HOW TO APPLY FOR AN URGENT VISITOR VISA TO CANADA FROM UKRAINE?

Below is a Summary of Procedures on how to Apply for a Visitor Visa to Travel to Canada on a Temporary Basis.¹

NOTE: On March 3, 2022, the Government of Canada announced special measures to assist Ukrainian citizens to come into Canada, including a simplified Visitor Visa application process. The details relating to these measures are expected to be released within the next two weeks. In the meantime, below is an overview of the standard Visitor Visa application procedure that applies currently.

In order to travel to Canada, a citizen of Ukraine needs to either (1) have a valid Visitor Visa, or (2) apply for a Visitor Visa on the IRCC Portal (https://portal-portail.apps.cic.gc.ca/signin?lang=en).

Please note that applying for a Visitor Visa does not guarantee that the application will be approved. This is because an Immigration Officer will make a final decision based on the application.

1) SUMMARY

This guide provides instructions on the steps required to apply for a Visitor Visa.

Step One:

• Apply for a Visitor Visa online via the IRCC Portal and submit your application (https://portalportail.apps.cic.gc.ca/signin?lang=en)

Step Two:

- The Government of Canada will request the Applicant to provide biometrics (fingerprint and photo) at a Visa Application Centre if the Applicant does not already have valid biometrics on file.
- Currently, the Visa Application Centres in Ukraine are closed. Given this, in order to finalize the Visitor Record application (under the current procedure) the Applicant will either need to (1) submit a request for exemption of the biometric requirement required to be submitted in the Visitor Record application by uploading a request letter (attached at Appendix "A" hereto is a form of this request letter that can be used), or (2) travel to a Visa Application Centre from outside of Ukraine to complete the biometrics requirement.

Step Three:

• Lastly, before the Visitor Visa application is approved, the Applicant will need to mail their passport to a Visa Application Centre in Ukraine. This step will be difficult to complete because all of the Visa Application Centres in Ukraine are currently closed. Given this, the

¹ Please note that this document is a summary of information that has been made available to the general public by the Government of Canada. The information and guidance provided in this document does not constitute legal advice and should not be relied on as such. If legal advice is required, please contact an immigration lawyer.

Applicant may need to mail the passport to a Visa Application Centre from outside Ukraine and the Applicant would need to travel to that location in order to pick up the passport with the Visitor Visa.

NOTE: If the Applicant is unable to travel to another country to submit biometrics or pick up their original passport with a visa stamp, it is still worth submitting an application as the Government of Canada may decide to make exemptions with respect to these requirements as the situation evolves. As of March 3, 2022, no such exemptions have been confirmed; however, this may be subject to change.

2) OTHER TRAVEL CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO COVID-19

Further, in order for a citizen of Ukraine to be allowed to board an airplane to travel to Canada, they must meet the below two Covid-19 requirements:

- **1. Proof of Vaccination:** Adults 18 years of age or older must be fully vaccinated. This means you have received two doses of a World Health Organization approved Covid-19 vaccine and the second dose was received more than 14 days before your travel to Canada. Those who are under 18 years of age do not need to be fully vaccinated; and
- 2. **Pre-Arrival COVID-19 Test:** Anyone over the age of 5 must obtain an authorized clinic administered rapid antigen test taken within 24 hours from departure to Canada or proof of positive molecular test taken at least 10 days before and within 180 days of departure to Canada.

NOTE: At this time, the Government of Canada has not yet confirmed whether these Covid-19 related entry requirements will be waived in light of the circumstances in Ukraine.

3) VISITOR VISA APPLICATION

Below are the steps to apply for a Visitor Visa on the IRCC Portal. You will need to have access to a computer with internet access.

1. Website: The website to apply for a Visitor Visa is as follows:

https://portal-portail.apps.cic.gc.ca/signin?lang=en

You will need to sign up for an IRCC Portal account. Please remember the email address and password you use to create the IRCC Portal account because you will need this information to log into the IRCC Portal.

* Email address (required) * Password (required)

2. Terms and Conditions: After you have signed into the IRCC Portal, you will need to accept the terms and conditions by clicking "**I accept**" before you can fill in the Visitor Visa application.



