

INTERNATIONAL  
**STUDENT**  
HANDBOOK

**ADMISSIONS**





**WELCOME TO**

# PRAIRIE COLLEGE

We are pleased to accept applications from learners all over the world. As an Admissions team we are delighted to offer you personal service throughout the Admissions process.

Prairie has helped over 17,000 students learn more about their faith and prepare for life, ministry and careers around the world. We're excited that you are interested in taking your next educational journey with us!



### Who We Are

Prairie College is a private, interdenominational Christian college in Three Hills, Alberta, Canada. With a commitment to academic excellence, career clarity, and Bible-based spiritual discipleship, combined with a genuine and welcoming community, the school offers a formative, life-changing experience.

### How to Use This Handbook

Applying for post-secondary in a different country can be a daunting task! We want to help you through this process. In this handbook, you will find everything you need to guide you along your way.

Still have questions? We are here to help! Reach out to your Admissions Counsellor and they will gladly assist you! You can also reach the Admissions Team at [admissions@prairie.edu](mailto:admissions@prairie.edu).





# APPLICATION

# CHECKLIST

Use the following checklist to ensure you have everything you need in order to complete your application. Use the page numbers to find more information within the handbook.

1. Pick Your Program (p.3)
2. Pay Your Application Fee (p.5)
3. Find a Reference (p.5)
4. Write Your Testimony (p.5)
5. Submit Your Online Application (p.5)

The following documents can be submitted after you submit your online application.

6. Submit Official Transcripts (p.6)
7. Submit Proof of English Language Proficiency (p.7)
8. Submit Additional Documents (p.7)





**PICK YOUR**

**PROGRAM**

### Choose a program

Prairie College offers a variety of 1, 2 and 4 year programs. If you are unsure what program you would like to apply for, take time to browse our [program list](#) to see what programs might interest you.



### Consider if you want a Post Grad Work Permit

A Post Graduate Work Permit (PGWP) allows you to temporarily stay in Canada to work after you graduate from your program. The programs that are eligible for a PGWP can differ from school to school. If you are interested in a PGWP, please refer to the [Government of Canada website](#) for details on which of our programs qualify and to see what other criteria you need to meet to be eligible.



### Know your program costs

It is important to be aware of your program costs to see if you can afford the program. The average program can cost between \$20,000 - \$30,000 CAD per year. Visit to our [Finance Page](#) and click "Full Fee Schedule" for a breakdown of the various costs and an overview of the first year of each program.

If you are interested in our Aviation program, we have a separate Aviation Cost Summary for a cost breakdown of the entire program. Go to our [Aviation page](#) and click "Tuition and Fees."





*"What I would say to a new international student coming to the prairie community, would just be to be prepared for lots of love, and such a welcoming community. Everybody here is super kind and it's been so great being here and chasing the love of God through everybody around me."*

- Amenla from Thailand





# APPLY FOR

# ADMISSION



*The Town of Three Hills*

### Start an Online Application

Once you have chosen your program of study, you are ready to apply! International students can begin their application by going to [www.prairie.edu](http://www.prairie.edu) and clicking "Apply Now" in the top yellow banner.

The form will ask for your personal contact information. After submitting your information, you will be sent an email with the next steps. Applicants must pay a \$100CAD application fee through Flywire. Once that is paid, you will receive a link with the remainder of the online application.

### Find a Reference

You will need a reference as part of your application. Please have a Christian friend over the age of 21 fill in the online reference form. You will need to enter the email address of your reference in the online application and the reference form will be sent to them. Students applying for the Next Generation or Pastoral programs are required to submit two references.

### Write Your Testimony

In your testimony, we want to hear how you became a Christian, how God is presently working in your life, and why you want to attend the program you have chosen. Please write this in the online application in 300-500 words using proper grammar.

### Online Application Due Date

You will need to submit your online application before the June 1st international application deadline.





### Submit Transcripts

As part of your application, you will be required to submit your transcripts from every educational institution you have attended, including your high school and any post-secondary institutions.

We require official transcripts, which means that the transcripts are sent from the issuing institution or government directly to us. If you are currently enrolled, you can send us an unofficial transcript for the time being, though we will need an official transcript before you begin studying with us.

All transcripts will need to be in English. If they are not in English, please submit a notarized translation along with the official transcript.

Students who have completed WAEC exams can submit their WAEC scores in lieu of high school transcripts.

Every student must be a high school graduate with a minimum final average of 60% in five senior (Grade 12) subjects, one of which must be English. The grade for English must be a minimum of 60%.

If you are not enrolled in five Grade 12 subjects, course marks from relevant Grade 11 subjects may be considered. Greater weight will be placed on marks in academic subjects (social studies and math, for example) than on marks in non-academic subjects.





### Submit Proof of English Language Proficiency

There are two aspects of English that every student needs to meet in order to succeed at Prairie College. The first is the Academic English requirement which ensures that you are able to engage in English at an academic level. This is met by a minimum of 60% in a Grade 12 English course (or equivalent). The second is English Language Proficiency (ELP) which demonstrates that you are able to adequately communicate and learn at an English institution.



