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LCU International Help Guide

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INTERNATIONAL AUDIT STUDENTS EXPLAINED

Lifestyle Christianity University welcomes internationals from all over the world as full-time International Audit Students. We invite YOU to join us in person for our year-long program! You can begin your registration online.

Since September 2020, LCU has transitioned to a year-long program. At that time, we 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 International Audit Students."

In the near future, we pray we can begin 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 previously stated, currently all Full-Time International Audit Students must attend LCU under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program if they want to join us in person. Our second option is to attend LCU Online!

OPTION #1 | ESTA VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

(Highly recommended)

If you are a resident of a country under the ESTA Visa Waiver Program (EVWP), 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 EVWP 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
- You must be a citizen or national of a EVWP designated country

To see complete list of approved EVWP 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 2024 and 90 days in 2025 for LCU Year 1, 2024-2025.

In addition, this will still allow you to come back in the Fall of 2025 for LCU Year 2 for an additional 90 days if you know the Lord hasn't released you yet.

If you are planning on attending LCU Year 1, 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 3 or 4, 2023 - Arrive in the United States

- September 5, 2024 - International Audit Student First Day On Campus at LCU
- September 5, 2024 - Orientation (Mandatory)
- September 9, 2024 - First Day of Classes for All Students
- November 30, 2024 - International Audit Student Last Day at LCU = 86 days at LCU

December 1 or 2, 2024 - 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 you leave the country, you 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 2 - 12, 2024 | Online Classes (December 12 is the last day LCU is in session for 2024)
- January 6 - February 6, 2025 | Online Classes (This is the first day LCU is back in session through the last day of you attending Online Classes)
- February 9, 2025 - International Audit Students Arrival back in the United States
- February 10, 2025 - First day back on campus
- May 8, 2025 - Last Day at LCU (88 days total at LCU)
- May 9, 2025 - Graduation celebration
- May 9, 2025 - 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 2025 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. We have LCU Online Years 1 & 2 available in English through which you can follow the same live program as our on-campus students!

If you are from Brazil and are interested in joining LCU Online, you can start your application process with the Admissions Team in Brazil by visiting their website: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com.br/>

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. APPLY FOR LCU & GET ACCEPTED

Apply to LCU here: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com/audit-registration/>

Your application will only be considered for acceptance after your Application Fee of \$75 USD is paid.

*The Application Fee is non-refundable.

Once you have completed your application and we have received your two references, 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 the Admissions team which will have your LCU Portal login information. 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 PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit your home country's consulate website to start your EVWP 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 the EVWP 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, and traveler's emergency 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. EVWP applicants DO NOT need to go in for a physical interview with the U.S. Embassy.

4. ESTA VISA WAIVER PROGRAM APPLICATION APPROVAL

Make sure to send your assigned 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 20, 2024 to be able to attend our New Student Orientation.

6. BEGIN CLASSES AT LCU!

Once your ESTA Visa Waiver Program 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 School Year 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 20, 2024.

*Please understand that by completing our application form to attend, you are verifying you are financially able to pay the amount of \$4,900.

WAYS TO PAY:

1. With your Student Portal login, you can make payments online. 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 5, 2024 depends on you having paid the full \$4,900 on or before August 20, 2024. We will ONLY accept payments in U.S. Dollars. No other currencies will be accepted.
3. Your total tuition amount may vary if you choose our Early Pay Tuition option, payable on or before August 8, 2024. The Early Pay Tuition discount is \$400, which brings your total tuition to \$4,500 (\$450 non-refundable Tuition Deposit plus \$4,050 Tuition). If full tuition payment is not made by August 8, 2024, you will automatically be billed \$400 to bring your bill to Standard Tuition (\$4,900).

IMPORTANT: If you are unable to pay full tuition by August 20, 2024, 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 as soon as their EVWP has been approved and their airline tickets have been booked. Tuition for the year-long program is a total of \$4,900.

Application Fee: \$75 USD

LCU Year 1 Tuition: \$4,900 USD

Books & Materials: approximately \$120 USD

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

While temporarily living in the United States, please budget for the following additional expenses: Transportation, Food, Housing, and Living Expenses (bills, fees, etc.).

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 \$400 - \$500 per month for a shared room. A couple can find a studio or 1-bedroom apartment for approximately \$1,000 - \$1,500 per month. A family apartment will cost \$1,500 - \$2,500 per month depending on location and amenities. Housing rentals start at \$1,700 and can go as high as \$4,000+ 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 websites and search Watauga, TX to see current availability: www.homes.com and 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 or planning to arrive. 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 rental agreements and each party receives an original copy 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 health 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 download the "GoodRX" app on your phone. It will help save you significant money on prescriptions that you will have to pay out-of-pocket for because you do not have insurance.

The following are clinics, hospitals, and pharmacies near LCU:

Walk-in Clinics:

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

Hospitals:

- Baylor Scott White
- Medical City Alliance

Pharmacies:

- CVS
- Walgreens
- Kroger
- Walmart
- Albertsons
- Tom Thumb

TRANSPORTATION

If you are going to be a non-immigrant 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, electric scooter, or bicycle would be a workable option if your housing is not too far from LCU.

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) near LCU 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.

Mail 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 2024 - 2025 LCU School Year Calendar. The Calendar can be found on our website: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com/program/>

- **Application Deadline (On Campus)** | July 31, 2024
- **Application Deadline (Online)** | August 19, 2024
- **LCU 1 - New Student Orientation** | September 5, 2024
- **First Day of School** | September 9, 2024

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



LCU