Terms and conditions

By accessing your account, you are agreeing to abide by the following Terms and Conditions of Use:

You agree to keep your identification number(s)
 confidential and to not share it (them) with anyone. If
 you suspect that others have obtained your
 identification number(s), contact us immediately by
 clicking the Contact us link (at the bottom of any IRCC
 web page) and complete a case-specific enquiry.

If you use another type of browser software you should check with your software supplier to make sure that your browser has 128-bit secure socket layer encryption capability. Note: We are not responsible for any difficulties in downloading and installing software. Software suppliers are responsible for providing technical support. It is important that you sign out and close your browser before leaving this computer unattended. This will prevent unauthorized access to your personal information.



3. Select the type of application you want to apply for: You will select "Apply for a visitor visa, transit visa or a study permit." You will have up to 60 days to complete and to submit the Visitor Visa application online.

Start an application Citizenship Apply for a visitor visa ransit visa or a study permit Download Citizenship e-Certificate Certificate View the applications you submitted Review, check the status, or read messages about your submitted application. No data available in table

- **4. Acknowledgement**: You will need to acknowledge that you meet the below requirements by checking the "**acknowledgement box**" before you can start completing the application.
 - a) Meet the requirements to apply for a Visitor Visa;
 - b) Have a valid passport; and
 - c) Have a credit card to pay the application fees.
 - Pay your fees
 Submit your application

 You have 60 days (from when you start your application) to submit a complete application.
 After 60 days, the system deletes your information.

 acknowledge that I've read and I understand the above information. I'm ready to start my application.
- **5. Group**: If you wish to apply for a Visitor Visa for more than 1 person at the same time, then select "yes".

For example, you want to submit an application for yourself, plus your spouse and children who will travel with you or join you later during your stay in Canada. Yes No

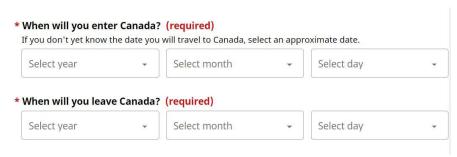
- 6. Application for a Visitor Visa:
 - (a) Question: I want to apply for a:

Answer: You will select you want to apply for a Visitor Visa.

* I want to apply for a: (required)
○ study permit
O transit visa or support for Afghan nationals outside Canada
o visitor visa or supervisa
O not sure
(b) Question: Why do you need to visa?
Answer: To visit Canada as a tourist
Why do you need a visa? (required)
○ To be with a loved one who is critically ill or dying
O To provide care for a loved one who needs medical support
○ To attend a funeral or end-of-life ceremony
O To join a vessel as a marine crew member
To take up a diplomatic posting in Canada
To travel as an accompanying immediate family member of a diplomat arriving on a posting, and who will also be accredited in Canada
○ To handle the affairs of a victim of Ukraine International Airlines Flight PS752
To visit Canada as a tourist
(c) Question: Tell us more about what you will do in Canada. Include dates.
Answer: You can write the following statement if it is accurate:
☐ I am a citizen of Ukraine and there is currently a war between Russia and Ukraine. I would like to travel to Canada during the war between Russia and Ukraine. I have family and/or friends in Canada that I want to stay with on a temporary basis.

(d) Question: When will you enter Canada?

Answer: You will fill in your anticipated travel date to Canada and the anticipated time that you will stay in Canada, which should **not** exceed 6 months.

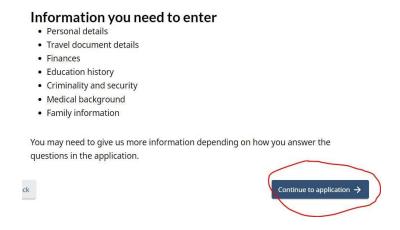


(e) Question: What is your UCI (unique client identifier), if known (optional)

Answer: Leave blank.

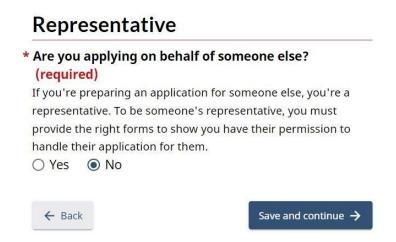
7. You selected: visit Canada as a tourist.

