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LCU International Help Guide

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	International Students Explained
4	Joining Us? Here Are Your Options <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ESTA Visa Waiver Program▪ LCU Online Options▪ School Year Calendar That Must Be Followed
6	Admissions Process
9	Tuition & Fees
10	Living In The United States <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Airport Information▪ Housing▪ Healthcare▪ Transportation▪ Grocery Stores▪ Postal Services
13	Contact LCU Admissions Department

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS EXPLAINED

Lifestyle Christianity University welcomes internationals from all over the world as full-time International Audit Students. You can attend our year-long program by starting your registration online.

Since September 2020, LCU has been transitioning to a year-long program. At this time, we have applied for our SEVP certification to be able to accept international students at LCU under a student visa status. Currently, all internationals who wish to study at LCU are considered “full-time audit students”.

In the near future, we pray to soon be accepting and enrolling international students under a student visa status. Please join us by praying for favor in this process as we take these next steps in receiving the nations at LCU!

For now, all full-time International Audit Students must attend LCU under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program.

JOINING US? | HERE ARE YOUR OPTIONS

As stated above, currently all full-time International Audit Students must attend LCU under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program. (Please read the International Students Explained section above for further information.) There are 2 available options for how you can join us.

OPTION #1 | ESTA VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

(Highly recommended)

If you are a resident of a country under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program, we are offering a way that you may still attend LCU as a full-time Audit Student and also meet the requirements of the amount of time you may be out of your country at a time.

For additional information on VWP requirements, policies and more please go to:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html>

Some requirements for those who choose to attend under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program:

- Your arrival to your departure date must be no more than 90 days at a time
- You must be fluent in reading, comprehending and speaking the English language
- You must have a valid ESTA (Electronic System For Travel Authorization)
- You must have an e-passport along with ESTA
- Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your latest planned departure from the United States

Must Be a Citizen or National of a VWP Designated Country

To see complete list of approved VWP countries please go to:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html>

Under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program, you are ONLY ALLOWED TO STAY IN THE UNITED STATES FOR A MAXIMUM OF 90 DAYS.

INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING LCU ON CAMPUS

For all countries under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program, you are ONLY ALLOWED TO STAY IN THE UNITED STATES FOR A MAXIMUM OF 90 DAYS at a time. The following allows you to be here for 90 days in 2023 and 90 days in 2024 for LCU Year 1 2023-2024.

In addition, this will still allow you to come back in the Fall of 2024 for LCU 2 for an additional 90 days if you know the Lord hasn't released you yet.

If you are planning on attending LCU's Year 1 Program, please follow the attendance dates/schedule below so that you are here at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year.

- September 6, 2023 - International Audit Student First Day On Campus at LCU
- September 6 - 7, 2023 - Orientation (Mandatory)
- September 11, 2023 - First Day of Classes for All Students
- December 1, 2023 - International Audit Student Last Day at LCU = 86 days (At this time, you should leave the United States. This schedule of dates gives you two days to travel here and two days to travel back home.)

Once International Audit Students leave the country, they will be able to continue the school year via Online Classes. Watching Online Classes for a period of time will allow you to complete the school year in person in the months to come. You MUST follow the dates/schedule below while out of the country taking Online Classes:

December 4, 2023 - December 14, 2023 | Online Classes (December 14, 2023 is the last day LCU is in session for 2023)

January 8, 2024 - February 8, 2024 | Online Classes (This is the first day LCU is back in session through the last day of you attending Online Classes)

February 11, 2024 - International Audit Students Arrival back in the United States

February 12, 2024 - International Audit Students First Day Back on campus to attend On-Campus Classes

May 9, 2024 - Last Day at LCU and Graduation celebration (88 days total at LCU)

May 10, 2024 - International Audit Student MUST leave the United States

We also welcome Canadian citizens. Remember, we can't accept you as a student; however, you may also attend as a full-time Audit Student for Year 1. If you believe that you may want to attend the following year, you may want to follow the above timeline for our ESTA Visa Waiver students. This will still allow you to come back in the Fall of 2024 for LCU 2 for an additional 90 days if you know the Lord hasn't released you yet.

As a Canadian citizen, you may travel to the United States for pleasure, to attend a conference, or just travel without the need for a specific visa and be out of the country for a limit of 180 days per year. You can also review the following link for more information:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/citizens-of-canada-and-bermuda.htm>

OPTION #2 | LCU Online

For those who are not able to join us through the ESTA Visa Waiver Program, we encourage you to join us through our online program – LCU Online. If you are an International Brazilian student who wishes to join LCU Online, you can start your application process with the Admissions Team in Brazil by going to their website: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com.br/> Lifestyle Christianity University Years 1 & 2 are now available online! If you are an international student and cannot attend through ESTA or can't join LCU Online Brazil, we have LCU Online Years 1 & 2 available in English through which you can follow the same live program as our day school students!

