



# El Camino College

*Where you belong. Where you succeed.*



## International Student Guide **FALL 2020**

[www.elcamino.edu/academics/is](http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/is)

# International Student Welcome

Welcome to California and El Camino College. Coming to a new country can be an exciting experience; an opportunity to study in a new environment, learn new skills, experience different ways of doing things, and to be exposed to new ways of thinking.

El Camino College is located in one of the most exciting regions of the world. El Camino is in the city of Torrance, a suburban city in sunny Southern California just miles from the beach and famous attractions such as Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Disneyland. It's also close to Los Angeles, with access to museums, entertainment, and internship opportunities within a large metropolitan area.

The International Student Program at El Camino College is here to assist you in the admissions process, counseling, and guiding you through the immigration rules and regulations. We are here also to support you through your academic endeavors and to help you realize your educational goals. We are looking forward to meeting you.

## International Student Program Office Staff

Lindsey Ludwig, ECLA/ISP Director

lludwig@elcamino.edu (310) 660-6473

Leonid Rachman, F-1 Visa Officer

lrachman@elcamino.edu (310) 660-3593 ext 3417

Candace Trice, Student Services Specialist

ctrice@elcamino.edu (310) 660-3431

Dosha Bautista, Student Services Technician

dbautista@elcamino.edu (310) 660-3431

Caroline Etges, Program Assistant

cetges@elcamino.edu (310) 660-5417

## International Student Counselors

Counselors are available to help students with their class assignments, academic issues and transferring information to other colleges and universities. To schedule an appointment with a counselor, please visit the International Student Program office.

## International Student Counseling Staff

### Amy Herrschaft

Email: aherrschaft@elcamino.edu

Phone: (310) 660-6049

### Margaret Miranda

Email: lmiranda@elcamino.edu

Phone: (310) 660-3447





## New F-1 Visa Students

As an international student, you will need an F-1 student visa to enter the United States to study. You will need to apply for the visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate using the **I- 20 Certificate of Eligibility** form issued by El Camino College. Please review your I-20 form immediately and make sure all the information printed on it is correct. Report any errors immediately to the ISP office at [lrachman@elcamino.edu](mailto:lrachman@elcamino.edu).

**Canadian Citizens** - Canadian citizens do not require an entry visa to enter the U.S. from Canada, but do require a Canadian passport, an I-20 form, financial documentation, proof of SEVIS fee payment and proof of ties to Canada.

## Items to take to the embassy or consulate for your visa interview:

- Evidence of financial support for the period of time and amount indicated on the I-20 form
- Your acceptance letter from El Camino College
- A passport valid for **at least 6 months** after your proposed date of entry into the U.S.
- Evidence of English proficiency
- Proof that you have a permanent residence outside the U.S.
- An Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-160.  
You must: 1) complete the online visa application at <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>  
2) **print the application barcode page** to bring to your interview
- One 2"x2" photograph. See <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/photos.html> ;
- The "**SEVIS I-901 Fee**" receipt (if applicable). If you do not currently have F-1 visa status, then you will be required to pay the fee. Fee increase to \$350 USD starting summer 2019. For more information, visit: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901>
- **Evidence supporting your nonimmigrant intent.** You must establish that you have no intention of staying in the U.S. permanently, but are coming here for a temporary purpose to pursue your educational objective. These ties can be possessions, employment, real estate, money, or social and family relationships that bind you to your country of residence. Some examples of relevant ties in foreign countries are a job, a house, social and family relationships, or a bank account. Consular officers are aware that ties differ from person to person.

## Making Your Appointment at the U.S. Embassy/Consulate

To make an appointment at a U.S. Consulate visit [www.usembassy.gov](http://www.usembassy.gov). Please note that processing time does not include possible wait times for security clearances so make your appointment well in advance. Information on visa wait times is available at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/wait-times.html/>

**Before your interview we recommend you prepare by reading the following:**

- “Applying for a Student or Exchange Visitor Visa” at [www.educationusa.info/pages/students/visa.php](http://www.educationusa.info/pages/students/visa.php)
- “See you in the USA” at [www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa/0905.html](http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa/0905.html)
- “Ten Points to Remember When Applying for a Nonimmigrant Visa” at [www.nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?is=8643](http://www.nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?is=8643)

**\*\*If you are approved, the consular officer will place an F-1 visa in your passport.\*\***

## Prospective Students Already in the US

**Currently in status other than F-1** – Students who do not plan to leave the U.S. before beginning studies at El Camino College, and are currently in an immigration status other than F-1 are required to change status by application to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). In general, non-immigrants who are maintaining lawful status may apply for a change of status to F-1. Please consult an ISP adviser if you have questions or concerns or to review your application before submitting it to USCIS. The form and instructions can be found at: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-539>

It is important to note that with a change of status application, a change of status from B-1 or B-2 visitor status may be very difficult unless the B-1 or B-2 entry visa was issued with the notation “prospective student”. B-1/B-2 statuses are prohibited from enrolling in classes until the change of status to F-1 has been approved. This also applies to individuals in F-2 status.

**Currently in F-1 status at another institution and transferring to El Camino College** – Students enrolled in another U.S. institution under F-1 immigration status who are enrolling at El Camino College must complete a process in which the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is notified of this change. The transfer procedure begins with your current school “releasing” your SEVIS record to El Camino College and qualifying for an El Camino College I-20, and is NOT complete until you report to the ISP within 15 days of the program start date on your I-20. Please refer to the F-1 transfer procedures included.

