

HOMESTAY POLICY

The following information is provided to clarify the policies of the Niagara College International Homestay program.

Welcome to Niagara College's Homestay program. This program is designed to assist International Students during their educational experience in Canada. Living with a Homestay family will allow students to gain practice with the English language as well as learn Canadian culture through experience.

Cost of Homestay

On-arrival – 1 st and last months' due	\$1,700	Minimum 2 months stay; no refunds. Due on arrival, no later than within 3 days of arriving.
Monthly fee on 1 st of each month	\$ 850	Provide 30 days' notice from the 1 st of the month before leaving. This must be done using our 30 days exit online form. No refund of last month's fee.
Additional days spent in home	\$30/day	Applies to both arrival and departure.

- Homestay fees are to be paid on arrival in cash or after opening a Canadian bank account. Students are responsible for notifying and working with the Homestay family in advance if payment may be delayed.
- The Homestay fee includes: a private furnished bedroom, with storage for your belongings and unlimited internet.
- Your meals are included in your Homestay fee. You can expect to have 3 meals each day. You should plan to prepare your own breakfast and lunch as is common in Canada. If there are special foods, snacks or drinks you like, plan to purchase them yourself.
- The full monthly fee is due for each month including those when a student takes a vacation, chooses to be away from the Homestay or chooses to depart before the full month finishes.

You must give your Homestay family 30 days' notice from the 1st of the month before leaving your homestay. For example, to leave on Dec. 20th, inform your Homestay on Nov. 1st. This must be done by submitting the online 30 Days' Notice Exit form that can be found using the following link: [Click Here](#)

- If you and your host family agree to make a change to the Homestay Policy, you must consult with an International Housing Advisor for authorization.
- We recommend that moving to and from Homestay housing only take place between terms.
- Any concerns about your Homestay experience should be discussed with the International Housing Advisor immediately to consider problem solving options.

Niagara College – Welland Campus

100 Niagara College Blvd. Welland, Ontario L3C 7L3
Tel: 905-735-2211 ext.7763 **Email:** housing@niagaracollege.ca

Niagara College – Daniel J. Patterson Campus

135 Taylor Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario LOS 1J0
Tel: 905-735-2211 ext.7149 **Email:** housing@niagaracollege.ca

Pre-arrival Homestay Cancellation Policy

Cancellation must be received by email at housing@niagaracollege.ca. Pay cancellation fees directly to the host family in Canadian currency, no later than 3 days past the Expected Date of Arrival.

<u>Cancelation Period</u>	<u>Cancelation Fee</u>
14 days or more before arrival	no charge
Less than 14 days before arrival	\$450 to host
On expected date of arrival or after	\$850 to host

- If notice of cancellation is not received, or the cancellation fee is not paid in a timely manner, the fee will be assessed to your student account based on the above. The cancellation fee will be considered when assessing refunds to the student's account.

Changing Homestay Families

There are procedures in place to assist with difficult situations. Although we do not encourage changes and only a very small number of students require a change in Homestay, the following guidelines apply:

- If you have concerns about your Homestay or have considered moving, you must first fill out Niagara College's **online Housing Issue Form** and arrange a meeting with the International Student Housing and Settlement Advisor to discuss problem solving.
**Please contact housing@niagaracollege.ca for the online Housing Issue Form.*
- Although there is no charge for the first Homestay placement, Homestay changes after your first placement will require a \$100 fee.
- In order to give your family 30 days' notice from the 1st of the month, you must fill out our online 30 Days' Exit Notice form using the following link: [Click Here](#)
- **30 days' notice must be provided one month before the 1st of the month when you plan to leave**—your last month fee will apply to the last month you are with your homestay. **There is no refund of the last month's fee.**
- If it is deemed there is a health or safety issue, the student will be moved without delay or penalty.

In order to ensure that the program runs efficiently and effectively, each family is visited and interviewed by the International Housing Advisor. An International Housing Advisor is available at each campus to assist you with any questions or concerns regarding your housing needs. They can also be reached by email at housing@niagaracollege.ca or by phone at +1 905-735-2211 x7039.

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