required transportation needs including driving to airport for pickup/drop off, social outings, sporting events, lessons, or doctor's appointments. Families are expected to treat the student like they would their own child. For example, if your child is in a sport and you drive your child to and from practices and games, the same would be expected for your host student. Families are encouraged to familiarize students with public transportation when and where possible, and to coordinate rides with other families participating in similar events or activities.
- Provide support and assistance when emergency or health situations arise. If the situation is serious, please ensure the HSC and the ISP Office are kept informed.
- Make short term arrangements for the supervision and accommodation of your international student if you need to be away and advise your HSC of the same. *The Supervising Adult MUST be 25 years or older and be a Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada.*
- Assist student in seeking extra-curricular activities and sports.
- Assist student in obtaining and completing paperwork on time. This might include health care claims/forms, permission forms (to be signed by ISP Principal), or travel requests.

- Participation in various Canadian cultural experiences and family outings (ie skiing, hockey, performing arts, movies, hiking, library visits, grocery shopping, family visits, travel...).
- While you are requested to provide support to help students achieve academically, our International Coordinators/ELL Teachers take responsibility when there are academic and/or attendance problems. If you notice your student is struggling academically, or having attendance issues, please contact the school International Coordinator/ELL Teacher.
- Hold your student to the same rules and expectations as your own children. There should not be a separate set of rules for your children unless dictated by age-appropriateness and life experience. For instance, your 10 year old child might clean their room beautifully; a 13 year old from another country might never have had to clean their own room; a 16 year old from another culture may not shop for groceries alone, or cook for themselves, or do their own laundry. These tasks may require some additional supervision and effort from the student.
- Ensure your student abides by the statements of their Student Participation Agreement (see below).

c) Expectations of the Student

The student is expected to adhere to the rules and regulations outlined in the Student Participation Agreement:

School District #22 International Student Program Student Participation Agreement

Students accepted into the Vernon International Student Program are expected to follow the rules and policies of the Vernon School District as well as the laws of British Columbia and Canada. This agreement is intended to ensure a student's health, safety, and academic success. Each student and their parent/guardian must read the following statements, and by signing, agree to be bound and honour its terms strictly.

Students must:

Major Infractions

- 1) Abide by the laws of British Columbia and Canada.
- 2) Not purchase or drink alcoholic beverages, purchase or use cannabis products, or purchase, use, or possess drugs or medications other than those prescribed specifically for the student by a doctor for medical purposes.
- 3) Not purchase, use, or have in their possession weapons of any kind, including air guns.

Academic

- 4) Follow the code of conduct for their school and the Vernon School District.
- 5) Attend school on a regular basis and be on time for all classes. Absences will only be considered excused when the host family informs the school.
- 6) Be a student in good standing by completing all homework and assignments in a timely fashion.
- 7) Maintain a full-time program of studies. The Vernon School District will supervise the educational plan with the goal of successful completion of the student's educational goals.

Personal Conduct

- 8) Respect the property of others, including host families, schools, and their communities.
- 9) Request permission to travel outside the Vernon School District by submitting the International Student Program's travel approval form. The school district may deny requests to travel if the student's safety or supervision is of concern.
- 10) Not smoke or vape. Students must identify on their application form if they are smokers. Smoking and vaping are not allowed in buildings, schools, or host family homes.
- 11) Not make online purchases without the consent of the natural and host family, and not make online purchases that the student is not legally allowed to make.
- 12) Not work, this includes babysitting.
- 13) Not attend indoor or outdoor parties with underage minors where alcohol or drugs are present.
- 14) Not have permanent tattoos or piercings done while in the program.
- 15) Abstain from sexual intercourse.
- 16) Not engage in inappropriate behaviour on any technology-based or online platform, inside or outside school.

Safety

- 17) Not drive a motorized vehicle or obtain a driver's license while studying in the Vernon School District.
- 18) Not be in a car with a driver who has a L (Learners) or N (Novice) license.
- 19) Wear helmets when riding bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc, and when skiing/snowboarding.

d) Screening Process

All families are required to go through a stringent screening process to become host families for the International Student Program. Host families are to be 25 years of age or older and be a Canadian Citizen or a Permanent Resident of Canada.

When families are accepted as a Host Family, they may not be matched with a student right away, as placement is based on matching both the international family and student's wishes.

e) Criminal Records Checks

Everyone in the home that is **19 years of age or older** is required to have a criminal record check completed and submitted. This can be done through the Ministry of Justice, and is renewable every 5 years, with an annual offence declaration form completed by you, confirming that nothing has changed since your check was completed. Information on the process to have a Criminal Record Check completed by the Ministry of Justice and the yearly Offence Declaration forms are included in your orientation package. You can also contact your Homestay Coordinator with any questions.

f) Placement and Matching

Students complete a ***Homestay Application*** when they apply to our program, outlining interests, hobbies, and preferences. Based on that application, the homestay's profile and the coordinators' knowledge of the host family, the student will be matched as closely as possible to a suitable family.

Every effort is made to accommodate both the family's and the student's wishes, but it is not always possible to meet every request. Therefore, the coordinators use their judgement and experience to prioritize the most important points from both families and students. If the host family has any questions or concerns about the matching process, they are encouraged to contact their HSC directly for more information.

g) Custodianship

Unless the international student has a family member in Vernon who can and will act as Legal Custodian, our Principal, Tracy Godfrey, or designate from the International Student Program, will be named as custodian. Custodianship embodies the legal right and responsibility to make decisions on behalf of a student registered in the International Program.

The custodianship document is a notarized declaration signed by the custodian in Canada. The student's natural family will also have completed a similar document in the home country which is signed by the parents and notarized. The Custodianship Declaration states that adequate arrangements have been made for the custodian in Canada to act in place of a parent in times of emergency, such as when medical attention or intervention is required. For younger children, a broader declaration may be required. Broad declarations must state that the custodian is not only responsible in times of emergency but also for day-to-day care and supervision.

If someone needs to make an emergent decision on behalf of a minor child in the custody of the Vernon School District, every effort should be made to seek authorization and inform the School District's custodian, Tracy Godfrey of the situation. Should you not be able to reach anyone, host families are trusted to make a decision in the best interest of their student. Should advice or direction be needed, the HSC or any administrator from the International Student Program can be contacted.

h) Homestay Fees

Homestay Fees are paid by the student to the International Student Program office. Fees are paid to cover the costs associated with hosting the student, including full access to home facilities (bedroom, common space, etc.), meals, snacks and

transportation within the community, family activities and ongoing support of the student.