**Continuing El Camino Students Pursuing Additional Program** – If you are completing one program at ECC and are pursuing an additional degree or program, DHS must be notified. The ISP office will need to issue you a new I-20 for the new program within 60 days of the completion date on your current I-20.

**Students Accompanied by Dependents** – If your dependents, spouse or unmarried child(ren) under 21 years of age, will accompany you to the U.S. or join you shortly after your arrival, you will need to provide the ISP with additional documentation showing your sufficient funding to meet your dependents’ expenses and copies of their passport ID pages. An I-20 form will then be issued for each of your dependents which they will use to apply for the F-2 visa. You may request an I-20 for your dependents any time during your studies at El Camino College.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The United States Offices of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (USICE) require that all international students pay the [I-901 SEVIS Fee](#) of \$350.00 for the F-1 Visa.

Please follow these directions at least 4-5 days before you go to the U.S consulate for your interview:

1. Go to the website at: [www.FMJfee.com](http://www.FMJfee.com).
2. Read the directions.
3. Form I-901 must be completed online.
4. Submit payment by using a credit card or read alternate instructions for paying by mail.
5. Print the confirmation of payment/receipt from the [FMJFEE website](#).
6. The payment confirmation can be printed anytime at "[Check I-901 Status / Print Payment Confirmation](#)" after entering your SEVIS ID, Last Name, and Date of Birth.
7. Take receipt of SEVIS payment with your passport, your I-20, and your financial documents to the consulate for the interview.

*NOTE: If you do not pay the I-901 fee you will not be able to complete the interview at the consulate.*

## Immunization/Shot Information

- \* While El Camino College does not require international students to submit immunization/shot records at this time, we recommend that you get vaccinated for mumps and rubella before coming to the US. Hepatitis B and Meningitis vaccines are also strongly recommended.

## Health Insurance

United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) requires all international students to maintain **mandatory medical insurance for the duration of their studies**. El Camino College has contracted student insurance specifically for the needs of our international students. The current cost is estimated at \$1300.00 per year (paid over two semesters-Fall and Spring) and begins either January 1st or July 1st depending on which semester you begin your studies. The insurance has no deductible and, in many cases, *may* cover 100% of expenses following satisfaction of any applicable co-payment. **\*See next page for coverage information.**

## 2019-2020 International Student Insurance Plan Summary

For additional information, please visit us at [www.lewermark.com/elcamino](http://www.lewermark.com/elcamino) or call 1-800-821-7710.

**Carry your LewerMark Insurance ID Card with you at all times**

<b>2019-2020 Benefits</b>	<b>Medical Insurance Benefits Per Policy Year For El Camino Community College</b> <small>(\$400,000— 100% of Allowed Charge/80% of Reasonable and Customary Expenses)</small>
Maximum Per Injury or Sickness	\$400,000
Policy Year Maximum Benefit	\$400,000
Annual Deductible	\$0
Pre-Existing Condition Benefit (6 months)	\$2,500
Student Health Center or approved Walk-in Clinic	\$0 copay for eligible benefits
Copay Per Office Visit	In Network: 100% after \$20 copay Out of Network: 80% after \$20 copay
Copay Per Hospital Visit	In Network: 100% after a \$100 admittance copay Out of Network: 80% after a \$100 admittance copay
Wellness Benefit	100% up to \$250 per policy year
Emergency Ambulance Services (Air & Ground)	Up to policy year maximum
Emergency Room Visit	\$100 copay
Prescription Drugs	100% covered if dispensed as inpatient in the hospital or 50% covered if dispensed as outpatient at a in-network pharmacy
Self-Inflicted Benefit	\$10,000
Medical Treatment of a Mental Condition	Maximum of 30 days inpatient, maximum of 30 outpatient visits
Physiotherapy (only when prescribed by a Physician)	20 visits per policy year
Medical Evacuation	\$50,000*
Repatriation	\$25,000*

\*Scholastic Emergency Services provides additional benefits.

**Services below are included in your plan with 24/7 translation assistance.**

**Scholastic Emergency Services (SES)**  
*An Assist America Partner*

**1-877-488-9833**

In the event of an emergency, SES offers a wide variety of services, at no additional charge to the student.

- Medical Evacuation or Transport
- Compassionate Family Visit
- Repatriation of Mortal Remains

**MyNurse 24/7**  
*Medical Help Line*

**1-866-549-5076**

Speak with a nurse about your health, illness or where to go if you feel sick or are injured.

- Friendly, experienced, Registered Nurses help you decide what your best choices are.
- Assistance with any Health Issues or Questions
- General Health and Wellness Information

**Morneau Shepell**  
*Counseling Services*

**1-866-743-7732**

Student Support Advisors can help you anytime, anywhere with:

- Adapting to new cultures
- Being successful at school
- Relationships with friends and family
- Stress, anxiety, sadness, loneliness and more

# HOUSING OPTIONS

*The homestay option will provide students with the opportunity to speak English while learning about American culture and lifestyle.*

## Global Student Services® Homestay

Application Fee: \$300.00  
 Security Deposit: \$150.00  
 Airport Pickup: Additional fee applies

### Homestay Options (per four weeks\*):

- Homestay with (2) meals \$975
- Homestay without meals \$825

Length Of Stay	With 2 Meals Daily	Without Meals
4 Weeks (28 days)	\$975*	\$825*
8 Weeks	\$1,950	\$1,650
10 Weeks	\$2,347	\$2,062
12 Weeks*	\$2,915	\$2,465
16 Weeks*	\$3,885	\$3,285
20 Weeks*	\$4,855	\$4,125
24 Weeks*	\$5,825	\$4,925

\*Minimum required stay for colleges - 8 weeks.