This page tells you what information you need to provide for your Visitor Visa application. You will click "Continue to application".



8. Representative: Are you applying on behalf of someone else?

If you are not hiring a lawyer or immigration consultant to prepare your Visitor Visa application, then you will select "No", then click "Save and Continue".



9. Travel Document Information of the Applicant.

Surname (last name): Enter your surname exactly as it appears on your passport.

Given Name: Enter your given name exactly as it appears on your passport.

Date of Birth: Enter your date of birth exactly as it appears on your passport.

Gender: Enter male or female.

Once you have entered the above information, then you will click "Save and Continue".

10. Type of Travel Document

(a) Question: What document are you travelling with?

Answer: Passport

(b) Question: What kind of passport?

Answer: Regular

(c) Question: Select the country code that matches the one on your passport.

Answer: UKR (Ukraine)

(d) Question: What is the nationality of your passport?

Answer: Ukrainian

(e) Question: What is your passport number?

Answer: Enter the passport number from your passport.

(f) Question: Confirm your passport number.

Answer: Re-enter the passport number from your passport.

(g) Question: Date of issue of passport.

Answer: Enter the passport issue date.

(h) Question: Date of expiry of passport.

Answer: Enter the passport expiry date.

(i) Question: Are you a lawful permanent resident of the US with a valid Green Card?

Answer: Answer yes or no to having a US valid Green Card.

(j) Question: Have you held a Canadian Visitor Visa in the past 10 years?

Answer: Answer yes or no to having held a Canadian Visitor Visa in the last ten years.

(k) Question: Do you currently hold a valid US non-immigrant visa (i.e. Visitor Visa)?

Answer: Answer yes or no to having held a valid US non-immigrant visa.

(I) **Question:** Are you travelling to Canada by air?

Answer: Yes

Once you have answered all of the above questions, you will click "Save and Continue".

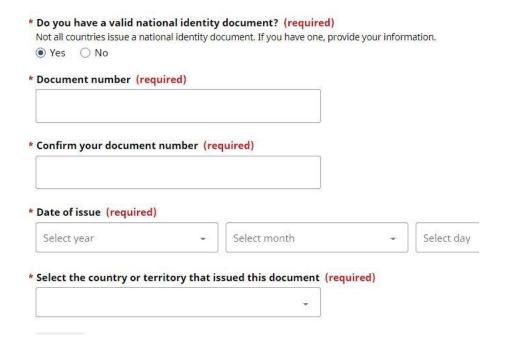
11. Citizenship and Places where the Applicant has Lived

You will answer the below questions, then click "Save and Continue".

* Country or territo	ry where you	were born <mark>(required)</mark>
	•	
* City or town wher	e you were bo	orn (required)
* Are you a citizen c	of more than	one country or territory
? (required)		

12. National Identity Document of the Applicant

Citizens of Ukraine are issued a Ukrainian Identity card so you will select "Yes" and enter your information, then click "Save and Continue."



13. Have you used another name in the past?

If you have used another name in the past, then you would select "Yes" and enter the other name used in the past.

Once you answered the question, you will press "Save and Continue".

14. Countries of Residence

You will fill in your current residential address.

If your mailing address is not the same as your current residential address, then you will select "No" and provide your mailing address information.

You will need to list your current country of residence, Ukraine. Further, if you have lived in another country for more than 6 months in the past five years, then you will include this information.

Countries or territories of residence What's your residential address? This is the address where you currently live. * Select a country or territory (required) * Street address (required) Enter the address, including house number or building number if applicable. * City or town (required) Postal code (optional) * Is your mailing address the same as your residential address? (required) Yes No Countries or territories of residence * List your current country or territory of residence, then add all other countries or territories where you've lived for the past five years, for more than 6 months. (required)

15. Biometrics (Fingerprints and Photo) of the Applicant

If you have completed biometrics for Canada within the past 10 years for a (1) Visitor Visa, (2) study permit, or (3) work permit application, then you select "Yes", then click "Save an Continue". If you have not completed biometrics, then you will select "No", then click "Save and Continue".

