



Fall 2019/Spring 2020

OVERSEAS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE



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 Manager | lludwig@elcamino.edu | (310) 660-6473 |
| Leonid Rachman, Coordinator | 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 |
| Alma Sandoval, Program Assistant | asandoval@elcamino.edu | (310) 660-5113 |
| 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.

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. 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
- “See you in the USA” at 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

****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.
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 cost is estimated at \$1300.00 per year (paid over two semesters-Fall and Spring) and begins either January 1st or July 1st depending upon 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 or call 1-800-821-7710.

Carry your LewerMark Insurance ID Card with you at all times

| 2019-2020 Benefits | Medical Insurance Benefits Per Policy Year For El Camino Community College |
|---|--|
| | (\$400,000— 100% of Allowed Charge/80% of Reasonable and Customary Expenses) |
| 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 \$900
- Homestay without meals \$775

Global Student Services, USA®

1436 Brett Pl. #18
San Pedro, CA 90732
USA
[Tel: 310.438.7485](tel:310.438.7485)
Fax: 310.391.7881
gssusa2001@gmail.com
global-student-service.com

| 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.

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/
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

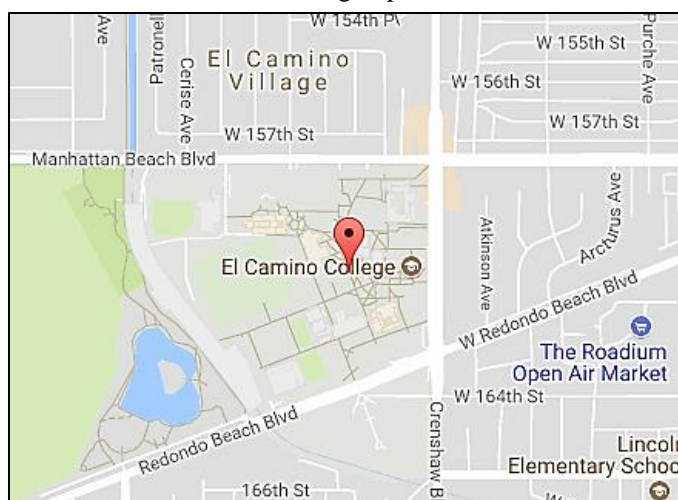
For reservations: www.redondobeachinn.net

*Mention El Camino College to receive discount rate.

Days Inn

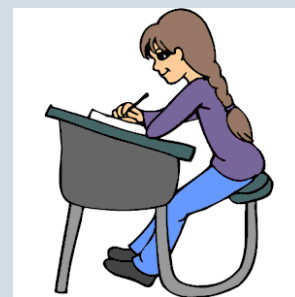
One Bedroom \$125 (est. per night)
15636 Hawthorne Blvd., Lawndale, CA 90260
Tel:(310) 676-7378 Fax:(310) 676-3138
Tel:(310) 318-6132 Fax:(310) 372-9134

For reservations contact: ranagroup@earthlink.com



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

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
2. Testpreppractice.net: 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

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

Upon arrival to the US, if you need transportation from the airport you can catch an **Uber** or **Lyft** (average cost \$17-20; download the APP to your cell phone first) on the departure level of the Los Angeles Airport (LAX) or take a taxi which can be found outside of the arrival level. There are also airport shuttles available:

| | | |
|--------------------|--|----------------|
| Super Shuttle | www.supershuttle.com/htm/cities/lax.htm | (310) 782-6600 |
| Prime Time Shuttle | www.primetimeshuttle.com/SoCal.htm | 1-800-733-8267 |
| Xpress Shuttle | www.xpressshuttle.com/los_angeles.htm | (310) 323-7222 |

Local Bus Transportation

| | | |
|------------------|--|----------------|
| Metro (MTA) | www.metro.net | 1-800-266-6883 |
| Torrance Transit | www.ci.torrance.ca.us/city/dept/transit/index.html | (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 | www.alamo.com | Dollar | www.dollar.com |
| Avis | www.avis.com | Enterprise | www.enterprise.com |
| Budget | www.budget.com | Hertz | www.hertz.com |

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

1. Get on I-105 E from Vicksburg Ave and CA-1 S/S Sepulveda Blvd
2. Take I-405 S to CA-107 N/Hawthorne Blvd in Lawndale. Take exit 42A from I-405 S
3. Take Manhattan Beach Blvd to Crenshaw Blvd in El Camino Village. El Camino College is on the right

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, January 21st– Thursday, January 23rd, 2019

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* ⇐

Spring 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, Jan 21, 2020

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 8:30 AM | Sign In (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2 nd Floor) |
| 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM | Lecture (Academic and Immigration) |
| 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 nd Floor) |
| 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Resource Fair |

Wednesday, Jan 22, 2020

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8:30 AM | Sign In (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2 nd Floor) |
| 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Testing (ESL/English Accuplacer Test) |
| 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | *Social Mixer - Movie, lunch and games. (Distance Education room-near Library) |

Thursday, Jan 23, 2020

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

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

Spring 2020 - Local Transfer Orientation

This orientation is for students who are transferring to El Camino College from a language school or college here in 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!