\*For stays of 12 weeks or longer a discount is included in cost.

### Global Student Services, USA®

1436 Brett Pl. #18  
 San Pedro, CA 90732  
 USA

Tel: 310.438.7485

Fax: 310.391.7881

[gssusa2001@gmail.com](mailto:gssusa2001@gmail.com)

[global-student-service.com](http://global-student-service.com)

## Private Apartments\*

Apartments are available in Torrance and areas around El Camino College. Following are some apartments **within walking distance** from El Camino College. Students are encouraged to contact the owners or managers directly for rental arrangements.

Alondra Park Apts (310) 323-2652  
 Il Pompeii (310) 327-3681  
 Park Yukon Apartments (310) 516-0526  
 Torrance Garden Apartments (310) 324-1494  
 Tropic Isle Apartments (310) 323-8028  
**Apartments (close to ECC) (310) 546-2505**

More apartments are available at Redondo Beach Blvd, Yukon St., Artesia and Crenshaw Blvd.

Price range for studio apartments: \$900-\$1200/month

### Room Share and Private Apartments

Find apartments or room share by using the Internet:

[www.losangeles.craigslist.org/roo/](http://www.losangeles.craigslist.org/roo/)

[www.losangeles.craigslist.org/apa/](http://www.losangeles.craigslist.org/apa/)

To find an appropriate housing use the **“Search by Keyword”** and type in “El Camino College”, “Torrance”, “Lawndale”, “Gardena,” or “Hawthorne”

\*El Camino College offers these facilities as suggestions and does not endorse, support, or assume responsibility for these facilities.

## Local Hotels and Motels

### Redondo Beach Inn

One Bedroom \$75 (per night)  
 Two Bedrooms \$95 (per night)  
 1912 W. Redondo Beach Blvd.,  
 Gardena CA 90260

Tel:(310) 538-1488

Tel:(310) 308-4958

For reservations: [www.redondobeachinn.net](http://www.redondobeachinn.net)

\*Mention El Camino College to receive discount rate.

### Days Inn

One Bedroom \$135 (est. per night)  
 15636 Hawthorne Blvd., Lawndale, CA 90260  
 Tel:(310) 676-7378 Fax:(310) 676-3138  
 Tel:(310) 318-6132 Fax:(310) 372-9134

For reservations contact: [ranagroup@earthlink.com](mailto:ranagroup@earthlink.com)



# ACCUPLACER PLACEMENT TEST PREPARATION

All students are encouraged to review before taking the placement tests. Reviewing and practice may help you to place higher, which means you will **save time** (fewer classes to take) and **money** (fewer classes to pay for) and you will accomplish your educational goals much faster.



## The English Placement Test consists of two sections:

1. Reading Comprehension
2. Sentence Skills (Writing and Speaking)

**\*Mathematic Placement will be done at orientation by the academic counselor after reviewing your high school transcripts for previous math classes taken, along with the grades you received in those classes.**

You can do an internet search for free **Accuplacer** tests. Below are additional websites recommended for preparation:

## WEBSITES FOR ESL/ENGLISH REVIEW

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### Accuplacer Web-Based Study App – Free

<https://accuplacerpractice.collegeboard.org>

The ACCUPLACER Web-Based Study App features practice tests in Reading Comprehension **and** Sentence Skills. For computer, tablet, and Smartphone. The Study App site includes the following features:

- "Learn As You Go" tests provide you with explanation of the correct or incorrect responses
- Sample Tests help you experience what a real test may be like on test day
- Save your work and process, and resume practicing at a later time
- Review your score history to identify areas of strength and weaknesses
- **6 months of access to the ACCUPLACER Web-Based Study App**

### College Board - Free

<http://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students>

Has a complete ACCUPLACER English Test with accompanying answers.

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-sample-questions-for-students.pdf>

Has a .pdf book of sample questions in Reading Comprehension and Sentence Skills.

### Union Test Prep - Free

<https://uniontestprep.com/accuplacer-test/practice-test>

Has ESL practice questions with explanations for ESL Language Use, ESL Listening, ESL Reading Skills and ESL Sentence Meaning.

**Google it! Search "Accuplacer practice tests" to find more sample, tests, and search Youtube.com for practice videos.**

### ESL Accuplacer Reading Skills Samples:

1. Studyguidezone: [www.studyguidezone.com/accuplacer\\_reading.htm](http://www.studyguidezone.com/accuplacer_reading.htm)
2. Testpreppractice.net: [www.testpreppractice.net/ACCUPLACER/Reading-Comprehension-ACCUPLACER-Practice-Tests.aspx](http://www.testpreppractice.net/ACCUPLACER/Reading-Comprehension-ACCUPLACER-Practice-Tests.aspx)

### ESL Accuplacer Sentence Skills Sample:

1. Accuplacerpracticetest.com: <https://www.accuplacerpracticetest.com/accuplacer-sentence-skills-practice-test/>

## TEST INFORMATION

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Tests are not timed, but their length is approximately one hour each. Although the tests are taken on a computer, no special knowledge of computers is necessary. Results are available immediately after completion.