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. APPLY FOR LCU & GET ACCEPTED

Start your registration process!

Go to: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com/audit-registration/>

Your registration will only be considered for acceptance after your admin fee is paid.

Admin fee is \$75.00 USD. The admin fee is non-refundable.

Once you have completed your application and your two references have been received, you will be contacted by our Admissions Team and they will ask you to let them know when it would be convenient for you to do an interview over the phone. During the interview, you will know if you have been accepted to attend LCU.

Following your interview you will receive an email from Admissions and you will receive your Log in Information directly from our Admissions team so please watch for an email on how to log into your portal. You will then receive an email from our Registrar team after you are fully enrolled to attend LCU. At this time, you will be able to view your own account and make payments.

2. BEGIN ESTA VISA WAIVER APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit your home country's consulate website to start your ESTA visa waiver application process.

Be sure to carefully read the requirements and prepare all appropriate forms required by the consulate from your home country.

For more information on ESTA visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html>

To start your ESTA application go to: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/>

*There is an ESTA application fee that you will need to pay.

3. START PREPARING

Prepare important documents: Valid passport, Traveler's valid email address, Traveler's home address and phone number, Traveler's emergency point of contact phone and email.

Other information you can prepare that can be helpful: Evidence of financial resources, a return airline ticket and a description of your visit.

Important Note: You must also be fluent in reading, comprehending and speaking the English language. ESTA Visa Waiver applicants DO NOT need to go in for a physical interview with the U.S. Embassy.

4. ESTA VISA WAIVER APPLICATION APPROVAL

Make sure to send your International Advisor an email so we can join you in prayer while you wait for your ESTA to get approved! After hearing back, please let us know your ESTA has been approved! The website you applied on will be the same website you need to check to see if your ESTA was approved.

For more information go to: https://help.cbp.gov/s/article/Article-1143?language=en_US

After your ESTA is approved, you will then be required to pay your tuition for that school year. Your tuition MUST be paid in full by August 24, 2023 to be able to attend our New Student Orientation.

6. BEGIN CLASSES AT LCU!

Once your ESTA Visa Waiver has been approved, please contact us so we can celebrate with you! You are now ready to travel to the U.S.! Please see our academic calendar for important dates: Deadlines, Payment Due Dates, New Student Orientation, First Day of Classes and more.

IMPORTANT: Please remember, all full-time International Audit Students attending LCU MUST follow the attendance dates/schedule provided. You must follow the 90-day policy. (Your arrival date to your departure date must be no more than 90 days at a time.)

TUITION & FEES

If you are interested in attending the year-long program of LCU as a full-time International Audit Student, please be aware you will be responsible to pay for the full-year cost of an Audit Student up front, by August 24th, 2023.

Please understand that by completing our application form to attend, you are verifying you are financially able to pay the amount of \$4900.00 USD.

WAYS TO PAY:

1. With your Student Portal login, you can make payments online through August 24, 2023. With this platform, churches, family, friends, and sponsors are also able to bless you by making payments towards your tuition online. You will need to provide them with a direct link to your payment screen.
2. Please understand your arrival at LCU's Orientation on September 6, 2023, depends on you having paid the full \$4900.00 on or before August 24, 2023. We will ONLY accept payments in U.S. Dollars. No other currencies will be accepted.
3. Your total full tuition amount may vary if you choose our Early Pay Discount Option, payable on or before August 3, 2023. The Early Pay Discount is \$400.00, which brings your total full tuition to \$4500.00 (\$450.00 non-refundable Tuition Deposit plus \$4050.00 Tuition). If full tuition payment is not made by August 3, 2023, you will automatically be billed \$400 to bring your bill to Standard Tuition (\$4900.00) on August 4, 2023.

IMPORTANT: If you are unable to pay this amount by August 24, 2023, or earlier, you will not be guaranteed access to become a full-time International Audit Student for the school year. You will be required to return home.

We highly encourage all full-time International Audit Students to start making payments towards their tuition ONLINE as soon as their Visa Waiver has been approved and their airline tickets have been booked. Tuition for the year-long program is a total of \$4900.00 USD.

Admin Fee: \$75.00 USD

LCU Year 1 Tuition: \$4900.00 USD

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

While temporarily living in the United States please budget for the following additional expenses:

- Housing: Lodging, renting, etc.
- Living expenses: bills, fees, etc.
- Food
- Transportation
- Books & Materials

LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

Lifestyle Christianity University is located in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and specifically located in Watauga, Texas. Just a 25-minute drive from the Dallas-Fort Worth airport, LCU is a beautiful, 36-acre campus you can't miss. We can't wait to welcome you!