As of September 2025, the monthly rate is \$1150. Payments are made on the date closest to that of the middle of the month by direct deposit. Please note that if a student moves or leaves early for any reason, fee payments may need to be adjusted. Your HSC can clarify how a move might affect the payment in the event your student moves or leaves.

i) Conflicts with Students and Hosts

Families are encouraged to use their own mediation and communication skills to manage any problems or conflicts that arise with their international student. Often if families treat the situation as they would any issue within their natural family, the problems can be easily resolved.

Communication is the most important part of establishing good relationships. However, should the host family or student struggle with the rules and expectations, please involve the HSC to assist with liaising and mediating. Every effort will be made to keep the student in the family, and to resolve the issue to mutual satisfaction. It is possible that a viable solution cannot be found, in which case, the student will be moved to another host family.

j) Student Moves

Every effort is made to ensure students and families are a good match from the beginning, however not every match will be ideal. Student moves do occur for various reasons and can be unexpected and disappointing; sometimes they are at the request of the homestay family, at the request of the students, and sometimes at the request of parents or their agent. The HSC will work with all parties to secure as smooth a transition as possible. Depending on the nature of the move, the student may be moved at the end of the month or may be moved immediately. Host family feedback on this issue is always welcome.

k) Family Emergencies

Students are not ever to be left alone unsupervised overnight, regardless of the student's age. If you have a family emergency and it is inappropriate for the student to be involved, please contact your Homestay Coordinator so arrangements can be made for a short-term alternate host family placement.

If you are travelling out of the School District and are taking your student with you, we need to know. Your HSC can provide you with the Travel Authorization Form.

If you are going to be away from the home, and cannot bring your student, it is the host family's responsibility to arrange supervision for the student. This may be a family member or good friend who is over the age of 25. Please contact your HSC if you are going to be away and will have someone else supervising the student.

It is recommended that you have a family member or good friend prepared (Criminal Record Check completed and on file with us) to look after your student should you be required to leave your home temporarily.

It is important that you always inform us if your student is under the care of another adult including another host family. It is our responsibility to know where the student is, with contact details provided, even for a short period of time.

3. Student Arrival

a) Airport Pick-up and Drop-off

Airport pick-up and drop-off during the program are the responsibility of the host family, the cost of which is a part of the regular homestay fees. If for any reason you are unable to drive your student to or from the airport, please arrange with another homestay family or your HSC. The host family is responsible to pay \$65.00 (subject to change) for the alternative driver for transport.

Once flight details are received, they will be shared with you. **Be sure you have the flight number and confirm the flight information before leaving for the airport.**

International flights can be delayed, and the possibility of a missed connection always exists. Every effort is made to ensure delays are communicated to you. Delays and missed connections can cause significant stress, both for you and your student, who may have been travelling for up to 20 hours or longer to arrive in Kelowna. Please bear this in mind when you greet them!

Use the airport arrival as an opportunity to build a strong relationship with your student by welcoming them to Canada. Holding a sign with their name on it, bringing balloons, or any other gesture is always welcome, and is something they will always remember, along with your smiling faces!

b) Call Home

Please ensure your student contacts their parents to reassure them of their safe arrival. If they cannot yet use their cell phone, we ask that you kindly allow the student to use your phone to send a message (text, message via WhatsApp, email, etc), and once at home, even to make a brief call home on your land line/cell phone, or to send an email from your home computer. This confirming message is critically important for your student's parents and agent, so please double-check that they have sent out this message as soon as possible.

c) Lost Luggage

Arriving at your destination *without* your luggage can be extremely stressful. It is particularly difficult for a student who is in unfamiliar surroundings and perhaps doesn't have a strong command of the English language. If your student's luggage does not arrive, please assist in liaising with the airline to file the appropriate paperwork. Most of the time, luggage is merely delayed and will be retrieved within a couple of days. If this occurs, homestay families will need to provide immediate necessities.

4. First Few Days

As you yourself may have experienced, the first few days are a period of adjustment for your student. Time zone changes lead to jetlag and this means your student might need to sleep even during your initial few meals and might not participate in other activities just yet. Flexibility, patience, and understanding will be key to an easier transition, particularly as homesickness and culture shock begin, usually after a few weeks.

a) Jet Lag Recovery

Balancing rest time to recover from the exhaustion of travel and the need to adjust to our local time zone is important. The adjustment will be easier if your student changes their phone or watch right away. Fresh food, lots of water, and outdoor exercise will also help!

Long periods of sleeping during the day prolongs jetlag, so as much as possible, encourage your student to maintain as normal a schedule as possible, stretching their waking hours each day. Try not to plan much more than the airport welcome, a quick tour of your home, and light fare/food for their first few hours with you. If you want to introduce them to your extended family, or show them around the neighbourhood, planning for the next day might be best!

b) Unpacking

You may want to provide your student with some time to unpack, or help them to do so, and explain where to store extra luggage or off-season clothing. Securing a safe location for important items like their passport, plane tickets, insurance documents, and money will be extremely helpful.

c) House Tour

When your student has somewhat recovered from their trip, but within the first few days, please do a more thorough tour of your home – both inside and out. Show your student how to use appliances, security systems, and discuss common and personal spaces. Students may not know simple things such as having the shower curtain inside the shower stall, or how to use an alarm system or garage door keypad. It is also important that students are made aware of the location of any security/home cameras, interior or exterior, that may record them, and how/when this will occur. *It is not possible to over-communicate with your student.*

The **My Canadian Home** document is a critical tool to encourage communication about the elements of your home that are key. Please remember that your student will want to please you and will agree to almost everything you say! You will need to revisit this document over time, as they begin to settle into their new home, when there are questions, and as you all learn to live together.

d) Establishing Rules and Expectations

Once your student has settled in, you will want to begin by outlining your household rules and expectations. It is very important during this process that you leave nothing unsaid. Language and cultural barriers can pose challenges as you establish your rules.

Remember: don't assume anything! It is always better to overstate things than to leave things implied.

