
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

POLICY NUMBER	ED 12-0
APPROVAL DATE	APRIL 6, 2009
LAST AMENDMENT	APRIL 23, 1997
REVIEW DATE	APRIL, 2013
AUTHORITY	SENATE
PRIMARY CONTACT	INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

POLICY

Thompson Rivers University (TRU) accepts its responsibility as a part of the British Columbia post-secondary system to provide an International Education program which will enhance academic, cultural and economic links with the world community.

International Education activities will normally fall within one of the following general areas:

1. International students, instructors and administrators coming to TRU for regular and specifically designed programs.
2. TRU initiating and/or participating in international education projects in other countries. These can be of a developmental nature, and financed by external agencies or can be in the form of private or public sector joint ventures of a contractual nature.
3. Participating with Canadian and international funding agencies which provide support and funding for international development.
4. Opportunities for TRU students to study and travel in other countries.

No limits will be placed on international student enrollment unless seats would be denied to Canadian students as a consequence of their admission.

REGULATIONS

I. FUNDING

1. International Education activities will be operated on a cost-recovery basis.
2. Tuition fees for foreign students are set out in Schedule of Tuition Fees.

II. ADMISSIONS

1. The academic qualifications for admission of foreign students to TRU shall be determined by the Vice-President, Student Affairs, in consultation with the Executive Director of International Education.
2. Foreign students shall conform to TRU's Admissions standards, including Age and Citizenship requirements, as outlined in the TRU Policies ED 1-0 and ED 1-1.
3. English Language Competency Test
Upon or before arrival on campus, all foreign students shall write an English Language Competency Test, unless they have otherwise demonstrated to the Chairperson of the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program, satisfactory competence in English. From the results of this test, the Chairperson of the ESL Program will determine the specific ESL course requirements for a student.
4. ESL Credit
The ESL program shall be a credit program subject to the normal policies and regulations affecting credit offerings.
5. Foreign Students with Canadian Secondary School English Qualifications
Foreign students attending TRU who have completed Canadian Grade 12 English at a level which allows direct entry into the English course required in their program shall not be required to write the English Language Competency Test.

III. IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

TRU is obliged to conform to Canadian immigration law and policy, and will provide all necessary documentation to students who have been admitted and wish to obtain a student authorization for study in Canada. Close liaison will be maintained with the Canadian Immigration Service, and, if any foreign student is required for any reason to withdraw from TRU, Immigration Services shall be so informed as required.

IV. HEALTH INSURANCE

1. Independently enrolled international students shall, upon arrival on campus, register for the Medical Services Plan of the Province of British Columbia, the coverage from which commences ninety days after such registration. For the intervening ninety days, students shall purchase comprehensive medical and accident insurance on a plan designed for this purpose. Students will be required to show evidence of insurance coverage prior to registration.
2. Students attending the institution who are not independently enrolled (e.g. contract trainees, short-term groups, etc.) will be insured under various special plans arranged either by TRU or by arrangements in the home country.

V. LEGAL GUARDIAN

TRU shall not agree to act as legal guardian for any foreign student. TRU staff members who, as a result of a personal decision, may decide to become the legal guardian of any person or persons studying in British Columbia as an foreign student, shall do so as private citizens and in no way as representatives of TRU. Provided that the Associate Vice-President of TRU World, the Director of TRU World, Associate Directors and Managers of TRU World or others designated by those individuals may agree to act as custodian for foreign minors when this is required by Canadian immigration authorities as a condition for the foreign minor to study at TRU.

VI. CO-OPERATION

TRU recognizes the benefits to be gained from co-operative activities with other provincial institutions and, thus, is not opposed to participation in co-operative ventures if they are seen to be advantageous.