Please note if you have not completed biometrics, then you will need to pay the fee for biometrics (CAD \$85.00 per person) and complete biometrics once you receive a biometrics request letter.

Do we already have your fingerprints and photo (biometrics), and are they still valid? (re Answer yes only if you:	equired)
• gave your biometrics in the past 10 years for a visitor visa, study or work permit application, and	
 know your biometrics are still valid. If you're not sure, find out if your biometrics are still valid. 	
○ Yes ○ No	

NOTE: Please answer "yes" or "no" even if you believe that you will not be able to travel to another country to submit your biometrics. If you are unable to submit your biometrics, please refer to Appendix "A" attached hereto in order to request an exemption from this requirement.

16. Finances

Question: How much money do you have for your stay in Canada? (In Canadian dollars)

Answer: You will provide the amount of money that you have in Canadian dollars for your trip to Canada.

Question: Is someone else giving you money for your stay in Canada?

Answer: You need to provide information regarding who is giving you money for your stay in Canada. For example:

I have family/friends in Canada and during the current war between Ukraine and Russia my family/friends in Canada will be covering my expenses while in Canada on a temporary basis.

NOTE: You will need to include a letter from your family/friends in Canada who confirm they will provide you with financial support and include a copy of their bank statements from the past six months.

17. Information about education, work and other activities

Question: Have you ever studied at a post-secondary school?

Answer: Answer yes or no to studying at a post-secondary school.

Question: Did you serve in any military, militia, civil defence unit, security organization or police force (including non-obligatory service, reserve or voluntary units)?

Answer: Answer yes or no to serving in any military, militia, civil defence unit, security organization or police force.

Question: Give details of all of your employment or activities since the age of 18. You cannot have any gap. If you were unemployed, then state "unemployment".

Post-secondary education history

have completed a degree or diploma. (required)

○ Yes ● No
Work/activities history
Military/police history
* Did you serve in any military, militia, civil defence unit, security organization or police force (including non-obligatory service, reserve or voluntary units)? (required) Ores No
* Give details of all your employment and activities since the age of 18. (required)
Do not include any entries that you already put for post-secondary education or military/police history (if that was yo only occupation at that time). For all other periods of time, you need to enter an occupation or activity. Don't leave ar other gaps.
Select "Government position" if you've worked as a civil servant, judge, mayor, Member of Parliament, hospital administrator, or employee of a security organization.
+ Add
> You'll lose your information if you leave this page without saving.
18. Travel History
If you have travelled outside Ukraine in the past five years, you will need to enter you travel information. After you have filled in this question, please click "Save and Continue".
19. Travel History Continued

* Have you ever studied at a post-secondary school (university, college or vocational school)? You don't need to

Travel history (continued)

1100	ermotory (continued)
The second secon	ou ever stayed in Canada beyond the validity of your status, attended school in Canada without exation, or worked without authorization in Canada? (required)
○ Yes	○ No
THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY.	u ever been refused a visa or permit, denied entry to, or ordered to leave any country or territory?
(require	ed)
Yes	○ No

You will answer the below questions, then click "Save and Continue".

20. Criminality and Security

You will answer the below questions, then click "Save and Continue".

IMPORTANT: Please note you must answer the questions truthfully. If you fail to answer the questions truthfully, you may NOT be able to travel to Canada for five years.

* Have you ever committed any crime in any country or territory (this includes driving und alcohol or drugs)? (required)	er the influence of
○ Yes ○ No	
* Have you ever been arrested for any criminal offence in any country or territory (this incl influence of alcohol or drugs)? (required)	udes driving under the
○ Yes ○ No	
* Have you ever been charged for any criminal offence in any country or territory (this inclining influence of alcohol or drugs)? (required)	udes driving under the
○ Yes ○ No	
 Have you ever been convicted for any criminal offence in any country or territory (this incinfluence of alcohol or drugs)? (required) 	cludes driving under the
○ Yes ○ No	

21. (

You will answer the below questions, then click "Save and Continue".