Many of our students come from family homes that are very different than our own. It is possible they have never cooked for themselves, done laundry, or even been expected to make their beds. Others might be accustomed to various chores. You need to establish your own expectations for your home – just be sure that you adequately explain these expectations and, if needed, provide training and support for the first while. We strongly recommend that you follow the **My Canadian Home** document, as everything is in written form and the student can refer to their copy in the future. The HSC will also want to see that document, and review it together with your student, if there is a need for a meeting or discussion about the homestay environment.

e) Culture Shock

Your student will face many challenges as they adjust to their new surroundings. Culture shock is a phenomenon which affects most people who move into a new culture.

The initial phase of culture shock is usually called the “honeymoon phase”. This is when the student is quite excited and happy to be in their new surroundings. Everything is new and thrilling.

Once the novelty wears off, the student will likely go through a period of disenchantment, where everything becomes dissatisfactory. At this point, the student will often compare everything to their home (food, friends, environment, etc.) and will voice unhappiness with everything, even things they had previously enjoyed. It is important to remember that this is a normal process of adjustment and does not necessarily reflect a rejection of you and your family, your life, Vernon, or Canada. Your awareness, understanding, and patience are vitally important as you support your student through this phase.

One of the best countermeasures to this dissatisfaction is for the student to keep busy. Students who spend significant amounts of time online, in their rooms, or isolated from people will find the transition more difficult than those who immediately begin to interact with others. Finding an activity of interest will greatly facilitate a successful transition. Following the disenchantment phase, the student often returns to a more balanced perspective, but this can take some time. Again, consult you HSC with any concerns.



5. Communication with Your Student

The most important thing to remember is that you cannot over-communicate with your student. Don't assume anything – and discuss everything – even things you believe to be common knowledge. If your student has a lower level of English comprehension, it is very important to ensure they understand the concepts. Be sure to ask your student to repeat important things back to you in their own words to ensure comprehension. You will also find yourself looking for creative ways to convey concepts. Using different words, charades, drawing pictures and other communication tools will become commonplace – and fun!

a) Privacy

Standards of privacy and personal space vary significantly across cultures. Explain to your student the idea of personal space in the household. It often helps to explain that you will respect their personal bedroom space by knocking prior to entering and then you can ask that they do the same in return.

It is important to respect their personal space, but if you feel it is necessary to enter the student's room when they are not present, please contact the HSC prior to doing so.

It can also be helpful to be aware that both families and individuals within certain cultures will have different standards of personal space. Watch your student to see how they interact with others and determine whether this warrants a discussion. Some people are able to sense the need for a change in personal space and some are not. Everyone's "bubble" starts at a different spot!

b) Rules

In addition to the My Canadian Home document, you may find it useful to put some basic rules in writing. Often for a student, rereading a list can result in quicker understanding than hearing rules spoken. It also makes it easier to revisit the rules should further discussion be warranted.

Some general rules and guidelines which are strongly recommended by the International Student Program are:

- Students must always let you know where they are (where they are, whom they are with, when they will be home and how they are getting home).
- Students should ask ahead of time for rides to special events and appointments, and you can tell them how much ahead of time.
- *Students must attend school every day.* If the student is ill, you should inform the school office of the excused absence, as you normally would.

For an extensive list of other rules for international students, please refer to the Participation Agreement earlier in this document.

c) Family Events and Activities

You are encouraged to include your student as a member of the family. Everything from family visits and meals, sporting events, grocery shopping, library outings and weekend trips - all might be of interest to your student! Often, these simple day-to-day activities,

special celebrations and family events become the best part of the international student experience and help to form a lasting bond between you all.

Discuss with your student their desired level of participation in family activities. Generally, students do like to participate in family events. For the first few weeks, you may need to gently encourage the student's active participation. However, once they settle in, and get comfortable with your family and your activities, they will likely need minimal encouragement. One homestay family has "Sunday Dinner" and includes their students' families from other countries in a zoom call with a computer at the table, a great way to get to know your students' extended families as well!

Some students may not seek a high level of involvement. Some students are here to focus on academics and will spend most of their time studying. Others prefer more individual time. Use your judgment to evaluate the student's state of mind and seek further advice if you are concerned about the amount of time the student spends alone.

6. Homestay Guidelines

These are general, and are provided here for your information, but have been developed over time and experience. We share them in the best interest of student success at school and with you in your homestay life together.

a) When to Ask for Help, and for What?

Homestay Coordinators and the staff of the International Student Program (ISP) are all available to help you with any questions or concerns you might have. We ask that the following process be used when contacting Homestay Coordinators and/or ISP Office Staff.

- **Non-emergent** (see sample list below): matters should be sent via email, as opposed to text or phone call.
- **Emergent** (see sample list below) matters require immediate action and should be communicated with a phone call to your homestay coordinator. If no one answers, please see the contact sheet on page 30 for the contact numbers of other homestay coordinators, International Vice-Principal, and International Principal.
- Academic or attendance concerns should be directed to the International Coordinator/ELL teacher at your school, the ISP Vice-Principal, or ISP Principal during regular business hours via email.

➤ ***Emails will be responded to during regular business hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.***

➤ ***Calls made after 4:00 pm should be Emergent only.***

Examples: Emergent and Non-Emergent

Emergent	Non-emergent
• Student is hospitalized and seriously injured • Additional care or overnight stay is needed, possibly surgery	• Student was at the emergency department, has been discharged and has spoken to their natural parents. No additional care is needed. Example: sprain, toothache, minor cut with stitches. (Report to HSC)
• Student has broken key program rules – drinking, drugs, police involvement	• Student has broken a homestay rule. (Schedule discussion with HSC, if issue persists).
• Student has missed curfew, and you don't know where they are	• Student arrives home an hour past curfew
• Student is in danger or has been threatened	• Student lost their wallet, passport, visa (Report to HSC)
• Student is displaying unsafe behaviors toward self and/or others	• Student receives a ride from a driver with a "N" license (Report to HSC)
• Student has travelled outside the Vernon area without permission	• Student is caught smoking or vaping, or gets a tattoo or piercing (Report to HSC)

b) Curfews

The International Student Program requests families set curfew times as outlined below:

Grade 10-12	Sunday-Thursday 9:00 pm; Friday and Saturday – 11:00 pm
Grade 8-9	Sunday-Thursday 8:00 pm; Friday and Saturday – 10:00 pm
Grade 7 and less	Younger students need additional supervision; curfews for them depend on your family, their levels of maturity, and proximity of school and friends.

