



# REGIONAL INSTITUTE

## Europe 2025

**Demystifying Canada's Immigration Policy Changes:  
Why Canada remains an ideal destination for international  
students**

Session Block 4: Friday, May 23, 2025

# Introductions

Shannon Bracken, Director, Admissions and Recruitment  
Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, ON Canada  
[Shannon.bracken@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Shannon.bracken@ontariotechu.ca)

Lauren Cullen, Director, Student Recruitment and Enrolment  
Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS Canada  
[Lauren.cullen@smu.ca](mailto:Lauren.cullen@smu.ca)

Meagan Vande Vooren, AVP, Enrolment  
Huron University, London, ON Canada  
[mvandev7@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:mvandev7@huron.uwo.ca)



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# SAY HELLO TO...



**#1**



undergraduate university in reputation.

**50+**



direct entry co-op programs.

**2024**



Canada's research university of the year.

- ▶ Business
- ▶ Computers & Technology
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Engineering
- ▶ Health Sciences & Medicine
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Science & Humanities



**WHEREVER YOUR PASSION LIES**

**THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU AT SMU**



**Saint Mary's  
University**





Huron is Canada's Leading  
Liberal Arts University, and is  
the  
**founding institution**  
of Western University.



**When you discuss  
Canada with students,  
what are you hearing?  
What are the  
misconceptions?**



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# Agenda

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- Why Canada? A quick reminder
- Overview of IRCC policy changes
- Canadian admissions 101
- Q & A



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# Why Canada? High quality education

## Public vs. Private

- Approx 100 universities, almost all public, funded by provincial governments
- Provincial accrediting bodies – consistent, high-quality education across the country
- Canadian education recognized globally
- Highest proportion of population with a post-secondary credential in the G7



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# Why Canada? Post-study work opportunities

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- Opportunities to study and stay
  - Three-year open post-graduate work permit (PGWP)
  - Part-time work during academic terms (24 hours/week, **Increased in November 2024**)
  - Co-op, internships, Work Integrated Learning



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# Why Canada? Unique university experience

- **Experience of a lifetime**
  - Four seasons of adventure
  - Small (primarily undergraduate), mid-size, research intensive options
  - Emphasis on fit vs. rankings
  - Two official languages: English and French
  - High quality education across the country

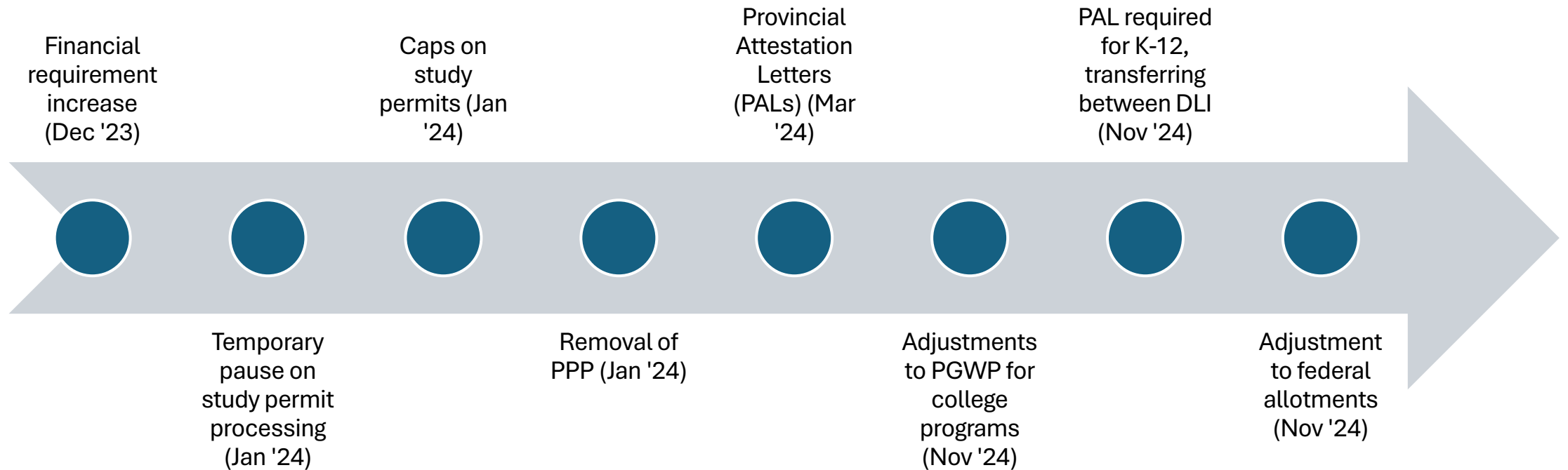


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# Immigration policy changes timeline



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# Financial requirement for study permit



In December 2023, the financial requirement to obtain study permit(visa) was increased to align with cost of living.

**Previous: Tuition + \$10,000 CAD**

**Current: Tuition + \$20,635 CAD**



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# Caps on study permits



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# Public – Private Partnerships



Graduates of programs delivered through public-private curriculum are no longer eligible for Post-Graduation Work Permits (PGWPs) - May 15, 2024.