## BEFORE You Leave Your Country



### Checklist-Prepare AHEAD!

- Arrange your travel to the U.S. to arrive early enough for orientation.** Note that F-1 visa holders cannot enter the U.S. earlier than 30 days before the start date of the I-20 form. *You must arrive at ECC by the program start date on the I-20 form.*
- Pay your I-901 SEVIS fee and print your receipt** for payment. Instructions are included in this packet.
- Required Documents** for U.S Customs and Border Protection Officer:
  - Passport (valid for at least 6 months into the future)
  - Original I-20 form
  - Evidence of financial resources
  - Letter of acceptance issued by El Camino College.
- Map** out the area where you intend to live.
- Arrange your transportation from the airport to your hotel/homestay/apartment.
- Secure housing accommodations** either through homestay options, apartment/house rental, hotel, or room rental. See enclosed Housing Brochure for more information.
- Figure out **how much money** you will need for tuition, fees, and living costs. Plan how to get money from home while you are in the U.S.
- Plan your transportation to and from El Camino College for classes.
- Do you have extra household medicines, contact lenses, or glasses to bring?
- Write down your emergency contacts** with phone numbers and addresses to bring with you.
- Do you have an additional official copy of transcripts from colleges or universities previously attended? *If you are planning to transfer your units from other institutions to ECC or challenge any pre-course requirements, you will need to show proof of your transcripts translated in English. Course descriptions and outlines are also required.*

# After You Arrive in the US

## Ground Transportation from LAX

If you need transportation from the airport you can catch an Uber or Lyft (you must download the APP to your cell phone first). **You will take a LAX Ride App shuttle to the Ride Share parking lot and give your number to the available driver to start your ride.** There are also airport shuttles available:

Super Shuttle	<a href="http://www.supershuttle.com/htm/cities/lax.htm">www.supershuttle.com/htm/cities/lax.htm</a>	(310) 782-6600
Prime Time Shuttle	<a href="http://www.primetimeshuttle.com/SoCal.htm">www.primetimeshuttle.com/SoCal.htm</a>	1-800-733-8267
Xpress Shuttle	<a href="http://www.xpressshuttle.com/los_angeles.htm">www.xpressshuttle.com/los_angeles.htm</a>	(310) 323-7222

## Local Bus Transportation

Metro (MTA)	<a href="http://www.metro.net">www.metro.net</a>	1-800-266-6883
Torrance Transit	<a href="http://www.ci.torrance.ca.us/city/dept/transit/index.html">www.ci.torrance.ca.us/city/dept/transit/index.html</a>	(310) 320-9442

## Car Rentals

Car rental companies require that you be at least 21 years of age and have a valid Driver's License (US, International, or home country) and a major credit card.

Alamo	<a href="http://www.alamo.com">www.alamo.com</a>	Dollar	<a href="http://www.dollar.com">www.dollar.com</a>
Avis	<a href="http://www.avis.com">www.avis.com</a>	Enterprise	<a href="http://www.enterprise.com">www.enterprise.com</a>
Budget	<a href="http://www.budget.com">www.budget.com</a>	Hertz	<a href="http://www.hertz.com">www.hertz.com</a>

## Directions to El Camino College from Los Angeles Airport (LAX)

1. Head West on Century Blvd toward Vicksburg Ave
2. Take I-105 E to W 120th St in Hawthorne. Take Exit 5 from I-105 E.
3. Take Crenshaw Blvd to Manhattan Beach Blvd. Turn Right. El Camino College is on the left.

## IMPORTANT: Student Check-In Requirement

All F-1 students are *required* to check in at the International Student Programs office at El Camino College **within 15 days of their 1-20 program start date.**

Please bring your passport, I-94 Arrival/Departure card and the I-20 with you. You will not be able to complete the check-in process without these documents. Also, you will need to bring your U.S. address with you. All F-1 students are required to report any change of local U.S. address to our office to update your SEVIS record *within* 10 days of moving.

## International Student Orientation

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**3 DAY Overseas Orientation: Tuesday, August 4th– Thursday, August 6th, 2020**

International student orientation is **mandatory; YOU MUST ATTEND ALL THREE DAYS!** Please see the orientation information sheet on the next page for the orientation schedule and meeting location. If you need to secure living accommodations in order to arrive in time for orientation, please see page 6 of this packet for nearby hotel information.

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

⇒ *Attendance Mandatory* ⇐

## Fall 2020 - Overseas Orientation

*This orientation is for students who are arriving from overseas or students who are transferring from a school outside of the Los Angeles area.*

### Tuesday, Aug 4, 2020

8:30 AM	Sign In (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)
9:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Lecture ( <b>Academic and Immigration</b> )
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	Break ( <i>Food and drinks will be provided</i> )
10:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Guest Speakers (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<b>Resource Fair</b>

### Wednesday, Aug 5, 2020

8:30 AM	Sign In (Student Service Center, room 141, 1st Floor)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Testing ( <b>ESL/English Accuplacer Test</b> )
11:30 AM – 3:00 PM	*Social Mixer - Movie, lunch and games. (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2nd Floor)

### Thursday, Aug 6, 2020

9:00 AM – 11:00AM	<b>Group 1</b> -Academic Counseling and Registration - <i>Will be Assigned at Orientation</i>
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<b>Group 2</b> -Academic Counseling and Registration - <i>Will be Assigned at Orientation</i>

\*We will have a social event after orientation coordinated with the International Club for those who wish to attend and meet new people. Please come!