Curfews should be in keeping with your family routine. Sleepovers are not allowed on school nights, however, we do realize there are times you may be away and need your student to spend a weeknight at another home. We rely on your judgment for the student's safety and well-being and ask that you inform the other family of the participation agreement, and consequences for your student, should any of those agreements be broken. For instance, an international student will be sent home for drinking alcohol or smoking marijuana. Other families may not be fully aware of the implications of what they might consider to be "casual" drinking or smoking (even vaping), even for underage students.

Please Note: During winter months students should not be out walking once it is dark. Arrangements should be made with the homestay for pick-up.

c) Schedule

Go over a sample weekly schedule with your student, being sure to touch on “busy” or “peak” times in the day. For example, if everyone gets up in the morning at the same time and must prepare for work and school by sharing a common bathroom, be sure to find out how much time your student will need to get ready and how that will fit into your established routine. It is possible that all members of the family may have to slightly adjust their schedule. Discussing the process in advance can help alleviate stress and frustration.

If you have regularly scheduled lessons, events, or appointments, be sure to include your student and let them know how this will affect them. For example, your child’s hockey practice or music lesson might result in a later dinner on those nights.

It is also important to advise students that they need to let you know *in advance* of any activities they will be participating in (sports, movies, mall, friends place, etc.) and if any of those will require a ride to or from the location.

d) Chores and Duties

Your student is encouraged to actively participate in the household duties required of any family member. Please be aware that many of our students come from homes where they are not required nor necessarily expected to do any household chores. This therefore might be a major adjustment for your student. Explaining how your family differs from theirs will help. Students are responsible for cleaning their own bedroom/bathroom as well as being involved in light household chores such as loading the dishwasher, sweeping the floor, etc. **Training, supervision, and support** through the first few attempts will make the transition easier. Additionally, defining what a cleaned bedroom looks like to you is important – the clearer you can be, the easier this will be over time.

Each family will divide tasks differently and this is certainly the prerogative of the family. However, it is important that the student be treated as a full member of the family. This means that your international student should not be expected to perform tasks and chores that would not be expected of your own children. That said, you are not expected to be your student’s servant. Your student is a member of the family – not a guest.

e) Phone

Establishing telephone expectations, especially with regards to international calls, is important. It is reasonable for a student to want to phone home on a regular basis, and is in fact encouraged, but it is important to find the most logical and accessible way for calls to be made. Timing of those calls will also be important – they may need to occur late at night so that the student can reach their parents early in their day. Please discuss this and be flexible while setting limits that suit your family’s needs.

Low cost international calling is readily accessible through the internet. If you student and their family have not yet set up their preferred method of communication, you can suggest Zoom, WhatsApp, etc., or sometimes international calling with a set number of minutes via your internet provider.

Directly dialing via your cell phone or home phone are **STRONGLY DISCOURAGED** for international calls. Please be aware that these methods can come with hefty charges and the International Student Program will not be responsible for collecting money owed on phones or phone calls.

f) Cell Phones

Cell phones are a way of life for teenagers. If your student would like to obtain a local cell phone during their stay, please assist them with appropriate research. It is likely that students will need to get a “pay as you go” option as they are not eligible for a credit rating here in Canada. We advise you to **NOT** sign a contract on behalf of your student. The International Student Program will not be responsible for collecting money from students for cell phone bills, etc.

g) Computer

Many students will arrive with a laptop. Please provide your Wi-Fi password to your student. We strongly suggest that students turn off electronic devices by 10 pm on school nights.

If the student does not bring their own computer, be sure to discuss usage of a family computer. Who needs to use it? When? Are there time limits? Also be sure to discuss suitable games, programs, and web surfing.

h) Family Meals and Your Expectations

Discuss with your student your expectations around mealtimes. Do you always sit down together to eat? Are meals at different times depending on the day of the week? Be sure to explain how your family functions and what your expectations are – a sit-down meal, everyone stays and helps clean up, dessert is later, never, or immediately, etc. Meals provide a great time for your student to bond with the family, practice English, share their day’s adventures in conversation with other family members. Some may be shy to speak, others will have lots to share! Preferably, your student is eating at home for dinner at least Sunday through Thursday.

i) School Lunch Preparation

Are students expected to prepare their own lunches to carry to school or will you prepare their lunch for them? Many students will have very little – if any – experience at making a bagged lunch. Be sure to go over a typical lunch and discuss with your student what appeals to them specifically. They may not have ever eaten a sandwich, frequently eating rice or soup for lunch, so trying different options is always a good idea. You are responsible for providing suitable foods to bring to school for lunch. If your student chooses to buy lunch at school occasionally, they will have to cover the cost.

We encourage you to take your student grocery shopping, so they are involved in selecting items for breakfast and lunch. Shopping together means that your student might be able to find their “comfort foods”, especially if you try some of the “import” aisles in local grocery stores or check speciality markets for preferred items. This can lead to your student cooking for you, and your family learning to also prepare and enjoy foods from your student’s culture.

j) Laundry

Do you want your student to do their laundry, or do you prefer to do all the laundry yourself? Many students will not be familiar with laundry facilities and will require instruction and supervision as they begin this process. Be sure to establish guidelines to avoid confusion and misuse of appliances. Please show your student the preferred load size for your machines. Avoiding mishaps with water damage might mean taking the time to train your student from the beginning! Please pay special attention to this aspect of living in Canada!

k) Sleepovers

As they make new friends, students may wish to stay overnight at a friend's house. We recommend that if your student sleeps over at a friend's house, that you invite that student to your home. We ask that students not have sleepovers on school nights (Sunday to Thursday), that they are limited to one night on weekends unless there are special circumstances, and that sleepovers are not co-ed. It will not help you form a strong relationship with your student if they are away from Friday morning until Sunday night. It is at your discretion to determine the suitability of the student's request and we ask you to use your good judgment and parenting skills to ensure the safety and well-being of your student. Ideally plans are made before 6 pm, and you have confirmed the arrangements by speaking with the adult of the home, ensuring that they will be at the home for the duration of the sleepover.

l) Babysitting

Students cannot be asked to babysit (with or without compensation) and cannot be placed in a position of authority or responsibility.

m) Drugs, Alcohol, Smoking or Vaping

The use of drugs and alcohol is strictly prohibited and will result in removal of the student from the program. All students sign a Participation Agreement (see #2) before they arrive, and again during Orientation, which outlines the severity of the consequences for infractions such as this. If you become aware of usage, or even have strong suspicions, please discuss this immediately with your Homestay Coordinator who will contact the Principal of the International Student Program. It is vitally important for the safety and well-being of the student that the administration is made aware of infractions as soon as possible. Homestay families who choose to hide potentially damaging information will be removed from the program.