Tues, Dec 10, 2019

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:30 AM | Sign In (East Dining, Bookstore Bldg. 2 nd Floor) |
| 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Lecture and Guest Speakers (will have lunch provided) |
| 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Resource Fair |
| 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Testing (ESL/English Accuplacer Test if needed) |

Wed, Dec 11, 2019

Group Registration-Assigned at Orientation

Degree Programs Offered at El Camino College

| Associate of Arts Degree | Associate of Science Degree |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of Justice* Anthropology Anthropology for Transfer (AA-T) Art: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art History Studio Art Art History for Transfer (AA-T) Child Development* Communication Studies for Transfer (AA-T) Dance Economics Economics for Transfer (AA-T) Elementary Teacher Education (AA-T) English English for Transfer (AA-T) Ethnic Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> African American Studies American Cultures Asian American Studies Chicano Studies Native American Studies Film/Video* French General Studies Geography for Transfer (AA-T) History History for Transfer (AA-T) Japanese Journalism* Journalism for Transfer (AA-T) Kinesiology for Transfer (AA-T) Liberal Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary Teaching Teacher Preparation Music Paralegal Studies* Philosophy Philosophy for Transfer (AA-T) Physical Education Political Science Political Science for Transfer (AA-T) Psychology for Transfer (AA-T) Real Estate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mortgage Brokerage* Real Estate* Real Estate Appraisal* Recreation Sign Language/Interpreter Training* Sociology for Transfer (AA-T) Spanish Spanish for Transfer (AA-T) Studio Arts for Transfer (AA-T) Theatre Theatre Arts for Transfer (AA-T) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of Justice for Transfer (AS-T)* Air Conditioning and Refrigeration* Architecture* Astronomy Automotive Collision Repair/Painting* Automotive Technology* Biology Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting* Business Administration* Marketing* Office Administration-Management* Office Administration-Office Systems* Business Administration for Transfer (AS-T)* Chemistry Computer Aided Design/Drafting* Computer Information Systems* Construction Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet and Fine Woodworking* Construction Technology* Cosmetology* Early Childhood Education for Transfer (AS-T) Electronics and Computer Hardware Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer Technology* Electronics Technology* Engineering Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engineering Technician* Engineering Technology* Environmental Horticulture* Fashion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fashion Design and Production* Fashion Merchandising* Fire and Emergency Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire and Emergency Technology* Paramedical Technician* General Science Geography Geology for Transfer (AS-T) Machine Tool Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Machinist* Numerical Control Programmer* Manufacturing Technology* Mathematics Mathematics for Transfer (AS-T) Nursing* Photography* Physical Science Physics Physics for Transfer (AS-T) Pre-Engineering Pre-Nursing* Radiologic Technology* Respiratory Care* Welding* |

* Indicates Career and Technical Education (CTE); Visit: 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)

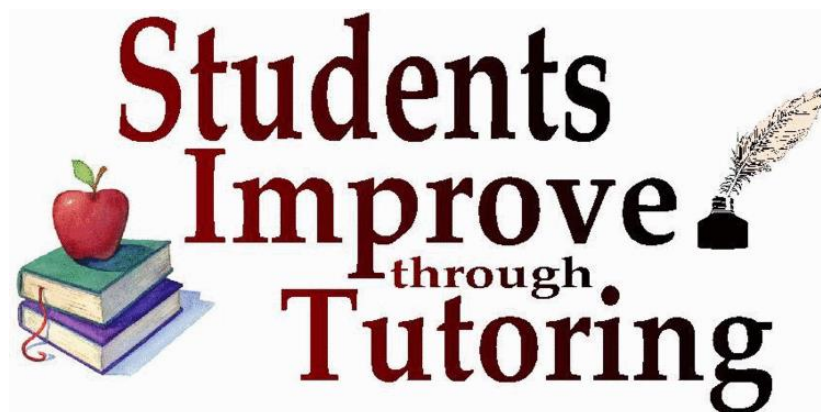
East Wing of Schauerman Library / 310-660-6715

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.



BANKS AND OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

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

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

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. 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. 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
- 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.13) 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.

