

International Student Help Guide



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International Students Explained

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

Starting September 2020, LCU is 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 in 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.

If you are planning on attending the LCU Year 1 Program, you MUST follow the attendance dates/schedule below:

- **September 9, 2020** - International Audit Student First Day on Campus at LCU
- **September 9 - 11, 2020** - Orientation (mandatory)
- **September 14, 2020** - First Day of classes for all Students
- **December 6, 2020** - International Audit Student MUST leave United States (90 Days total)

Once International Audit Students leave the country, they will be able to continue the school year via online classes. Switching over to 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 classes online:

- **December 7, 2020 - December 17, 2020** | Online Classes (December 17, 2020 is the last day LCU is in session for 2020)
- **January 11, 2021 - February 12, 2021** | Online Classes (This is the first day LCU is back in session through the last day of online classes)
- **February 14, 2021** - International Audit Students Arrival back in the United States
- **February 15, 2021** - International Audit Students First Day Back on

Campus

- **May 13, 2021** - Last Day of classes for all students
- **May 14, 2021** - International Audit Students MUST leave United States (90 days total)

By following the schedule provided, internationals will be abiding by the policy given by the U.S. Embassy and be able to complete the school year at LCU.

OPTION #2 | Online Program

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.

Currently, LCU Online Program is offered in Brazil to students who speak the Portuguese language. If you are an international Brazilian student who wishes to join our Online Program, you can start your application process with the Admissions Team in Brazil by going to: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com.br/>

Lifestyle Christianity University is working towards launching a full Online Program in the near future. If you are an international student and cannot attend through ESTA or can't join the Online Program Brazil, hang in there! We will soon have an Online Program available in which you will be able to follow the same program happening as our day school students.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. Apply for LCU & Get Accepted - Start your registration process!

- a. Go to: <https://lifestylechristianityu.com/audit-registration/>
- b. Your registration will only be considered for acceptance after your \$75.00 USD admin fee is paid. The admin fee is non-refundable.

2. Begin ESTA Visa Waiver Application Process

- a. 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.
 - b. For more information on ESTA visit: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html>
 - c. 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

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

4. ESTA Visa Waiver Application Approval

- a. 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!

- b. 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

5. Receive LCU Login Information & Make Your Payment

- a. After your ESTA is approved, your International Advisor will send you your LCU login information. You will then be required to pay your tuition for that school year. Your tuition MUST be paid in full by the first day of New Student Orientation.

6. Begin Classes at LCU!

- a. 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, on the first day of New Student Orientation.

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 up to the first day of New Student Orientation. With this platform, churches, family, friends and sponsors are also able to bless you by making payments towards your tuition online.
2. Upon your arrival at LCU on September 9, 2020 you will be required to pay the full tuition amount of \$4900.00 USD up front. We will **ONLY** accept payments in U.S Dollars, no other currencies.

IMPORTANT: If you are unable to pay this amount upon arriving at LCU, 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 & Material

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, *DFW - 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 \$700 - \$900 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 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
 - Thomb Thumb

Transportation

If you are going to be a nonimmigrant resident and it will be 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 mail is through the U.S. Postal Service. You can purchase books of stamps at local grocery stores. A typical personal letter and business letter now takes one stamp. If the contents cause the envelope to become heavy it may take 2 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 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://www.usps.com))

Federal Express ([fedex.com](https://www.fedex.com))

DHL ([dhl.com](https://www.dhl.com))

For important dates please refer to the 2020 - 2021 LCU School Year Academic Calendar.

Calendar can be found at: www.lifestylechristianityu.com/calendar

Registration Deadline | August 21, 2020

LCU 1 - New Student Orientation | September 9 - 11, 2020

First Day of School & Kick Off | September 14, 2020

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@lifestylechristianity.com

Phone | 817-893-2901

