Welcome to Canada

Canada is a vast country comprised of ten provinces including Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Saskatchewan. There are also three territories in Canada which include Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_Canada

Weather

The climate and temperatures in Canada vary considerably depending on the season and where you are located. There are four different seasons: spring, summer, autumn (fall) and winter.

Spring: April to June
Summer: June to September
Autumn (fall): September to December
Winter: December to March

The temperature during the winter months can be very cold with temperatures below zero degrees Celsius and sometimes reaching -30 degrees Celsius and below. Some cities located in southern British Columbia have milder weather therefore there is more rain than snow.

It is very important that you have warm clothes for the winter season including warm coats, boots, hats, mittens, etc.

The Atlas of Canada (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca) provides information on Canada's geography and climate. The weather forecast for every city and town in Canada is also available at: http://weather.gc.ca/mainmenu/weather_menu_e.html.

Additional Weather Links:

Environment Canada: http://weather.gc.ca/canada_e.html
Météo Média: http://www.meteomedia.com/maps/current-weather/canada
Cost of Living

The cost of living in Canada can vary considerably from Brazil in certain areas.

Date: December 3, 2014

For a comparison of the cost of living between a Canadian city and a Brazilian city, you can visit the following website: Cost of Living Comparison between Canada and Brazil. http://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/compare_countries_result.jsp?country1=Canada&country2=Brazil

Although you will receive a stipend from CAPES during your studies in Canada, it may not be sufficient to fulfill all your needs. It is recommended that you have additional funds to cover some of your expenses (food, clothing, transportation, personal hygiene products, etc.) and any emergencies that may occur during your stay in Canada.

A Currency Converter is available at the following website to assist you with your budget planning: http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter

Example of expenses not included with the tuition fees

- Work permit
- Clothes and equipment that may be necessary (e.g. safety toe boots, safety glasses, etc.)
- Books
- Bus passes (varies depending on the college)

Colleges and Institutes

According to the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada, there are approximately 150 public institutions (colleges, institutes, cégeps, polytechnics) offering credentials that are sanctioned by provincial and territorial governments.

Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) is the voluntary membership-based organization representing publicly funded colleges and institutes across the country. For additional information on member institutions, visit the CICan website at: http://www.collegesinstitutes.ca.

Many of CICan's member colleges are participating in the Science Without Borders program.

The College System

Most college programs are structured by semesters (fall, winter and spring). Many institutions offer academic courses only during the fall and winter semesters. For this reason, many students complete their internship or work placement during the spring semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>August/September to December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>January to April/May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>May to August</td>
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The Science Without Borders (SWB) Program

The SWB program as proposed by CAPES for cohort 204/2014 will consist of three different components:

1) Language training – English or French (2 months)
2) Academics (8 months)
3) Internship (4 months)

The maximum length of time you can stay in Canada for the SWB program is 14 months.

Passport

Upon arrival to Canada, you will be required to show a valid passport.

It is important to ensure that you have a valid passport before applying for your study and work permits. It is also your responsibility to ensure that your passport remains valid throughout the duration of your stay in Canada. For additional information on passports, consult the Policia Federal in Brazil.

Study and Work Permits for SWB Students

Because you will be completing studies and an internship as part of SWB program, you will need both a Study and a Work Permit.

For information specific to participants in the SWB program, consult the Studying in Canada section of the Citizen and Immigration Canada (CIC) website at: http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/brazil-bresil/visas/study-etu. (link is broken)

An acceptance letter from the host institution (college) in Canada is required to obtain your Study and Work Permits.

Your acceptance letter will be prepared by the host college and sent to you by CICan. It will be accompanied by supporting letters from CICan to assist you with your visa application.

We strongly recommend you apply for your Study and Work Permits as soon as you receive your acceptance and supporting letters in order to avoid any delays.