## Fall 2020 - Local Transfer Orientation

*This orientation is for students who are transferring to El Camino College from a language school or college within the Los Angeles area.*

**ALL TRANSFER STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE THE PLACEMENT TEST (if required) AND MEET WITH AN ACADEMIC COUNSELOR FOR CLASS REGISTRATION PRIOR TO ORIENTATION.**

### June 17th, 2020

8:30 AM	Sign In (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2nd Floor)
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Immigration and Academic Lectures, plus Guest Speakers (will have lunch provided)
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Resource Fair</b>

### June 18th, 2020

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	<b>Group Registration (Student Service Center, room 200)</b>
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## Degree Programs Offered at El Camino College

<b>Associate of Arts Degree</b>	<b>Associate of Science Degree</b>
Administration of Justice*	Administration of Justice for Transfer (AS-T)*
Anthropology	Air Conditioning and Refridgeration*
Anthropology for Transfer (AA-T)	Architecture*
Art:	Astronomy
Art History	Automotive Collision Repair/Painting*
Studio Art	Automotive Technology*
Art History for Transfer (AA-T)	Biology
Child Development*	Business:
Communication Studies for Transfer (AA-T)	Accounting*
Dance	Business Administration*
Economics	Marketing*
Economics for Transfer (AA-T)	Office Administration-Management*
Elementary Teacher Education (AA-T)	Office Administration-Office Systems*
English	Business Administration for Transfer (AS-T)*
English for Transfer (AA-T)	Chemistry
Ethnic Studies:	Computer Aided Design/Drafting*
African American Studies	Computer Information Systems*
American Cultures	Construction Technology:
Asian American Studies	Cabinet and Fine Woodworking*
Chicano Studies	Construction Technology*
Native American Studies	Cosmetology*
Film/Video*	Early Childhood Education for Transfer (AS-T)
French	Electronics and Computer Hardware Technology:
General Studies	Computer Technology*
Geography for Transfer (AA-T)	Electronics Technology*
History	Engineering Technology:
History for Transfer (AA-T)	Engineering Technician*
Japanese	Engineering Technology*
Journalism*	Environmental Horticulture*
Journalism for Transfer (AA-T)	Fashion:
Kinesiology for Transfer (AA-T)	Fashion Design and Production*
Liberal Studies:	Fashion Merchandising*
Elementary Teaching	Fire and Emergency Technology:
Teacher Preparation	Fire and Emergency Technology*
Music	Paramedical Technician*
Paralegal Studies*	General Science
Philosophy	Geography
Philosophy for Transfer (AA-T)	Geology for Transfer (AS-T)
Physical Education	Machine Tool Technology:
Political Science	Machinist*
Political Science for Transfer (AA-T)	Numerical Control Programmer*
Psychology for Transfer (AA-T)	Manufacturing Technology*
Real Estate:	Mathematics
Mortgage Brokerage*	Mathematics for Transfer (AS-T)
Real Estate*	Nursing*
Real Estate Appraisal*	Photography*
Recreation	Physical Science
Sign Language/Interpreter Training*	Physics
Sociology for Transfer (AA-T)	Physics for Transfer (AS-T)
Spanish	Pre-Engineering
Spanish for Transfer (AA-T)	Pre-Nursing*
Studio Arts for Transfer (AA-T)	Radiologic Technology*
Theatre	Respiratory Care*
Theatre Arts for Transfer (AA-T)	Welding*

\* Indicates Career and Technical Education (CTE); Visit: [www.elcamino.edu/academics/cte](http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/cte)



## Academic & Student Support

Academic support is available to El Camino College students in a variety of areas, from tutoring and writing assistance to computer and copying services. Some services are available on a drop-in basis; others require an appointment. All students are advised to take advantage of these free and/or low-cost services. [Click here to visit their website.](#)

### Tutoring Services:

#### Writing Center

**Humanities 122 | 310-660-3873**

The Writing Center offers free assistance in all aspects of the writing process, from pre-writing to full draft writing conferences. Students can also find help with grammar and using MLA or APA documentation. Computers are available for word processing (Microsoft Word) and research.

#### Basic Skills Study Center

**Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library | 310-660-3511**

In the Basic Skills Study Center, students have free access to individualized computer programs in basic reading and basic math. These programs include testing and evaluation.

#### LRC Tutoring Program

**Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library | 310-660-3511**

Tutors help students prepare for tests, learn new concepts, improve study techniques, and answer questions about assignments. Tutoring is free for all ECC students; tutors are available in more than 25 different subjects each semester. Reservations are not required.

#### Math Study Center

**Math, Computer Science, MBA 119 | 310-660-3593, ext. 6591**

The Math Study Center (MSC) is open more than 45 hours each week to provide math help on a drop-in basis. Tutoring is free and designed to help students succeed in their classes. All levels of math are tutored; students should bring textbook and notes when attending tutoring.

### Learning Resources Unit:

#### Schauerman Library

**Schauerman Library | 310-660-3519**

The Schauerman Library is an excellent facility with more than 100,000 volumes, many periodicals, and computerized resources such as information databases, making it the campus research center. Materials are organized throughout the facilities for easy use. Open stacks are maintained to give students direct access to all books, except those on reserve.

## Learning Resources Center

The Learning Resources Center and labs are located at various locations throughout the Schauerman Library:

- **Learning Center**, Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library
- **LRC Tutorial Program**, in the Learning Center
- **Basic Skills Study Center**, Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library
- **LMTC Computer Commons**, Basement, East Wing of Schauerman Library (enter from the library lobby)

The Learning Resources Center offers all members of the ECC community the following programs to enhance teaching and learning: Basic Skills Study Center, LRC Tutorial Program, Learning Center Media Materials Collection, and LMTC Computer Commons.

## Computer Labs

**Schauerman Library | 310-660-3519**

- **Basic Skills Study Center**, Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library
- **LMTC Computer Commons**, Basement, East Wing of Schauerman Library (enter from the library lobby)

The Learning Resources Center oversees computer labs within the Schauerman Library to serve the varied needs of ECC's students, faculty, and staff.