PGWP eligibility is listed on DLI webpage.

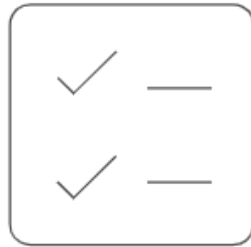
These changes did not affect Canadian Universities and **helps to enhance the quality of Canada's education brand.**



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# Provincial Attestation Letters (PALs)



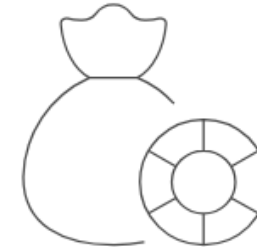
## Required for Most Students

Needed for new  
study permit  
applications and  
extensions.



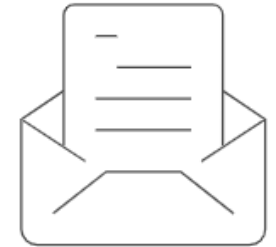
## Includes Students in Canada

Secondary  
school/language  
training students in  
Canada require a  
PAL to change  
schools or levels of  
study.



## PAL Deposit

Deposit is needed to  
obtain a PAL and is  
paid after a student  
has received an offer  
of admission and  
accepted the offer.



## LOA Accompaniment

The PAL is included  
with the Letter of  
Acceptance in the  
study permit  
application.



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# PAL Required for DLI Change

## Changing your school or program



### New process for post-secondary study permit holders

Starting November 8, 2024, you must be enrolled in the designated learning institution (DLI) named on your study permit. This means you can no longer change DLIs by letting us know through your online account. To change DLIs, you need to get a new study permit by [applying to extend](#) your current one.

## PAL Required for:

- ✓ Secondary to College/University
- ✓ ESL/Prep to College/University
- ✓ College to University
- ✓ University to University
- ✓ University to College
- ✓ Undergrad to Graduate (same university)
- ✓ Extensions (potentially)



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# Adjustments to Post-Graduate Work Permit (PGWP)



## **Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral Programs**

Offers 3-year PGWP eligibility across all fields of study.



## **College Programs**

Provides PGWP eligibility only for specified fields of study, with the length depending on the program duration.



## **DLI Webpage**

Lists eligible institutions for PGWP



## **Full-Time Status**

Requires students to maintain full-time status during each semester of study.