You can apply for your Study and Work Permits at a Visa Application Centre (VAC) located in Brazil. The centres are located in Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. For more information, click on the following link: VAC in Brazil or visit: http://www.vfsglobal.ca/canada/Brazil/english/index.html .


Studying in the Province of Quebec

If you will be studying in the province of Quebec, you will also need a Quebec Acceptance Certificate (CAQ).

In order to avoid delays, we strongly recommend that you apply for the CAQ as soon as you know at which college you will be studying.
For additional information on the CAQ, visit the Immigration Quebec website under the ‘Foreign Student’ section at: http://www.immigration-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/immigrate-settle/students/index.html.

To apply online, visit the Immigration, Diversité et Inclusion Québec website under the section: ‘Online Application for a Québec Acceptance Certificate (CAQ) for studies’ at: http://www.immigration-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/electronic-services/caq-electronic/index.html

Medical Examination

According to the Government of Canada website, participants who come to Canada to study for more than 6 months have to undergo a medical examination.

For information on the medical examination requirements and a complete list of doctors, consult the ‘Medical Exam requirements for temporary residents (visitors, students, workers)’ section of the site at: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/medical/medexams-temp.asp.

Working while Studying in Canada

The rules concerning the eligibility of international students to work while studying in Canada have changed since June 1, 2014, therefore we recommend you visit the following websites to ensure you have the most up to date information.

Work on campus:
http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/my_application/apply_online.asp

Work off campus:
http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/work-off-campus.asp

If you are eligible to work in Canada, you will require a social insurance number (S.I.N) BEFORE you start working. For additional information on how to obtain a S.I.N., visit the Service Canada website at: http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/sin/employers/contract.shtml.

Health Insurance while Studying in Canada

As a participant to the SWB program, you will be provided emergency health insurance coverage by your host institution for the duration of your studies in Canada.

Note that the emergency health insurance covers medical, dental, vision and prescription drugs should emergency situations occur while studying at the college. Your coverage may vary based on the province and the institution you are attending.

Your host college will provide additional information on emergency health insurance and other coverage (if applicable) once you are officially accepted and have confirmed your program.
Accommodations

Information concerning accommodations, residence or the homestay program will be provided to students by host colleges after they have been accepted and they have confirmed their program.

Application Process at CICan for the SWB Program

1) Completion of Application Form.

The Application Forms will be sent to students by email from CICan.

The period to apply at CICan for the SWB program further to acceptance by CAPES is between December 15, 2014 and January 20, 2015.

2) Submission of Application Form with supporting documents to CICan.

The deadline to submit your Application Form with all supporting documents for cohort 204/2014 is January 20, 2015.

The supporting documents that must accompany your Application Form in order to be processed are:

- a) Proof of citizenship: Copy of your valid passport.
- b) Original copy of academic transcripts from the institution you are presently attending in Brazil.
- c) Translation of academics transcripts into English or French.
- d) Brief description of the program you are currently studying in Brazil along with course descriptions translated into English or French.
- e) Proof of completion and results of language proficiency test (Example: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, DALF, DELF, etc.)
- f) Signed copy of the Release of Personal Information Consent Form that was sent with the Application Form.

3) Receipt of Offer of Admission and supporting letters from CICan.

Offers of Admissions and supporting letters will be sent to students between the following period: March 1, 2015 to April 27, 2015.

4) Confirmation of Offer of Admission.

Students will have 7 days after they receive their Offer of Admission to confirm their acceptance.
5) Application for Quebec Acceptance Certificate (CAQ) - ONLY for students studying in the province of Quebec.

In order to avoid delays, students who are studying in the province of Quebec are strongly encouraged to apply for the CAQ as soon as they have confirmed their program. It is recommended that students apply for the CAQ even if they don’t have their Work and Study Permits.

6) Application for Study and Work Permits

Students are recommended to apply for their Study and Work Permits as soon as they confirm their program.

Contacts at CICan

For additional information on the SWB program, contact:

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