## **Other Services:**

### Library Media Technology Center (LMTC)

**East Wing of Schauerman Library | 310-660-6715**

A color copier, word processing software and scanners are available in the Library Media Technology Center (LMTC) in the East Wing Library basement. The Schauerman Library uses a copy card to operate copy machines and to make print outs from word processing programs, online databases, and the World Wide Web.

### Career Center

**Counseling Division, Student Services Center | 310-660-3593, Ext. 3458**

The Career Center in the Counseling Division has a copy machine available for student use. The copy machine is accessible via the same copy card service available in the Schauerman Library.



*~The International Student Program Warrior Cohort for the 2019-2020 academic school year.*

# BANKS AND OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

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You should open an account at a bank as soon as you get to California. It is much safer and more convenient for you to have your money deposited into an account than to be carrying cash around. After an account is opened, if your family wants to wire you money, wire transfers can be made and money be available after a few days.

## Opening a U.S. Checking and Savings Account

When opening a U.S. bank account, international students will generally need documentation that proves their identity and residence in the local area. Items to take are: passport, I-20, and a lease agreement or utility bill.

## U.S. Banks Accepting International Students

Banks that serve our international students include: Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Chase, and US Bank. It is good to check with these banks along with others in town to see the best options for you. Also, you can check with your home country bank to see if they have a partnership with a bank in the U.S.

## PAYING TUITION AND FEES

### U.S. Bank Check or Cash

If you are paying your tuition and fees with a U.S. Bank check or with cash, you will pay your tuition at the cashier's window located on the lower level of the Bookstore Building.

#### **Cashier's Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday 8am-6pm  
Friday 8am-1pm

**Phone:** 310.532.3670, ext. 3142

### Credit or Debit Card

Pay online 24 hours a day at <http://www.elcamino.edu/myecc/>

### Wire Transfer

Student's wanting to pay with a wire transfer from their home country bank to El Camino College directly can do so. **Make sure to have your name, student ID#, and indicate you are an F-1 student on the wire.**

#### **Bank Information:**

Bank of America  
Hawthorne Office #203  
12547 S. Hawthorne Blvd.  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

#### **Account Name:**

El Camino College Trust Fund  
Account Number: 02030-07677  
Swift code: BOFAUS3N  
Routing Number: 026009593

### El Camino College Parking Permit

If you are planning to drive and park a car on campus, you will either need to purchase a \$3 daily parking pass at one of the yellow permit dispenser machines and display it on your car dashboard, or buy a semester permit.

#### **Semester Permits:**

Fall and Spring	\$35
Summer	\$20
Motorcycles	\$20

Semester parking permits can be purchased at the cashier's window or online using your MyECC account.

# CALIFORNIA DRIVER LICENSE AND ID CARD

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It is important for you to carry some form of personal identification (ID) which includes your photograph, name, address and date of birth at all times. The California driver license and the State ID card are considered the official documents for routine identification purposes in California.

## California ID Card

When you cash a check, open a bank account, register your automobile, etc., you will be asked for an ID. Your passport has this information, but it is not recommended that you carry it with you on a daily basis because it may get lost.

There are two types of ID's available to you from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV): the California ID Card and the California Driver License (if you plan to drive while you are here). For additional information on the DMV procedures, you can visit their website at:

<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv>

## California Driver License

While international students can use their home driver's license if it is valid, it can only be used for the first couple months after you arrive in the U.S. If you plan on driving a motor vehicle while here, you will be expected to have a California driver's license. You cannot drive in California with an International Driving Permit. To acquire a California Driver's License, you must pass a written exam and a driving exam at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

## Steps to Apply for a Driver License

1. Study a copy of the "California Driver Handbook" from DMV
2. Pick up enrollment verification from ISP Office
3. Make an appointment at DMV
4. Take your I-20, proof of enrollment, passport and I-94 to appointment
5. Complete application (DL 44), copies will not be accepted). Use your I-94 and passport for the social security #

## Local Department of Motor Vehicles (DVM) Offices:

### TORRANCE

1785 W 220th St.  
Torrance, CA 90501

### INGLEWOOD

621 N La Brea Ave  
Inglewood, CA 90302

### HAWTHORNE

3700 W El Segundo Blvd  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

### COMPTON

2111 S. Santa Fe Ave.  
Compton, CA 90221

**Phone:** (800) 777-0133

#### **Office Hours:**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Wednesday

Website: [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov)



# INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

El Camino College is located in an extremely diverse area that has international markets for a lot of different ethnicities nearby. Below is a list of just some of those markets.

## African

**Dat Moi Market**  
144415 Crenshaw Blvd  
Gardena, CA 90249

## Asian

**Asia Foods**  
10200 Venice Blvd #105  
Culver City, CA 90232

**Asian Mart**  
3732 W 3rd St  
Los Angeles, CA 90020

## Brazilian

**Brazil Mania**  
1521 Cabrillo Ave  
Torrance, CA 90501

**Hi Brazil Market**  
2418 Artesia Blvd  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

## Chinese

**99 Ranch Market**  
1340 Artesia Blvd  
Gardena, CA 90248

**Ai Hoa Market**  
860 N Hill St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Market World** 3030  
Sepulveda Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90505