Please submit one of the following tests as proof of English Proficiency:

- Duolingo English Test with a minimum score of 120
- International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) exam with an overall bandwidth of 6.5 with no score lower than 6.0.
- The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 90 on the internet-based test and a minimum score of 21 points in each section.
- Cambridge C1 Advanced or Cambridge C2 Proficiency with a score of at least 180.

If you have done previous education in English you can fulfill the ELP requirement with one of the following, though you may be asked to provide proof that the instruction was in English:

- Three years of full-time secondary education where English was the language of instruction.
- Three years of post-secondary education at an approved post-secondary institution, where English was the language of instruction.



### Submit any Additional Requirements

The following programs have additional requirements that students must meet. Please talk to your Admissions Counsellor or click on the program name to go to the program page on our website in order to learn more about the requirements.

- [Digital Media](#)
- [Musicianship and Worship Leading](#)
- [Practical Nurse](#)
- [Songwriting and Recording](#)





*"A great concern of mine when I was considering attending Prairie was the community, since I am an international student. I wondered if I would find a welcoming and accepting community. The community aspect of Prairie College has been unparalleled. The sense of belonging and support I have found here has truly enriched my college experience, making me feel at home despite being far away from my own country. I have made lifelong friendships and connections that I know will last beyond my time here. The diverse and inclusive environment at Prairie has truly made a difference in my college journey."*

Nancy from Ghana





**SUBMIT YOUR**

**APPLICATION**

**Submit your Application**

Submit your full application, along with the other requirements you need, such as your reference, transcripts, proof of ELP, and any program-specific requirements.

**Wait for your Admissions Decision.**

Congratulations! You have completed your application and it is ready to be reviewed for acceptance! You will likely receive your admissions decision within 1-2 weeks of your application being complete.



*Prairie's immersion setting offers me a unique opportunity to improve my relationship with God via prayer, worship, and Bible study. As I face life's problems and uncertainties, returning to a faith-based community gives me strength, direction, and a fresh sense of purpose.*

- Esther from Nigeria





**AFTER**

# ACCEPTANCE

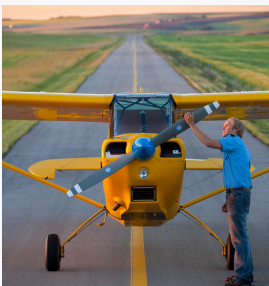
Here is what you can expect if you are accepted to Prairie College.

Once you are accepted you will receive another handbook similar to this one detailing your next steps in the application process. Some key aspects of the post-acceptance process include:



## ✈️ **APPLY FOR A STUDY PERMIT**

The first thing you will need to do after being accepted is to apply for a study permit. You will receive documentation from us related to your studies, which you will need for your study permit application. It can take a long time for the government to process a study permit application, so you will want to apply for this as soon as possible.



## ✈️ **PLAN YOUR ARRIVAL**

Once you have received your study permit, it is time to plan for your arrival. You will need to decide on housing, book your flight and your complementary airport shuttle, pay your tuition deposit so that you can register for classes, order your textbooks, learn about Canadian culture, and pay the \$12,000 down payment.



## ✈️ **ARRIVE AND SETTLE IN**

At last, you have flown to Canada and arrived on our campus! It takes time to get settled in a new country and we will help you with that! We will make sure you have everything you need to settle into life at Prairie, such as finding your way around campus, getting health insurance, setting up a Canadian bank account, integrating into the Prairie community, and learning about the services available to Prairie students.



# CHAT WITH

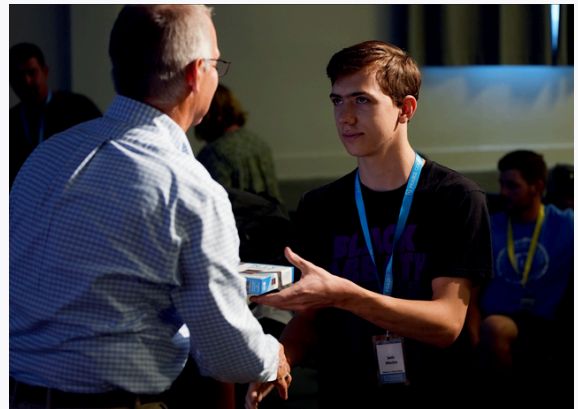
# ADMISSIONS

## Chat with your Admissions Counsellor

Your Admissions Counsellor will be in contact with you when you start your application. They will ensure that you have submitted all the requirements and that you aren't missing anything in your application.

Have questions? Your Admissions Counsellor is here to answer any questions you may have about Prairie College, student life, finances, and our programs. You can feel free to email or call them, or set up a [virtual advising appointment](#).

We hope to hear from you soon!



### Zac Parkinson

Admissions Counsellor  
[zac.parkinson@prairie.edu](mailto:zac.parkinson@prairie.edu)  
Phone: 403.443.3045  
What's App: 403.412.4445



### Martijn Van Ramshorst

Admissions Counsellor  
[martijn.vanramshorst@prairie.edu](mailto:martijn.vanramshorst@prairie.edu)  
Phone: 403.443.3045  
What's App: 403.412.5074