IMPORTANT: Please note you must answer the questions truthfully. If you fail to answer the questions truthfully you may NOT be able to travel to Canada for five years.

Criminality and security questions

u or have you ever been a member or associated with any political party, or other group or organization has engaged in or advanced violence as a means to achieving a political or religious objective, or which h ssociated with criminal activity at any time?(<mark>required)</mark>
○ No
ou ever witnessed or participated in the ill treatment of prisoners or civilians, looting or desecration of us buildings? (required) No
5

22. Medical Background Questions (3 pages)

You will answer the questions on your medical background, then click "Save and Continue".

23. Family Status

You will answer the questions regarding your marital status, then click "Save and Continue".

24. Children

You will answer the questions regarding if you have children (biological, adopted, or stepchildren), then click "Save and Continue".

*If the answer is "No", you need to click on the below box.



25. Family Information

You will answer the questions regarding your parents, then click "Save and Continue".

26. Language of the Applicant

You will answer the questions regarding your native language and confirm if you can communicate in English or French, then click "Save and Continue".



27. Email Address of Applicant

You will provide the email address that you want the Government of Canada to contact you regarding the Visitor Visa application, then click "Save and Continue".

NOTE: This email can be different from the email address you use to create the IRCC Portal.

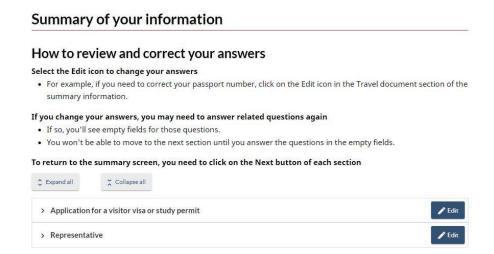


28. Telephone Number of Applicant

You will provide the telephone number that you want the Government of Canada to contact you regarding the Visitor Visa application, then click "Save and Continue".

29. Summary of your Information for the Visitor Visa Application

Once you have completed the above information, you can review your submitted answers to ensure the answers are both complete and accurate before you submit your Visitor Visa application online. You should keep a copy of the summary of your information for your records.



30. Upload Supporting Documents for the Visitor Visa Application

Supporting documents



Optional documents



The below diagram tells you what documents you need to attach to your Visitor Visa application. If the documents are not in English or French, then it must be translated by a certified translator in Ukraine. Some of the documents include (not an exhaustive list):

- a) A copy of your national identity document.
- b) A copy of your passport photo page and all marked pages.
- c) Proof of funds (e.g. copy of bank statements and letter of support from family/friends in Canada, if applicable).
- d) A letter to request for exemption from the biometrics requirement due to the Visa Application Centres in Ukraine are currently closed to the war between Russia and Ukraine, if applicable.
- e) A copy of your photo per the below specifications

Photograph and head size specifications



- The frame size must be at least 35 mm x 45 mm (1 3/8" x 1 3/4").
- The photographs must show the full front view of the head, with the face in the middle of the photograph, and include the top of the shoulders.
- The size of the head, from chin to crown, must be between 31 mm (1 1/4") and 36 mm (1 7/16").
- Crown means the top of the head or (if obscured by hair or a head covering) where the top of the head or skull would be if it could be seen.
- If the photographs do not meet the specifications, you will have to provide new photographs before your application can be processed.

31. Consent and Declaration

You need to carefully read the consent and declaration section as you are declaring you have answered all questions in the Visitor Record application fully and truthfully. If you have not answered all questions in the Visitor Record application fully and truthfully, then you may not be allowed to travel to Canada for 5 years.

Consent and declaration

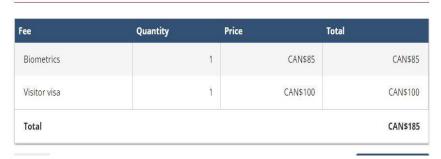
Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), or an organization at CIC's request, may want to contact you in the future to ask you about any services you received from CIC prior to the application process (such as participation in an information forum), during the application process (including the application process itself as well as orientation or accreditation services), and services received after arriving in Canada (including settlement, integration and citizenship). CIC will use this information, along with the information provided by other individuals, for research, performance measurement or evaluation purposes. CIC will not use this information to make any decisions about you personally.

