



# El Camino College

Where you belong. Where you succeed.







# International Student Guide FALL 2020

## International Student Welcome

Welcome to California and El Camino College. Coming to a new country can be an exciting experience; an opportunity to study in a new environment, learn new skills, experience different ways of doing things, and to be exposed to new ways of thinking.

El Camino College is located in one of the most exciting regions of the world. El Camino is in the city of Torrance, a suburban city in sunny Southern California just miles from the beach and famous attractions such as Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Disneyland. It's also close to Los Angeles, with access to museums, entertainment, and internship opportunities within a large metropolitan area.

The International Student Program at El Camino College is here to assist you in the admissions process, counseling, and guiding you through the immigration rules and regulations. We are here also to support you through your academic endeavors and to help you realize your educational goals. We are looking forward to meeting you.

## **International Student Program Office Staff**

Lindsey Ludwig, ECLA/ISP Manager
Leonid Rachman, Coordinator
Candace Trice, Student Services Specialist
Dosha Bautista, Student Services Technician
Alma Sandoval, Program Assistant
Caroline Etges, Program Assistant

 Iludwig@elcamino.edu
 (310) 660-6473

 Irachman@elcamino.edu
 (310) 660-3593 ext 3417

 ctrice@elcamino.edu
 (310) 660-3431

 dbautista@elcamino.edu
 (310) 660-3431

 asandoval@elcamino.edu
 (310) 660-5113

 cetges@elcamino.edu
 (310) 660-5417

#### **International Student Counselors**

Counselors are available to help students with their class assignments, academic issues and transferring information to other colleges and universities. To schedule an appointment with a counselor, please visit the International Student Program office.

## International Student Counseling Staff

#### **Amy Herrschaft**

Email: aherrschaft@elcamino.edu

Phone: (310) 660-6049

## **Margaret Miranda**

Email: lmiranda@elcamino.edu

Phone: (310) 660-3447



# HOW TO TRANSFER YOUR SEVIS RECORD TO -EL CAMINO COLLEGE-

It is very important that you follow the instructions below to transfer your I-20 to El Camino College from your current school. It is your responsibility to turn in the required documentation to complete the transfer at your current school.

\*El Camino College cannot transfer your I-20 for you.\*

- Take your El Camino College acceptance letter and Transfer Approval Form (SEE YELLOW PAGE OF THIS PACKET) to the student advisor at your current school.
- 2. Complete "**Section A**" of the Transfer Approval Form.
- 3. Have the student advisor at your current school complete "**Section B**" and return the form to the El Camino College ISP office as soon as possible.
- 4. Complete any additional steps and paperwork necessary at your current school to transfer your I-20.

This is required to make sure that your I-20 is transferred electronically in SEVIS to El Camino College in a timely manner.

\*\*FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE PROCEDURES MAY CAUSE YOU TO FALL OUT OF STATUS WITH THE USCIS (UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICE).

# NOTE: YOU MUST LET YOUR CURRENT SCHOOL KNOW THAT YOU ARE TRANSFERRING!

## Immunization/Shot Information

\* While El Camino College does not require international students to submit immunization/ shot records at this time, we recommend that you get vaccinated for mumps and rubella before coming to the US. Hepatitis B and Meningitis vaccines are also strongly recommended.

## **Health Insurance**

United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) requires all international students to maintain **mandatory medical insurance for the duration of their studies**. El Camino College has contracted student insurance specifically for the needs of our international students. The cost is currently estimated at \$1300.00 per year (\$648.50 per semester-Fall and Spring) and begins either January 1st or July 1st depending upon which semester you begin your studies. Price may increase/decrease. The insurance has no deductible and, in many cases, *may* cover 100% of expenses following satisfaction of any applicable copayment. \*See the next page for coverage information.





# 2019-2020 International Student Insurance Plan Summary

For additional information, please visit us at <a href="https://www.lewermark.com/elcamino">www.lewermark.com/elcamino</a> or call 1-800-821-7710.