AIRPORT INFORMATION

When booking your airlines tickets you will need to arrive at, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, TX. This is the main and largest international airport in the DFW area.

A secondary airport option is DAL, Dallas Love Field Airport, TX. International flights to this airport are extremely limited due to airport size.

HOUSING

When looking for housing, your prices will vary depending on whether you are a single student, married couple or a family. Your pricing will vary depending on your needs. Typically most single students find roommates and the average rent per person is approximately \$300 - \$500 per month. A couple can find a studio or 1 bedroom apartment for approximately \$800 - \$1000 per month. A family apartment will cost \$1000 - \$1800 per month depending on location and amenities. Housing rentals start at \$1500 and can go as high as \$3000+ per month for a large 4+ bedroom home.

* Please keep in mind these amount values are in U.S Dollars. *

There are several resources that can help you. Visit the following website and search Watauga, TX to see current availability.

www.homes.com

www.apartments.com

Lifestyle Christianity University offers "accepted" International Audit Students access to a closed Facebook Group page called Lifestyle Christianity U - Housing Options. Please use this resource as soon as you are accepted to connect with LCU students already in the community. This has been a valuable tool and many of our students are able to connect with great housing opportunities this way. We encourage all LCU students to use discretion when making a roommate or housing choice. Please read all contracts carefully and make sure that both parties sign and each party receives an

original of the rental agreement.

HEALTHCARE

Currently, the United States has a fee for service health system and most residents of the United States either purchase private insurance or they pay out of pocket for healthcare. It is the law of the United States that no person can be denied Emergency Medical Services based on their ability to pay. If you have a true medical emergency please call 911 and provide the address of your physical location, or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

For more routine health problems you can choose to pay for a walk-in medical clinic. If prescribed medication, you will need to take the prescription to a pharmacy to be filled unless otherwise directed by your doctor. We highly recommend that you upload the GoodRX app on your phone. It will help save you significant money on prescriptions you will have to pay out of pocket without insurance.

The following are clinics, pharmacies, and hospitals are available:

Walk-in Clinics:

- Care Now
- Minute Clinic
- MD First Watch Urgent Care
- Super Urgent Care

Local Hospitals:

- Baylor Scott White
- Medical City Alliance

Pharmacies:

- CVS
- Walgreens
- Most local grocery stores
- Kroger
- Walmart
- Albertsons
- Tom Thumb

TRANSPORTATION

If you are going to be a nonimmigrant resident, it is imperative that you have some form of transportation. Texas is very big and everything is spread out. Public transportation is limited. Thankfully, many areas have shopping districts where you can find all that you need within a 10 mile radius. Beyond a car, a moped, or bicycle would be a workable option if your housing is conveniently located.

We also encourage students to carpool with their fellow classmates and/or roommates who have vehicles. Carpooling is a great way to commute and you can split the gas money.

Please see the following links for more information on driving in the United States:

U.S. Government: <https://www.usa.gov/visitors-driving>

Texas Department of Public Safety: <https://www.dps.texas.gov/driverlicense/reciprocity.htm>

GROCERY STORES

Grocery stores (or supermarkets) include but are not limited to:

- Walmart
- Kroger
- Tom Thumb
- Albertsons
- Aldi
- Natural Foods
- Central Market
- Sprouts
- Costco
- Sam's Club
- Winco

POSTAL SERVICES

The most convenient way to send mail is through the U.S. Postal Service. You can purchase books of stamps at the local grocery stores or at the Post Office. A typical personal letter and business letter now take one stamp. If the contents cause the envelope to become heavy, it may take two or more stamps depending on the weight. If in doubt, the local Post Office can weigh it for you and you can pay for the cost at the Post Office and mail it directly from there. There are other delivery services and they are listed below as well.

Other delivery services in the U.S. include:

- United States Postal Service ([USPS.com](https://usps.com))
- Federal Express (fedex.com)
- DHL (dhl.com)

For important dates please refer to the 2023 - 2024 LCU School Year Academic Calendar. The Calendar can be found at: www.lifestylechristianityu.com/calendar

- **Application Deadline** | August 1, 2023
- **LCU 1 - New Student Orientation** | September 6 - 7, 2023
- **First Day of School & Kick Off** | September 11, 2023

Thank you for choosing Lifestyle Christianity University! If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact our Admissions Department. We are available to assist you!

LCU Admissions Department

Email | admissions@lifestylechristianityu.com

Phone | 817-893-2901