## Indian

**Makkah Market**  
22846 S Western Ave  
Torrance, CA 90501

**Super Hayat Market**  
3964 Redondo Beach  
Blvd Torrance, CA 90504

## European

**Hawthorne Market**  
24202 Hawthorne Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90505

## Filipino

**Joy Bakery**  
124 W Carson St  
Carson, CA 90745

**Seafood City Market**  
131 W Carson St.  
Carson, CA 90745

## French

**Le Pain Du Jour**  
13528 S Inglewood  
Ave Hawthorne, CA  
90250

**Monsieur Marcel Market**  
6333 W 3rd St  
Los Angeles, CA 90036

## Japanese

**Chikara Mochi** 16108  
S Western Ave  
Gardena, CA 90247

**Mitsuwa Market**  
21515 S Western Ave  
Torrance, CA 90501

**Nijiya Market**  
2533 Pacific Coast Hwy  
Ste B  
Torrance, CA 90505

**Seiwa Market**  
21815 Hawthorne Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90503

**Tokyo Central** 1740  
W Artesia Blvd  
Gardena, CA 90248

—  
2832 Sepulveda Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90505

## Korean

**Han Kook Supermarket**  
124 N Western Ave Los  
Angeles, CA 90004

**H Mart**  
621 S Western Ave Los  
Angeles, CA 90005

**S-Mart**  
2515 Torrance Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90503

## Mexican

**Adelita Bakery**  
14807 S Western Ave  
Gardena, CA 90249

**Diana's Market**  
16529 Normandie Ave  
Gardena, CA 90247

**Northgate Gonzalez**  
3930 W Rosecrans Ave  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

**Superior Grocers**  
15000 Crenshaw Blvd  
Gardena, CA

## Middle Eastern

**Al Salam Market**  
4636 Del Amo Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90503

**Hawthorne Market**  
24202 Hawthorne Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90505

## Taiwanese

**85 Degrees Bakery**  
1735 W Carson St. #A  
Torrance, CA 90501

—  
1386 W Artesia Blvd  
Gardena, CA 90248

## Vietnamese

**Dat Moi Market**  
144415 Crenshaw Blvd  
Gardena, CA 90249

**Saigon Market**  
15705 S Hawthorne Blvd  
Lawndale, CA 90261

## Employee Favorites

**Caroline from Brazil**  
El Gaucho Market-Latin American  
2715 Manhattan Beach Blvd  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

**Leonid from Russia/Israel**  
H Mart-Korean Market  
4340 Pacific Coast Hwy  
Torrance, CA 90505

**Alma from USA/Mexico**  
World Market-International  
22929 Hawthorne Blvd  
Torrance, CA 90505



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is an I-20?**

The I-20 form is the document you need from El Camino College in order to apply for your F-1 student visa at the US Embassy located in your home country. You will also need to present your I-20 form at the US border along with your F-1 visa and other supporting documents in order to be able to enter the U.S. as an F-1 student.

### **How do I make my visa interview appointment?**

To make an appointment at a U.S. Consulate visit [www.usembassy.gov](http://www.usembassy.gov). Be sure to complete all required forms and pay the required fees before your visa appointment. Learn more at: <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2013/04/how-to-prepare-for-your-visa-appointment>

### **What happens if my visa is denied?**

If you receive a visa denial, request a denial letter from the US Consulate so that you will understand why your visa was denied. The main reason visas are denied for the U.S. is failure of the applicant to prove they have permanent ties to their home country. Learn more about visa denials at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/denials.html>

### **How do I register for and pay for my classes?**

After you complete math and English placement testing, you will then meet with an academic counselor to determine course placement. Once you have your educational plan for the semester, you will be able to register for classes. If you are coming from another country to El Camino College, you will do these steps at orientation. You will pay tuition and fees **AFTER** you are registered to classes.

### **Do F-1 students need health insurance to study at ECC?**

All F-1 Visa students are required to purchase El Camino College designated health insurance. You can find more about the insurance company at their website [www.lewermark.com/elcamino](http://www.lewermark.com/elcamino). The cost of the health insurance is currently \$1,300\* per calendar year (12 months). \*Lewermark Insurance may change this rate at any time.

- Contact Information: Lewermark Insurance Agency, 4534 Wornall Rd #102, Kansas City, MO 64111
- Email: [lewermarksupport@lewer.com](mailto:lewermarksupport@lewer.com)
- Tel: (888) 711-6645

### **Can I waive the El Camino College student health insurance?**

No. All F-1 students are required to purchase the El Camino College designated health insurance; student health insurance waivers are not accepted.

### **How can my dependents (spouse and children) come with me to the US?**

Only a spouse and/or child(ren) under the age of 21 can accompany you as a dependent. Parents, grandparents, and other relatives are not eligible to come to the U.S. with you as your F-1 dependent.

### **What do I need to do once I reach the US?**

Upon arrival to the U.S., you must check in to the ISP office at El Camino College within 10 days of arrival.

### **How can I update my address and phone number?**

It is required that international students report a change of address within 10 days of moving to the ISP office.

### **Where can I find information about housing and living in California?**

Although El Camino College does **not** provide housing for students, we hope to ensure that our students have information about housing options to assist in their housing search. We suggest students start the search for housing options several months before their expected move in date. Please see the housing information page (pg. 6) in this booklet.