* Do you consent to be contacted	by CIC, or an organization at CIC's request, in the future? (required)
records and information for the pu judicial and state authorities in all of	hip and Immigration Canada (CIC) and Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) of all irpose of processing my request that any government authority, including police, countries in which I have lived may possess about me. This information will be used to not canada or to remain in Canada pursuant to Canadian legislation.
I declare that I have answered all o	uestions in this application fully and truthfully.
Signature of Applicant or Parent/Le	egal Guardian's for a person under 18 years of age.
* Surname/last name(required)	
	9
Given name/first name (optiona	1)
	···

32. Payment of Fees

You will need to enter your credit card information to make payment of the fees. The fees depend on how many people are included in the application.

Fees



4) WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU HAVE SUBMITTED YOUR VISITOR VISA APPLICATION

In order to request for urgent processing of your Visitor Visa application, you need to submit an IRCC webform. Below are the instructions.

- a) Website for IRCC Webform: https://secure.cic.gc.ca/ClientContact/en/Crisis
- b) How to fill the IRCC Webform:



Crisis situation: Contact us urgently

If you've been affected by a crisis situation, choose an option below and complete the form with as much detail as you can provide.

• This page is for certain crisis situations only. If you are not affected by a crisis situation, we will not respond to or process your request.



If you're not affect by a crisis situation

Use our general web form for all other situations, including

- · checking the status of your application
- asking general questions about a program or service
- giving new information about your application
- · changing your contact information
- reporting a technical problem

Under "What do you need to do?", please select "Request Priority Processing of my existing application", then click "Continue to Form".

You will need to complete the IRCC webform, including your Application number. After you have submitted your Visitor Visa application you will be provided with your Application Number.

Last name(s) (also known as fan	nily name, surname) <mark>(required)</mark>	
Email address (required)		
Use this format: xxxxxx@example.	com	
Confirm your email address (rec Type your email address again. Yo	5.) Disconnection of the contract of the contr	
Date of birth		_
Year (required)	* Month (required)	* Day (rec
Please select an option	Please select an option 🗸	Please
☐ By checking this box, I confirm t What did you apply for?	that I don't know my application numb	per.
Temporary Residence	~	
Specifically, what application did	d you submit?	
Temporary Resident Visa	~	
I have applied for a visitor visa an am a citizen of Ukraine and I am current war between Russia and	nd my application number is (). currently located in Ukraine. Due to the Ukraine, I would like to request for	I ne
to be in Ukraine.	isa application as it is currently not sa	i e
	710 E	

Under the "tell us about your situation" section you can consider including the following information if it is accurate.

■ I have applied for a visitor visa and my application number is (INSERT APPLICATION NUMBER). I am a citizen of Ukraine and I am currently located

in Ukraine. Due to the current war between Russia and Ukraine, I would like to request for urgent processing of my visitor visa application as it is currently not safe to be in Ukraine. "Ukraine2022"

Additional Resources and Information

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2022/02/additionalimmigration-support-for-those-affected-by-the-situation-in-ukraine.html

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2022/03/canada-to-welcomethose-fleeing-the-war-in-ukraine.html

Government of Canada Telephone Number

00-1 - (613) 321-4243 – Canada will accept charges for collect calls.

Appendix "A"

Below is a request for exemption from the biometric requirement that can be used

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Dear Immigration Officer,

Re: Visitor Visa Application – Request for Exemption from Biometric Requirement

I am applying for a Visitor Visa and I am currently located in Ukraine. There is currently a war between Russia and Ukraine. As such, the Visa Application Centres in Ukraine are all closed.

Below is a screenshot from the IRCC website dated March 2, 2022 that confirms the two Visa Application Centres in Ukraine are closed. Further, the Visa Application Centre in Poland is not open to the public. Accordingly, it is not possible to complete the biometric requirement for the Visitor Visa application

Given this, I respectfully request for exemption from the biometric requirement and to complete the biometric requirement upon my arrival in Canada.



Thank you for your consideration of the above request.

Best regards,