## Carry your LewerMark Insurance ID Card with you at all times

2019-2020 Benefits	Medical Insurance Benefits Per Policy Year For El Camino Community College (\$400,000— 100% of Allowed Charge/80% of Reasonable and Customary Expenses)	
Maximum Per Injury or Sickness	\$400,000	
Policy Year Maximum Benefit	\$400,000	
Annual Deductible	\$0	
Pre-Existing Condition Benefit (6 months)	\$2,500	
Student Health Center or approved Walk-in Clinic	\$0 copay for eligible benefits	
Copay Per Office Visit	In Network: 100% after \$20 copay Out of Network: 80% after \$20 copay	
Copay Per Hospital Visit	In Network: 100% after a \$100 admittance copay Out of Network: 80% after a \$100 admittance copay	
Wellness Benefit	100% up to \$250 per policy year	
Emergency Ambulance Services (Air & Ground)	Up to policy year maximum	
Emergency Room Visit	\$100 copay	
Prescription Drugs (up to \$2,500 per policy year outpatient)	100% covered if dispensed as inpatient in the hospital or 50% covered if dispensed as outpatient at a in-network pharmacy	
Self-Inflicted Benefit	\$10,000	
Medical Treatment of a Mental Condition	Maximum of 30 days inpatient, maximum of 30 outpatient visits	
Physiotherapy (only when prescribed by a Physician)	20 visits per policy year	
Medical Evacuation	\$50,000*	
Repatriation	\$25,000*	

 $<sup>\</sup>hbox{*Scholastic Emergency Services provides additional benefits.}$ 

## Services below are included in your plan with 24/7 translation assistance.

Scholastic Emergency Services (SES)

An Assist America Partner

MyNurse 24/7

Medical Help Line

Morneau Shepell
Counseling Services

## 1-877-488-9833

1-866-549-5076

1-866-743-7732

In the event of an emergency, SES offers a wide variety of services, at no additional charge to the student.

- Medical Evacuation or Transport
- Compassionate Family Visit
- Repatriation of Mortal Remains

Speak with a nurse about your health, illness or where to go if you feel sick or are injured.

- Friendly, experienced, Registered Nurses help you decide what your best choices are.
- · Assistance with any Health Issues or Questions
- General Health and Wellness Information

Student Support Advisors can help you anytime, anywhere with:

- Adapting to new cultures
- Being successful at school
- Relationships with friends and family
- Stress, anxiety, sadness, loneliness and more

## **Ground Transportation from LAX**

If you need transportation from the airport you can catch an Uber or Lyft (you must download the APP to your cell phone first). You will take a LAX Ride App shuttle to the Ride Share parking lot and give your number to the available driver to start your ride. There are also airport shuttles available:

Super Shuttle <a href="https://www.supershuttle.com/htm/cities/lax.htm">www.supershuttle.com/htm/cities/lax.htm</a> (310) 782-6600

Prime Time Shuttle <a href="https://www.primetimeshuttle.com/SoCal.htm">www.primetimeshuttle.com/SoCal.htm</a> 1-800-733-8267

Xpress Shuttle <a href="https://www.xpressshuttle.com/los angeles.htm">www.xpressshuttle.com/los angeles.htm</a> (310) 323-7222

## **Local Bus Transportation**

Metro (MTA) <u>www.metro.net</u> 1-800-266-6883 Torrance Transit <u>www.ci.torrance.ca.us/city/dept/transit/index.html</u> (310) 320-9442

#### **Car Rentals**

Car rental companies require that you be at least 21 years of age and have a valid Driver's License (US, International, or home country) and a major credit card.

Alamowww.alamo.comDollarwww.dollar.comAviswww.avis.comEnterprisewww.enterprise.comBudgetwww.budget.comHertzwww.hertz.com

## **Directions to El Camino College from Los Angeles Airport (LAX)**

- 1. Head West on Century Blvd toward Vicksburg Ave
- 2. Take I-105 E to W 120th St in Hawthorne. Take Exit 5 from I-105 E.
- 3. Take Crenshaw Blvd to Manhattan Beach Blvd. Turn Right. El Camino College is on the left.

## **IMPORTANT: Student Transfer Requirements**

Transfer students MUST have their I-20 transferred from their current school AT LEAST 7 days before the start of classes.

