



**Rosewood  
College**

# Housing and Homestay Policy for International Students

Rosewood College is committed to providing a supportive and welcoming environment for our international students. Our housing and homestay policy ensures that students have safe and comfortable accommodation options during their studies

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**Questions Contact Us!**

Our co-coordinators are easy to reach,  
[rosewood.mail@rosewoodcollege.ca](mailto:rosewood.mail@rosewoodcollege.ca) 403-798-7447

**Head Office:**

**Unit 280, 3670 63 Avenue NE, Calgary AB T3J 0S4**

**In the event of a medical emergency, first call 911.** Afterward, or in the event of any other kind of emergency, please telephone our local office number with your name and a number where we can reach you (with the area code, please), and we will return your call shortly.

**We're glad you're staying with us!**

## Accommodation Options

Every host is different—just like every student.

What unites our hosts is their dedication to offering a secure and nurturing atmosphere for you. We carefully select hosts who we believe will extend the same level of care and attention they would expect for their own family, ensuring a welcoming, healthy, and supportive environment conducive to cultural appreciation, learning, and personal advancement.

### Homestay Program

Our Homestay program connects international students with local host families. Living with a Canadian family provides a unique cultural experience and helps students integrate into the community. Host families are carefully selected and undergo background checks to ensure a safe and supportive environment.

Homestay fees cover accommodation, meals, and utilities.

Students who maximize their homestay experience understand that their homestay fees are not payment for the hospitality of their host family but rather a gesture of goodwill. Homestay, unlike a hotel or hostel, costs significantly less and is meticulously arranged by CHI to match the preferences and needs of both students and hosts, including proximity to the school, dietary requirements, household dynamics, interests, and allergies.

### Shared Rental Homes

Shared rental homes for international students offer a living arrangement where multiple students reside together in a single rented property. Each student typically has their own bedroom while sharing common areas such as the kitchen, living room, and bathroom with their housemates.

This option provides an opportunity for students to split the cost of rent and utilities, making it more affordable than living alone or in a traditional dormitory setting. Shared rental homes also foster a sense of community and cultural exchange among housemates, as students from different backgrounds come together to share experiences and support each other during their studies. Additionally, living in a shared rental home allows students to develop important life skills such as communication, cooperation, and conflict resolution while enjoying the independence and freedom of living off-campus.

## Homestay Fees

<b>Pick-up from Airport &amp; City Tour</b>	300.00 CAD
<b>Homestay Placement Fee</b>	200.00 CAD
<b>Homestay with Board</b> (bills like water, gas, electricity, Internet and Groceries for a month)	1050.00 CAD/month
<b>Homestay without Board</b>	750.00 CAD/month

## Homestay Refund

**Cancellation Notice:** Full refunds will be provided if cancellation is made at least 30 days prior to the scheduled arrival date. Cancellations made within 30 days of the arrival date may result in partial refund (50%), subject to evaluation.

**Compliance with Agreement:** Refunds are contingent upon the international student adhering to the terms and conditions outlined in the homestay agreement, including respecting house rules, maintaining cleanliness, and fulfilling payment obligations.

**Shortened Stays:** In the event of an early departure or shortened stay, refunds will be prorated based on the remaining duration of the homestay period, minus any applicable administrative fees.

**Dismissal or Violation:** No refunds will be issued if the international student is dismissed from the homestay due to violation of house rules, misconduct, or failure to abide by the terms of the agreement.

Note. Your host is not required to drive you back to the airport upon your departure. Please contact Rosewood college if you would like to arrange a car to take you back to the airport.

## **A Tour of Your House**

Upon your arrival, kindly request a house tour from your host to familiarize yourself with the layout and amenities. Ensure that your host shows you to your designated bedroom and bathroom, as well as the kitchen and dining area, laundry facilities, linen storage, and any other relevant areas. It's essential to clarify any instructions regarding the use of these spaces to ensure a comfortable stay

- The bathroom, including the bath/shower, toilet and sink;
- Appliances and entertainments, like the TV, microwave;
- The fire extinguisher, as well as what to do in the event of a fire (for example, suitable exits and emergency phone numbers).
- See below for a discussion of the laundry facilities, telephone and the computer/internet.

After acquainting yourself with the house layout, feel free to settle in and make yourself comfortable. However, it's crucial to honor everyone's privacy and need for tranquility. Prior to entering someone else's room, always knock and announce yourself, and demonstrate thoughtfulness when utilizing shared spaces. Additionally, take the opportunity to meet each member of your host family, and make an effort to remember their names for future interactions.

## **Household Rules and Customs**

Your host family will have individual routines and preferences regarding daily household activities. This encompasses guidelines on bathing and showering, which may differ from practices in your home country, as well as rules regarding dining areas, laundry procedures, curfews, smoking policies, usage limits for household electronics, family schedules, bedtime routines, guest visitation permissions, and similar considerations. There may be areas of the house your host will ask to keep "off limits". Your family may even ask that you limit your use of perfumed toiletries while in the home. Please be sensitive about upholding all of these customs.