*\*The inclusion of any apartment or agency on the list does not represent an endorsement of services or facilities, nor does it guarantee vacancies exist. Please be aware that ECC does not assume responsibility for inspecting or supervising any housing facility.*

### **Can my visa expire while I am in the United States?**

Yes, you can remain in the United States on an expired Visa as long as you have a valid I-20. If you need to exit the country, you will need to renew your Visa before you can re-enter the US. However, your passport cannot expire while you are in the US.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

# HOW TO...

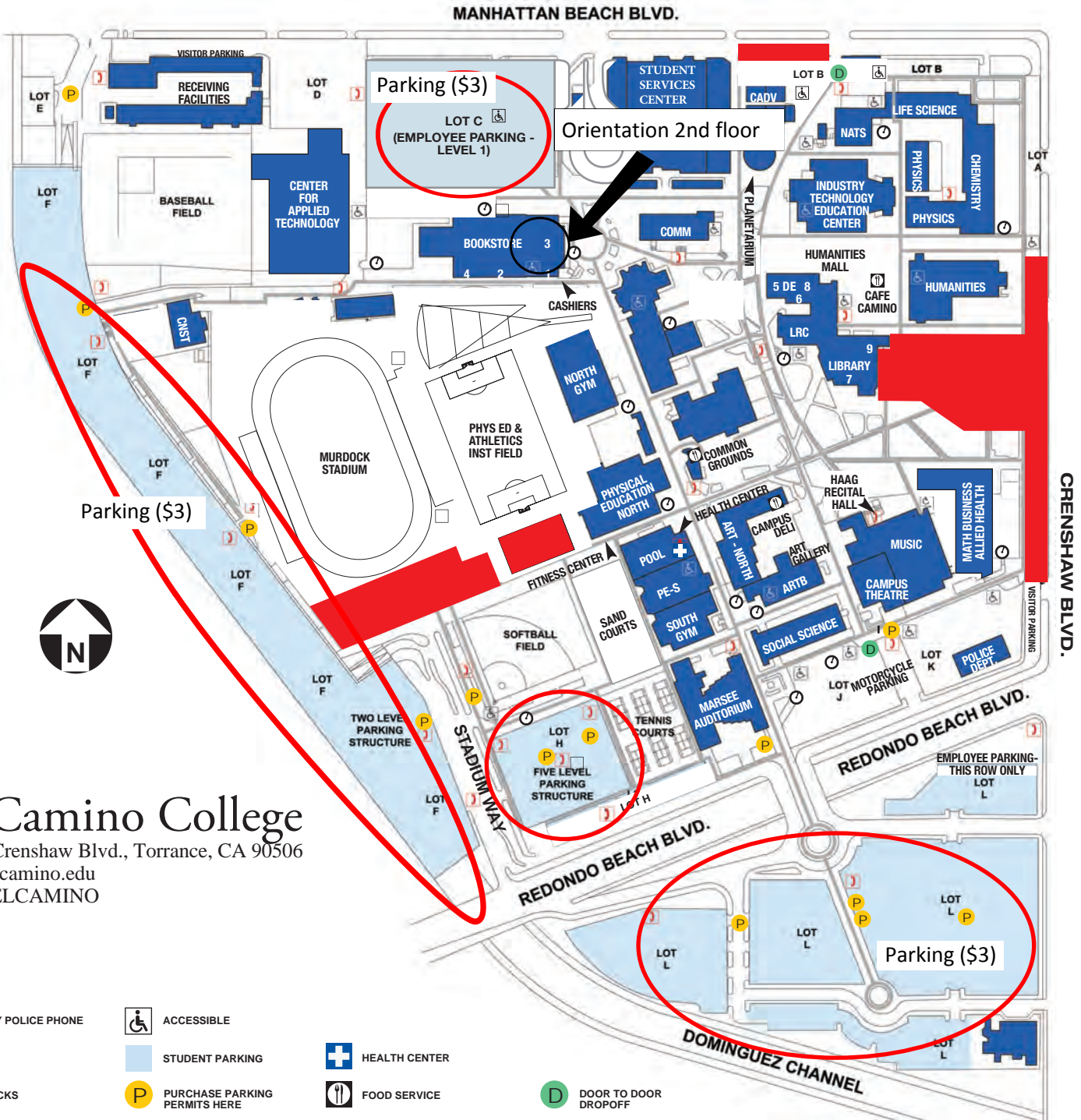
## MAINTAIN YOUR STUDENT F-1 STATUS

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To maintain legal F-1 student status at El Camino College, you are required to:

- Complete the mandatory visa check-in and attend the new international student orientation.
- Maintain full-time enrollment which is a minimum of 12 units per semester (Fall and Spring). You **MUST** have **AT LEAST** 9 units per semester (Fall and Spring) of **on-campus** instruction.
- Conform to regulations for travel outside of the U.S. and keep your passport valid for six months beyond the program start date.
- Accept no off-campus employment; work no more than twenty hours per week on campus while attending school on a full-time basis.
- Notify the International Student Programs office **BEFORE** you transfer to another US institution. You must fill out transfer documentation and turn in an acceptance letter for your new school or we will be unable to transfer your I-20.
- Leave the US, transfer to another US school, or do Optional Practical Training (OPT) post-graduation within **SIXTY DAYS** after the completion of your program.
- Request an extension of your I-20 if you need additional time to complete the coursework for your program of study. Your I-20 cannot expire while you are studying at El Camino College.





 **El Camino College**  
 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506  
 www.elcamino.edu  
 1-866-ELCAMINO

**KEY:**

-  EMERGENCY POLICE PHONE
-  BUILDING
-  BICYCLE RACKS
-  ACCESSIBLE
-  STUDENT PARKING
-  PURCHASE PARKING PERMITS HERE
-  HEALTH CENTER
-  FOOD SERVICE
-  DOOR TO DOOR DROPOFF

**Orientation Location**

Bookstore Building, East Dining Hall-Second Floor

**Parking Information:** Lot C, on Manhattan Beach Blvd is the closest parking structure to orientation.

\*Can also use parking Lot F, Lot H, Lot L-Student Parking Lots (must pay \$3.00 using exact change for daily pass at the yellow payment machines located in the parking lots and put the pass in car on the dashboard print side up so that it can be seen through the windshield).

\*You can also purchase a daily pass at the Police building on campus if you do not have exact change.