International students are held to a higher standard of behaviour than local students due to the fact they are visiting and away from their families and social networks. As students adjust to the Canadian way of life, they will come across some of the more dangerous aspects of social life. As your student begins to make friends and go out, be sure to discuss how to make good decisions and what consequences will await them if they end up at a party where drugs or alcohol are present, and they use drugs or alcohol.

Smoking is discouraged in the International Student Program. However, some students may be of legal age to choose to smoke. Students are not permitted to smoke or vape in your home, on your property, or on school property.

n) Driving

International students are not allowed to drive, even if they possess a license from their home country. Additionally, they are not allowed to take driving lessons from their host family or from a professional driving school.

o) Electric Transportation Devices

I understand that not all electric devices are treated the same under the same law; such as certain e-scooters, e-dirt bikes, mini-motorcycles are not legally allowed for use in public spaces. I will not provide an illegal electric device to my student. Any purchases made by the student need to be approved by the Principal in advance.

p) Rides

International Students are **not permitted** to drive with someone who has an **L** or **N** driver. They can only ride with someone who has a full Class 5 licence.

q) Dating and Relationships

Dating and romantic relationships are discouraged as we hope the student makes the most of their time here by studying hard, making new friends, and learning about Canadian culture. Also, some cultures forbid close personal relationships. We ask students to be respectful of the cultural expectations of both their host family and their own family's values, as well as the cultural implications of such a relationship.

r) Home & Auto Insurance Requirements

It is important to ensure that you have sufficient house and automobile insurance to cover potential liability, property, or accident claims. Many insurance companies have special clauses or riders for boarders, and it is your responsibility to ensure you have adequate liability and content insurance to cover an international student living in your home. It is recommended that you advise your insurer of any change in risk.

In the exceptional case that there is willful damage caused by your student to your property, please take photos immediately and send them to your Homestay Coordinator, who will assist you. Normal wear and tear, however, is to be expected.



BIKE SMART. STAY LEGAL.



ESSENTIAL RULES FOR BIKES & SMALL ELECTRIC VEHICLES

i Not all small or electric vehicles are treated the same under the Motor Vehicle Act.

	WHERE CAN I RIDE?	HOW OLD DO I NEED TO BE?	SPEED / POWER LIMITS	LICENSE & INSURANCE	KEY REQUIREMENT
E-BIKE (LIGHT / STANDARD)	Anywhere bicycles can be ridden	14+ for light e-bikes 16+ for standard e-bikes	Light e-bike: 25 km/h • 250W max Standard e-bike: 32 km/h • 500W max	No driver's license or insurance required	Must have fully operable pedals • Light e-bike cannot have throttle
E-SCOOTER (PILOT PROJECT)	Only in communities participating in the pilot project (only in Vernon)	16+	25 km/h • 500W max	No driver's license or insurance required	Illegal outside of pilot communities
MOPED / LSM (LIMITED SPEED MOTORCYCLE)	On public roadways only	16+	70 km/h • Up to 1.5 kW (1500W) max	Driver's license and insurance required	Must meet CMVSS compliance label requirements
E-DIRT BIKE	Not on roads, sidewalks or bike lanes	Not legal at any age on public roads	Not permitted on public roads (often >500W)	Cannot be registered or insured	Not legal e-bikes or LSMs
MINI-MOTORCYCLE	Not on roads, sidewalks or bike lanes	Not legal at any age on public roads	Not permitted on public roads (often >500W)	Cannot be registered or insured	Do not meet safety standards

7. School and the International Student Program

a) Attendance and the Academic Program

All students are expected to attend school on a regular basis. Should your student be ill and unable to attend school, it is your responsibility to contact the school and report an “excused absence”. Students are not permitted to skip classes or show repeated unexcused absences.

The schools will hold international students to the same attendance and academic standards as local students. Should attendance or academic performance prove to be an ongoing issue, please contact the International Coordinator/ELL at your school. The International Coordinators/ELL Teachers are responsible for international students’ academic programs, including, graduation planning, university applications, required courses, contact with teachers, etc.

Rarely, a student may need to miss extended periods of time due to international travel (e.g. return home due to a family illness). Please contact your HSC if this becomes a consideration.

b) Expectations

In school, international students are held to the same standards as local students. This means they are expected to adhere to all rules and regulations as outlined in the school handbook and discussed during the student orientation when the student arrives. However, due to language barriers, it may be useful for you to review the school handbook with your student at home.

c) Academic Performance

International education systems have varying standards for grading and marking. It may take your student some time to adjust to the way marks are assigned in Canada. If your student shows concern over their results, please encourage them to discuss this with their teachers (the International Coordinator/ELL teacher is always a good place to start).

d) Homework

Students are expected to complete all homework assignments. Please consult with your student and provide assistance and supervision as needed, and/or to the level with which you are comfortable.

e) Report Cards

Report cards will be made available through MyEd BC, and the agent/family in the student’s home country will be given access and advised when report cards are available.

f) Tutors

Tutors are available through the schools as needed. There are a number of options available including peer tutors (at little or no cost) and professional tutors (who charge a pre-established hourly rate). Should your student wish to hire a tutor, please contact the International Coordinator/ELL Teacher at the school or the HSC for more information.

8. Money

a) Spending Money

Students are encouraged to arrive in Canada with access to some pocket money. They may need your help to exchange currency or get to a bank.

b) Lending Money

The International Student Program strongly discourages host families from lending money to their students for any reason. If you have concerns over the financial resources of your student, please discuss this with your HSC. Should you choose to lend money to your student, please be aware that the International Student Program will not be able to assist with the collection of the funds.

c) Banking

Long term students are well-served to open a bank account in Canada. If you could assist the student with the initial visit to the bank to open the account, this would be most helpful. It is often ideal for you to choose the bank you use personally as you have an established relationship with them. Please note, you should not be directly involved in the student's banking (no co-signing or shared accounts) and the student should be personally responsible for the account and the money.

