Estimating University Costs for International Students

At Concordia University of Edmonton (CUE) students must pay their tuition and fees by a deadline set in section 2.0 of the Academic Calendar. Outside of tuition, fees, and health insurance, international students are also required to pay for their living expenses and textbooks. Each student is responsible for ensuring they can afford their living expenses for the full duration of their studies.

International students who need to apply for a study permit to Canada must prove they meet the minimum financial requirements as part of their immigration application to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), for more information please visit: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/get-documents/financial-support.html.

The information provided below is a general guideline of estimated living costs. Actual costs may vary due to a variety of factors such as choice of housing, personal preferences, etc. Students will need to make their own calculations to determine specific costs based on their needs and are recommended to contact service companies, landlords and view applicable websites for precise costs.

When you are planning your budget as an international student in Canada there are some important expenses to consider:

- Housing
- Utilities (water, heat, electricity)
- Internet & Mobile Phone
- Food
- Clothing
- Transportation
- Textbooks
- Miscellaneous

Sample Cost of Living Estimates

Note: estimates are only a guideline. Living costs vary based on the type of housing (e.g. sharing with roommates or living alone) and your lifestyle. All amounts are in Canadian dollars (CAD), and they exclude tuition costs and student fees.

Item	Single Adult Monthly fee (unless indicated)	Two Adults (one child) Monthly fee (unless indicated)
Housing (off-campus)	$1,015 - $1,245 (one bedroom)	$1,448 - $2,272
Housing (on-campus) *	Private Room (Single) + Administrative fees + Meal Plan: $6155/semester Shared Room (Double) + Administrative fees + Meal Plan: $5055/semester	NA
Utilities (water, heat, electricity)	$200 - $400	$240 - $450
Internet & Mobile phone	$100 - $200	$150 - $250
Food	$300 - $400	$600 - $750
Clothing	$100	$300
Transportation (UPASS) (must be an eligible registered student)	$180/semester	$180/semester
Miscellaneous (recreation, holiday, etc.)	$50 - $100	$100 - $200
Estimate cost of Living Total (excluding tuition and on-campus housing)	$1810 - $2490	$2883 - $4267

*Please refer to the section on Student Residence below for more information.

Textbooks (per semester)

Textbooks	$150 - $700

Note: These figures are estimates only. Costs may change due to inflation or other factors.

Student Residence

Students who would like to live on campus must a residence application. Concordia University of Edmonton does not accept international students under the age of 17 in its Residence Program.

More information may be viewed here: https://concordia.ab.ca/student-services/housing-services/student-residence/, residence fees; https://concordia.ab.ca/student-services/housing-services/student-residence/residence-fees/.

Note: The declining balance meal plan is mandatory for students living in undergraduate residence halls.

Taxes in Alberta

All purchases in the province of Alberta are charged a 5% GST so the price you pay will be slightly higher than the printed price in most cases. Alberta is the only province in Canada without a provincial sales tax. It is a good idea to go to the websites of grocery stores and restaurants/fast food chains to get an idea of how much things cost in Canada.

Other Resources

- **Study in Canada–prepare your budget:** https://www.educanada.ca/live-work-vivre-travailler/prepare-budget-preparer.aspx?lang=eng
- **Study in Canada:** https://studying-in-canada.org/cost-of-studying-in-canada-for-international-students/
- **Cost of living in Edmonton:** https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Edmonton.