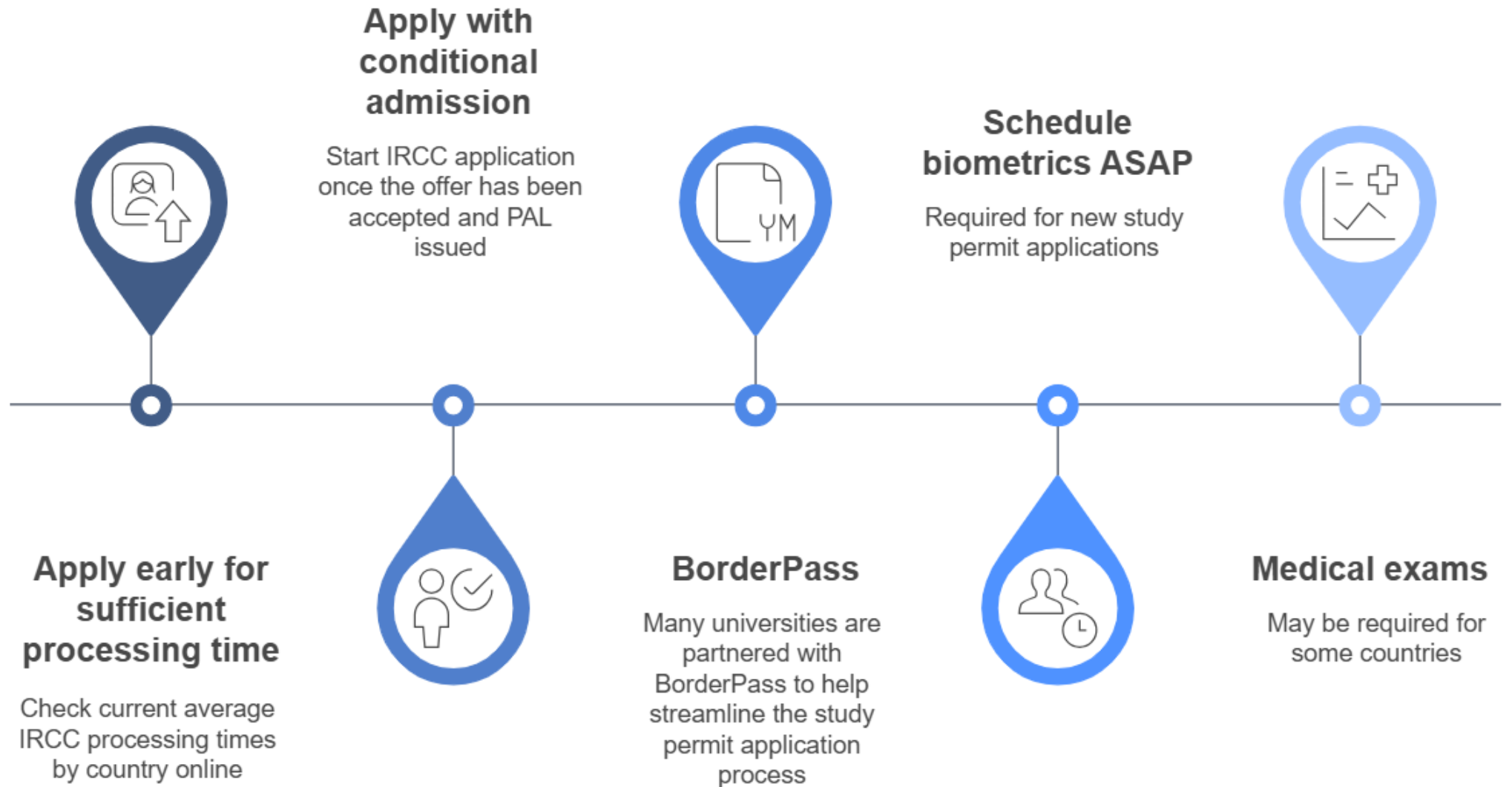
## **Language Proficiency**

Mandates English or French proficiency with minimum Canadian Language Benchmarks.



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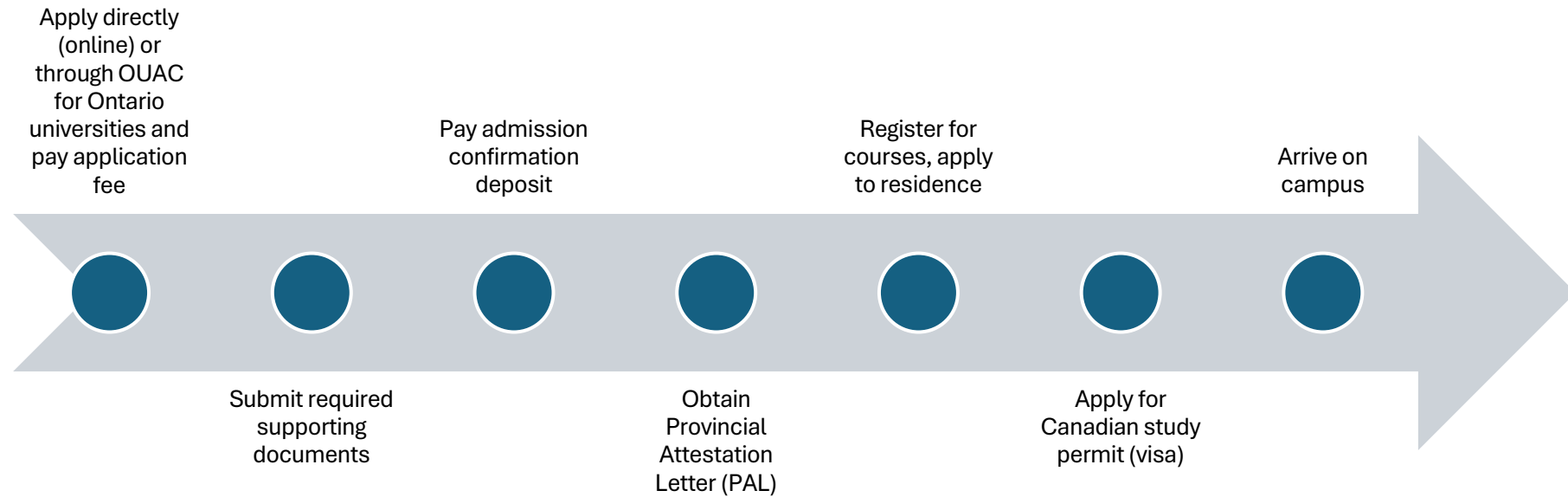
# Study Permit Timelines



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# Canadian Admissions 101



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# Key Takeaways

- The introduction of caps and PALs has not reduced availability of undergraduate opportunities for international students.
- IRCC has committed to the value of bachelor's level studies in public Canadian universities by keeping PGWP for all fields of study and institutions.
- Changes to financial cost of living requirements is helping to reduce the burden on institutions and the asylum crisis IRCC is facing. This amount had not changed since the early 2000's and better reflects the expectations of the cost of living.
- Canada remains 'open for business' with lots of capacity for international students.





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**Q & A**

# Let's keep in touch!

Shannon Bracken, Director, Admissions and Recruitment  
Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, ON Canada  
[Shannon.bracken@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Shannon.bracken@ontariotechu.ca)

Lauren Cullen, Director, Student Recruitment and Enrolment  
Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS Canada  
[Lauren.cullen@smu.ca](mailto:Lauren.cullen@smu.ca)

Meagan Vande Vooren, AVP, Enrolment  
Huron University, London, ON Canada  
[mvandev7@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:mvandev7@huron.uwo.ca)



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