## International Transfer Student Orientation - June 17th-18th, 2020

## Wed, June 17th, 2020

8:30 AM Sign In (Student Services Center, Room 141, 1st Floor)

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Immigration and Academic Lectures, plus Guest Speakers (will have lunch provided)

2:00 PM - 5:00PM ESL/English placement testing - *if still needed*.

## **Thurs, June 18th, 2020**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Group 1-Academic Counseling and Registration - Will be Assigned at Orientation

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Group 2-Academic Counseling and Registration - Will be Assigned at Orientation

# ACCUPLACER PLACEMENT TEST PREPARATION

All students are encouraged to review before taking the placement tests. Reviewing and practice may help you to place higher, which means you will **save time** (fewer classes to take) and **money** (fewer classes to pay for) and you will accomplish your educational goals much faster.

#### The English Placement Test consists of two sections:

1. Reading Comprehension 2. Sentence Skills (Writing and Speaking)

\*Mathematic Placement will be done at orientation by the academic counselor after reviewing your high school transcripts for previous math classes taken, along with the grades you received in those classes.

You can do an internet search for free **Accuplacer** tests. Below are additional websites recommended for preparation:

## WEBSITES FOR ESL/ENGLISH REVIEW

## Accuplacer Web-Based Study App – Free

https://accuplacerpractice.collegeboard.org

The ACCUPLACER Web-Based Study App features practice tests in Reading Comprehension **and** Sentence Skills. For computer, tablet, and Smartphone. The Study App site includes the following features:

- "Learn As You Go" tests provide you with explanation of the correct or incorrect responses
- Sample Tests help you experience what a real test may be like on test day
- Save your work and process, and resume practicing at a later time
- Review your score history to identify areas of strength and weaknesses
- 6 months of access to the ACCUPLACER Web-Based Study App

## College Board - Free

http://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students

Has a complete ACCUPLACER English Test with accompanying answers.

https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-sample-questions-for-students.pdf Has a .pdf book of sample questions in Reading Comprehension and Sentence Skills.

### **Union Test Prep - Free**

https://uniontestprep.com/accuplacer-test/practice-test

Has ESL practice questions with explanations for ESL Language Use, ESL Listening, ESL Reading Skills and ESL Sentence Meaning.

Google it! Search "Accuplacer practice tests" to find more sample, tests, and search Youtube.com for practice videos.

### **ESL Accuplacer Reading Skills Samples:**

- 1. Studyguidezone: <a href="https://www.studyguidezone.com/accuplacer\_reading.htm">www.studyguidezone.com/accuplacer\_reading.htm</a>
- 2. <u>Testpreppractice.net: www.testpreppractice.net/ACCUPLACER/Reading-Comprehension-ACCUPLACER-Practice-Tests.aspx</u>

## **ESL Accuplacer Sentence Skills Sample:**

1. Accuplacerpracticetest.com: <a href="https://www.accuplacerpracticetest.com/accuplacer-sentence-skills-practicetest/">https://www.accuplacerpracticetest.com/accuplacer-sentence-skills-practicetest/</a>

## **TEST INFORMATION**

Tests are not timed, but their length is approximately one hour each. Although the tests are taken on a computer, no special knowledge of computers is necessary. Results are available immediately after completion.

## **HOUSING OPTIONS**

## **Global Student Services® Homestay**

Application Fee: \$300.00 Security Deposit: \$150.00

Airport Pickup: Additional fee applies

Homestay Options (per four weeks\*):
■Homestay with (2) meals \$975
■Homestay without meals \$825

#### Global Student Services, USA®

1436 Brett Pl. #18 San Pedro, CA 90732 USA

Tel: 310.438.7485 Fax: 310.391.7881 gssusa2001@gmail.com global-student-service.com The homestay option will provide students with the opportunity to speak English while learning about American culture and lifestyle.

<b>Length Of Stay</b>	With 2 Meals Daily	Without Meals
4 Weeks (28 days)	\$975*	\$825*
8 Weeks	\$1,950	\$1,650
10 Weeks	\$2,347	\$2.062
12 Weeks*	\$2,915	\$2,465
16 Weeks*	\$3,885	\$3.285
20 Weeks*	\$4,855	\$4,125
24 Weeks*	\$5.825	\$4.925

<sup>\*</sup>Minimum required stay for colleges - 8 weeks.