In many cases, the student and their natural parents will set up an account in the home country with a bank card which can operate here in Canada. This allows the natural parent to monitor spending and regulate access to additional needed funds.

d) Employment

K-12 international students are prohibited by law from gaining employment while in Canada to study. They may not earn income during their stay as a secondary student, even for small or short-term jobs such as babysitting.

e) Volunteer Opportunities

Students are encouraged to volunteer for school events, clubs, or community-based events. This is an excellent way to get involved in community life and to meet others with common interests.

g) “Extras”

Students are recommended to budget \$150 - \$250 per month for the extras that are not covered by the fees they have paid for their program. This money should cover social outings with friends, gifts, and additional personal supplies which are not part of the homestay agreement. Some students will arrive on strict budgets and have very little disposable income. Other students will have access to large amounts of disposable income. If you are concerned about your student's spending habits, please discuss this with your HSC.

9. Travel

a) Students Travelling Without Their Host Family

Safety is always the top concern for our students, and we feel confident they are safe when they are in school or with their homestay. When they leave our district to go to other cities without their host family, or stay with people we do not know, we must ensure students will be safe and well cared for.

It is our policy that if a student wishes to leave our district for overnight or longer, we need to know where they are going, and they must be under the care of a responsible adult. For that reason, we do not allow our students to go with a group of friends and stay together in a hotel in places like Vancouver or Kelowna. However, if there is an adult present who will be responsible for the student for the duration of their time away (**must be 25 years of age or older**), the student will be allowed to go, provided they have met the policy requirements.

When requesting to travel alone overnight, students must complete the program's Students Travelling Alone Form. This form is available on the program's website, from your Homestay Coordinator, or from your school's International Teacher. Students should complete the form fully, with as much information as possible. The form will be signed by the host family for approval, then the natural family, then given to the International Teacher at school for approval, before finally being sent to ISP administrators for approval. Students will receive a message notifying them if/when the trip is approved.

This form will also be sent out to all host families throughout the year.

Please see the text taken from the Students Travelling Alone Form below:

This form is for students travelling alone overnight. Please use this form when you are travelling unaccompanied overnight.

It is our policy that if a student wishes to leave Vernon overnight, we need to know where they are going, and they must be under the care of a responsible adult. For that reason, we do not allow our students to travel and stay on their own in a hotel, resort, etc. However, if there is an adult who will be responsible for them for the duration of their time away (**must be 25 years of age or older**), the student may be allowed to travel, as long as they have received approval from the International Student Program office.

We require the following process **every time** a student requests to travel outside of Vernon alone (this includes travelling to their home country during the school year).

1. The student, host family, and natural family must complete the Student Travel Form, and submit it at least **10 days prior to travel**. The form should be signed by the homestay family and natural family, then returned to the International Teacher at school (via email or hard copy) for signature. The International Teacher will forward the completed form to the ISP Principal or designate for final approval.

2. The form must be completed with full details. ***Incomplete forms will not be processed.*** The form will be reviewed and approved by Ms. Godfrey or Mr. White.

3. **The named responsible adult must be 25 years or older.** Please provide a current address, phone number, and cell phone number for the adult and an alternate emergency contact. If travelling to your home country, the responsible adult will usually be your parents, and you should state this on the travel form.

4. If you are not travelling to visit your family in your home country, or elsewhere, we will contact the supervising adult to confirm the travel plans and review our program rules. The ability to communicate in English with someone from the International Program office is required.

5. If you have questions, please ask your homestay family or your International Teacher at your school for assistance.

6. Students are **NOT** to book any travel until they have received approval from the International Program. Once the form has been approved/signed by the ISP Principal or designate, the student and homestay family will receive approval confirmation.

7. Students that fail to follow this process and leave the district overnight without prior permission will be subject to disciplinary action.

8. Travel plans requiring significant absence from school will likely **NOT** be approved. Attendance and progress will be considered.

b) Students Travelling with the Host Family

Families who wish to take their student on short trips overnight during the student's stay are encouraged to do so. This is a wonderful opportunity for the student to meet more people and see other parts of our country. In the event you do choose to travel together, be sure to inform the student's natural family (preferably in writing) and complete the program's Homestay Travel Form (found on the program's website-**not required for day trips**). This allows us to always know the location of our students in case of program emergencies.

If you are crossing international borders (by car or otherwise), please advise your Homestay Coordinator a minimum of 10 days prior. This process requires the student to have a letter of permission from the International Student Program Principal or designate, as he/she is the student's legal custodian in Canada. We also ask the student to advise their natural parents (include dates of travel, destination, and with whom the child will be traveling). You also need to ensure that the student has the proper Visa/permit to enter the country, as well as adequate travel medical insurance. If you are not sure of any of this, please contact the International Student Program office.

c) School Activities/Trips

If the student is participating in a school activity or trip of some kind (perhaps a sports tournament or band trip), the permission forms for such can be signed by the host family. If the activity/trip requires them to be away from home overnight, please ensure students complete the Travel Form as explained above. It is also a good idea for the student to advise their natural parents of the trip/activity they will be attending.

d) Missing School Due to Travel

Students should plan travel, so they **do not** miss school time, given that education is the primary reason for their visit to Canada. However, in the event that school will be missed for any travel, it is the student's responsibility to seek approval on the Travel Form, and travel requiring significant absence from school may **NOT** be approved. Attendance and progress will be considered. Once the student has received approval, they must advise the school and all their teachers. Also, students must obtain all missed assignments and complete all work as originally scheduled.

10. Study Permits, Visas, and Other Documentation

Students should bring their passport and all immigration documents (Visa, Study Permit, eTa, etc) to their student orientation or the first day of school. Students needing assistance with an application for, or an understanding of permits and Visas should be referred to their school International Coordinator/ELL Teacher.

Study Permit

A Study Permit is a document issued by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada that allows someone who is not a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada to study in Canada. This is not a travel document; it is the document that dictates how long the student can remain in Canada to study.