All rules and guidelines that apply to members of the host family also extend to you, fostering a sense of equality and shared responsibility within the household. At the outset of your stay, your host family will convene a family meeting to discuss and establish house rules. For students under the age of majority (18 years old in Ontario and Quebec; 19 in British Columbia), additional regulations apply, including:

abstaining from smoking (and purchasing cigarettes), drinking, and driving. It is imperative that you comprehend and adhere to all household rules, and should you encounter any challenges, please reach out to us for support.

## Household Chores

Your host parents will embrace you as part of their family, fostering an informal atmosphere unlike that of a mere "guest." As a household member, you'll share in chores, including maintaining the cleanliness of your room and common areas, assisting with meal preparation, dishwashing, and handling your laundry. In many instances, you may also assume the role of an older sibling to the host family's children, setting a positive example of behavior. While this provides valuable opportunities for personal development and bonding with younger family members, it's important to note that your host family is not expected to request babysitting duties from you.

## Laundry

At the outset of your stay, kindly consult your host to establish a laundry routine. Your host may request that you manage your own laundry. Please ensure that you wait until you have a full load before washing and avoid washing small amounts of laundry frequently.

## Bedrooms

Your bedroom will be equipped with a window and a nearby smoke detector for safety measures, along with a bed and bedding, a dresser, desk, chair, and study lamp. Additionally, you'll have access to a closet and ensured provisions of adequate heating, lighting, and ventilation. Please request your host's assistance in familiarizing yourself with the bed and bedding if they appear different from what you're accustomed to, and inquire about the availability of extra blankets if necessary.

## Bathrooms

Please endeavor to maintain cleanliness and dryness in the bathroom after use. Your host will discuss their expectations regarding bathroom usage, including preferred timings and durations, especially since most students will share the bathroom with family members or other students. While it's unnecessary to wait for your host parents to finish showering before using the bathroom, please inquire about customary usage durations. Each Canadian home features a 'hot water tank' with a limited supply, which may take a couple of hours to reheat once depleted. As hot water may become scarce, particularly in the mornings with multiple household members, please be mindful of its usage.

## Meals

Food preferences vary among individuals, and part of the enjoyment of homestay is discovering Canadian culinary tastes while sharing your own preferences with your host family. Effective communication and active participation enhance this aspect of the homestay experience.

Inform your hosts about your food preferences and consider assisting with meal preparation. You might even prepare a traditional dish from your home country for your host family, providing a taste of familiarity and comfort, especially if you're feeling homesick. While your host family will always ensure meals are available, they may not always be served to you directly, as they may have different mealtime customs. Hence, upon arrival, please inquire about food storage locations and basic meal preparation instructions for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

## Eligibility

- All international students must obtain a valid Student Visa from the Government of Canada.
- Students must be a minimum of 18 years old before applying for the program.
- International students must meet the admission criteria for their chosen program at Rosewood College.

## Application Process

- Upon acceptance into Rosewood College, international students can express their interest in the Homestay Program during enrollment.
- Our dedicated team will carefully match students with suitable host families based on compatibility, preferences, and special requirements.
- Before moving in, students and host families will attend an orientation session to understand program guidelines, expectations, and cultural norms.
- Students and host families will sign a formal Contract, outlining responsibilities, expectations, and terms of the homestay arrangement.

## Final Thoughts

Many challenges experienced by our students in homestay stem from inadequate communication. It's understandable that during your initial weeks in Canada, expressing your needs and emotions to your hosts, and vice versa, may be challenging. This is a normal part of the adjustment process.

Occasionally, communication difficulties may lead to misunderstandings or perceptions of rudeness or insensitivity from either party, causing frustration and unhappiness. However, please know that assistance is available.

You are not alone in this journey. We've supported many individuals like you in overcoming the initial challenges of settling into a new environment, and we're here to help you navigate through this transitional period.

As you adjust, remember a few key points: We understand that voicing concerns can be difficult. Many aspects of your homestay may initially feel unfamiliar, and you may hesitate to express dissatisfaction to avoid appearing ungrateful. However, it's crucial to seek assistance when needed and avoid dismissing issues by claiming everything is "fine." Instead, strive to communicate your needs and feelings clearly and respectfully.

Whether it's regarding laundry or meal preferences, don't hesitate to ask specific questions. While it's perfectly acceptable to desire some personal time, engaging with your host family and staying active can aid in acclimatizing to your new environment.

Your hosts have welcomed you into their home because they're interested in learning about you, so take the opportunity to share your experiences and engage in conversation, which can also help alleviate feelings of overwhelm or homesickness.