The Study Permit is required for those who are pursuing a program of study that is longer than 180 days, or six months. Those studying for less than 180 days are not always required to obtain a Study Permit.

Canadian Visas

A Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) or Visa, as it is commonly known, is a document issued by Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada that allows someone who is not a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada to enter the country. The Visa can expire while the student is in Canada, but must be renewed if the student leaves Canada and plans to return.

Not every country requires a Visa. Some students will have Visas, and some will not. The important thing to note is if a student requires a Visa, they would not be permitted to enter Canada without it. Therefore, if there is a Visa in your student's passport, they are from a country that requires a Visa. If there is no Visa in their passport, they are from a country that does not require it, and they will likely enter the country using an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA). Sometimes Visas allow multiple entries into a country and sometimes only a single entry.

Other Visas

If students choose to travel to another country during their visit to Canada, they may require an additional visa for admission to that country. Please note that Visa regulations vary by country and what applies to Canadian travelers may not be the same for citizens of other countries. If you require more information, please contact the ISP office for more information.

Renewing Visas and Study Permits

Ideally, students will have sufficient paperwork for the entirety of their program of study. However, it is possible that your student will need to renew a Visa or Study Permit while they are in Canada. If this becomes necessary, please have the student speak to their International Coordinator/ELL Teacher.

11. Student Departure

All International Students are required to leave by June 30th, unless they are attending the summer program. If your student(s) is(are) requesting to stay past June 30th, they must have permission from the International Student Program Principal or designate. Please **DO NOT** make separate arrangements with the student or their family, as you will not receive payment from the school district, and students won't be covered by the program's medical insurance after June 30th. Please speak with your Homestay Coordinator or the International Student Program office if you have questions.

Flight Information

Please have your student provide you with a flight itinerary as soon as possible. We suggest you start asking in April. Once you receive the information, please send it to your Homestay Coordinator.

Last Few Days

As your student's program draws to a close, they will likely look to their departure with mixed emotions; excited to be going home, but sad to be leaving their new friends and family.

Please do what you can to assist your student in collecting all of their items to ensure they leave nothing behind. Well before the departure, it is important to assess the amount of luggage to be taken home. Airlines have very restrictive luggage limits which can be costly if exceeded. It is likely cheaper to ship some items separately from the flight.

Any textbooks borrowed from the school will need to be returned. There can be additional charges to the student if textbooks are not returned. Also, students need to ensure they pay all their school fees prior to leaving.

We do ask that you never sign a cell phone contract for a student, but if you have, you need to ensure it is cancelled and paid for prior to the student leaving.

Be sure your student gets a good chance to revisit any favourite places and take any last-minute pictures to take home to share with family. A last farewell dinner with your family is a nice way to send the student off.

Also, we strongly recommend that you do a room inspection with the student weekly throughout the year and especially prior to leaving. This way if there is damage to the room, we can deal with the student prior to leaving.

Packing

Most students have accumulated extra clothing, gifts, etc since their arrival. To avoid being charged for overweight luggage, we ask that you remind students to go through their belongings and donate them to Salvation Army or another agency. If they insist on keeping everything, we ask that you remind students of the weight and size restrictions on luggage, and the cost should it be overweight or oversized. This information is usually on the flight itinerary, or you can check with the carrier they are flying with online or by phone. For most, the allowable weight is 23kg (50lbs) per piece of luggage. Anything over 23kg is often

charged an extra fee. There are also charges for oversized bags; again, this depends on the carrier. If they have items that weigh over 23kg, or larger than 292cm in linear dimensions, and/or 203 cm in length, they should be calling ahead to make arrangements with the airline. A simple way to check the weight is for you to weigh yourself, then pick up the bag while still on the scale and deduct your weight. Also, it is a good idea to provide students with a reminder of what they can and cannot travel with. For example: there should be no liquids over 100ml in carry-on luggage.

Storage of Student Belongings

For returning students, we ask that they pack up all their belongings prior to leaving, and check with you on where to store them over the summer. They should use their suitcases and boxes. We suggest they put their name on them and seal them with packing tape. If it is impossible for you to store the student's belongings in your home, please contact the ISP office for options.

Date of Departure

Check to ensure that flights are not delayed or cancelled prior to leaving the home. We recommend students arrive at the airport two hours prior to flight time. As June is a busy time at the airport, we want to ensure students are checked in and through security with time to spare. It is the responsibility of the homestay family to monitor the incoming and outgoing flights of their students.

Please walk your student into the airport and wait while the student completes their baggage check. Being there to assist with any last-minute problems or questions can greatly reduce the departure stress for the student. We ask that you stay at the airport until the student gets through security. This way, if there is a problem, you are available to assist the student. It is also important to review the transit procedures if the student is connecting through Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto or another large airport. Most airport websites have maps to show the general processes.

12. School District #22 Student Participation Agreement

Student Participation Agreement

Students accepted into the Vernon International Student Program are expected to follow the rules and policies of the Vernon School District as well as the laws of British Columbia and Canada. This agreement is intended to ensure a student's health, safety, and academic success. Each student and their parent/guardian must read the following statements, and by signing, agree to be bound and honour its terms strictly.

Students must:

Major Infractions

- 1) Abide by the laws of British Columbia and Canada.
- 2) Not purchase, possess, or drink alcoholic beverages, purchase, possess, or use cannabis products, or purchase, use, or possess drugs or medications other than those prescribed specifically for the student by a doctor for medical purposes.
- 3) Not purchase, use, or have in their possession weapons of any kind, including air guns.

Academic

- 4) Follow the code of conduct for their school and the Vernon School District.
- 5) Attend school on a regular basis and be on time for all classes. Absences will only be considered excused when the host family informs the school.
- 6) Be a student in good standing by completing all homework and assignments in a timely fashion.
- 7) Maintain a full-time program of studies. The Vernon School District will supervise the educational plan with the goal of successful completion of the student's educational goals.

Personal Conduct

- 8) Respect the property of others, including host families, schools, and their communities.
- 9) Request permission to travel outside the Vernon School District by submitting the International Student Program's travel approval form. The school district may deny requests to travel if the student's safety or supervision is of concern.
- 10) Not smoke or vape. Students must identify on their application form if they are smokers. Smoking and vaping are not allowed in buildings, schools, or host family homes.
- 11) Not make online purchases without the consent of the natural and host family, and not make online purchases that the student is not legally allowed to make.
- 12) Not work, this includes babysitting.
- 13) Not attend indoor or outdoor parties with underage minors where alcohol or drugs are present.
- 14) Not have permanent tattoos or piercings done while in the program.
- 15) Abstain from sexual intercourse.

16) Not engage in inappropriate behaviour on any technology-based or online platform, inside or outside school.

Safety

17) Not drive a motorized vehicle or obtain a driver’s license while studying in the Vernon School District.

18) Not be in a car with a driver who has a L (Learners) or N (Novice) license.

19) Wear helmets when riding bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc, and when skiing/snowboarding.

I have read and agree to accept the above program rules and expectations. By signing this agreement, I understand that any breach of the major infractions will result in **immediate dismissal** from the Vernon International Student Program, and other breaches of this Student Participation Agreement will be addressed on a case-by-case basis, also possibly resulting in dismissal from the program.

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED- STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THIS

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Student



13. International Student Program Contact Information

International Program Administration

Andrew White
Acting Principal

250-549-9259 Cell: 250-309-9711
awhite@sd22.bc.ca

Lisa Stubbs
Supervisor

250-549-9203 Cell: 250-241-3763
estubbs@sd22.bc.ca

Homestay Coordinators

Tayler Skultety
Homestay Coordinator
Fulton, VSS & Elementary

250-308-6893
vernonhomestay1@sd22.bc.ca

Fatima Nunes
Homestay Coordinator
Kalamalka, Bloom, Seaton & Elementary

250-260-0106
vernonhomestay2@sd22.bc.ca

Silmara Albi de Oliveira
Homestay Coordinator

250-309-3528
vernonhomestay3@sd22.bc.ca

Clerical Staff

Alex Pepper
Admissions & Medical

250-549-9263
admissions@sd22.bc.ca

Audrey Grieve
Accounts & Homestay Payments

250-549-9246
internationalaccounts@sd22.bc.ca

International Coordinators/ English Language Learning (ELL)

Teachers

Lindsey Vosman
Clarence Fulton Secondary

250-545-1348
lvosman@sd22.bc.ca

Jade Kersey
WL Seaton Secondary

250-542-3361
bkersey@sd22.bc.ca

**Greg Peter
Vernon Secondary**

250-545-0701
gpeter@sd22.bc.ca

Sara Fyke
Kalamalka Secondary

250-545-1396
sfyke@sd22.bc.ca

Joel Hayhoe
Secondary/ Elementary

250-547-2191 Charles Bloom
jhayhoe@sd22.bc.ca

14. Medical Insurance Information

THE COMPREHENSIVE+ PLAN

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS (\$CAD)

MAXIMUM SUM INSURED: \$5,000,000

ELIGIBILITY: International students under the age of 70

EMERGENCY BENEFITS	
ELIGIBLE MEDICAL EXPENSES	- Emergency in-patient or out-patient treatment for sickness or injury - Services of physician, surgeon, anesthetist, registered graduate nurse - X-rays and laboratory services - Rental of medical appliances
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS	Limited to a 60-day supply
PARAMEDICAL SERVICES	Up to \$1,000 per approved profession
PSYCHIATRIC CARE OR MENTAL & EMOTIONAL DISORDERS	- Up to \$10,000 for outpatient visits to a psychiatrist, psychologist or social worker - Up to \$60,000 for psychiatric hospitalization - Up to \$60,000 for psychiatric services on an inpatient basis
DENTAL SERVICES	- Up to \$4000 for dental accident and blow to the face - Up to \$1000 for pain relief, including impacted wisdom teeth
FOLLOW-UP CARE	Up To \$5,000 for outpatient services following a covered emergency
NON-EMERGENCY BENEFITS	
MATERNITY	- Up to \$25,000, including childbirth; pregnancy must commence during term of insurance - One induced termination per policy period
VACCINATIONS	Up to \$150 for necessary vaccinations*
ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION	One annual medical examination
EYE EXAMINATION	Up to \$100 for one eye examination
ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVE DISORDER	Physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist expenses for the diagnosing of ADHD
DIABETES	Up to \$500 for insulin and standard syringes, needles, and diagnostic aids
ASTHMA SUPPLIES	Up to \$500 for asthma supplies
WART TREATMENT	Up to \$500 for treatment of any type of warts
SEXUAL HEALTH CONSULTATION	Consultation related to an STI including one consultation for the prescription of the "morning after pill" or birth control medication*
SUBSTANCE ABUSE CARE	Up to \$25,000 for emergency transportation, emergency room treatment, and hospitalization for illnesses and injuries as a direct result of using alcohol, drugs or other intoxicants
TRANSPORTATION BENEFITS	
AMBULANCE SERVICES & EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION	- Licensed ground ambulance - Taxi in lieu of ambulance up to \$125 - Up to \$300,000 for emergency air transportation
FAMILY TRANSPORTATION	Up to \$5,000 for round trip economy airfare for up to 2 family members, and up to \$1,500 for costs incurred after arrival, if you are hospitalized for at least 7 days
PREPARATION & RETURN OF REMAINS	Up to \$20,000 for preparation and transportation of remains or cremation/burial at place of death
OTHER BENEFITS	
ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT	- Air Flight / Common Carrier Accident: \$100,000 24 Hour Accident: \$50,000
PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS	Covered for unexpected emergencies
THIRD PARTY LIABILITY	Up to \$1,000,000 per 365-day period
TRAVEL OUTSIDE CANADA	Travel worldwide is valid as long as the majority of time on the policy is spent in Canada. Your home country is excluded unless on a school-sponsored trip. Coverage in the USA is limited to 30 days.

If you require information about Study Insured Coverage or MSP, please contact the International Student Program office. Online, you can visit:

<https://www.studyinsured.com/vernonsd>

*If there is an emergency and/or if you need to make a claim,
please call **1.866.883.9787***



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*** This year, with limited walk-in clinic opportunities for students, we are suggesting that students try the link on the StudyInsured webpage and select the **[NEED TO SEE A DOCTOR? CLICK HERE](#)** link near the top of the page. This will provide quick access to a doctor who can also write prescriptions, and billing will be done directly through StudyInsured.

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Notes:

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Vernon International
Student Program