## **Private Apartments\***

Apartments are available in Torrance and areas around El Camino College. Following are some apartments within walking distance from El Camino College. Students are encouraged to contact the owners or managers directly for rental arrangements.

Alondra Park Apts	(310) 323-2652
Il Pompeii	(310) 327-3681
Park Yukon Apartments	(310) 516-0526
Torrance Garden Apartments	(310) 324-1494
Tropic Isle Apartments	(310) 323-8028
<b>Apartments</b> (close to ECC)	(310) 546-2505

More apartments are available at Redondo Beach Blvd, Yukon St., Artesia and Crenshaw Blvd.

Price range for studio apartments: \$900-\$1200/month

## **Room Share and Private Apartments**

Find apartments or room share by using the Internet: <u>www.losangeles.craigslist.org/roo/</u> www.losangeles.craigslist.org/apa/

To find an appropriate housing use the "Search by Keyword" and type in "El Camino College", "Torrance", "Lawndale", "Gardena," or "Hawthorne"

## **Local Hotels and Motels**

### Redondo Beach Inn

One Bedroom \$75 (per night) Two Bedrooms \$95 (per night) 1912 W. Redondo Beach Blvd.,

Gardena CA 90260

Tel:(310) 538-1488 Tel:(310) 308-4958

For reservations: www.redondobeachinn.net

\*Mention El Camino College to receive discount rate.

### **Days Inn**

One Bedroom \$125 (est. per night) 15636 Hawthorne Blvd., Tel:(310) 676-7378 Fax:(310) 676-3138 Tel:(310) 318-6132 Fax:(310) 372-9134

For reservations contact: ranagroup@earthlink.com



<sup>\*</sup>For stays of 12 weeks or longer a discount is included in cost.

<sup>\*</sup>El Camino College offers these facilities as suggestions and does not endorse, support, or assume responsibility for these facilities.

## **Degree Programs Offered at El Camino College**

**Associate of Arts Degree** 

Administration of Justice\*

Anthropology

Anthropology for Transfer (AA-T)

Art:

Art History

Studio Art

Art History for Transfer (AA-T)

Child Development\*

Communication Studies for Transfer (AA-T)

Dance Economics

Economics for Transfer (AA-T)

Elementary Teacher Education (AA-T)

English

English for Transfer (AA-T)

**Ethnic Studies:** 

African American Studies American Cultures Asian American Studies

Chicano Studies

**Native American Studies** 

Film/Video\* French General Studies

Geography for Transfer (AA-T)

History

History for Transfer (AA-T)

Japanese
Journalism\*

Journalism for Transfer (AA-T) Kinesiology for Transfer (AA-T)

Liberal Studies: Elementary Teaching Teacher Preparation

Music

Paralegal Studies\*
Philosophy

Philosophy for Transfer (AA-T)

Physical Education Political Science

Political Science for Transfer (AA-T) Psychology for Transfer (AA-T)

Real Estate:

Mortgage Brokerage\*

Real Estate\*

Real Estate Appraisal\*

Recreation

Sign Language/Interpreter Training\*

Sociology for Transfer (AA-T)

Spanish

Spanish for Transfer (AA-T) Studio Arts for Transfer (AA-T)

Theatre

Theatre Arts for Transfer (AA-T)

**Associate of Science Degree** 

Administration of Justice for Transfer (AS-T)\*

Air Conditioning and Refridgeration\*

Architecture\*
Astronomy

Automotive Collision Repair/Painting\*

Automotive Technology\*

Biology Business: Accounting\*

**Business Administration\*** 

Marketing\*

Office Administration-Management\*
Office Administration-Office Systems\*
Business Administration for Transfer (AS-T)\*

Chemistry

Computer Aided Design/Drafting\* Computer Information Systems\* Construction Technology:

Cabinet and Fine Woodworking\*
Construction Technology\*

Cosmetology\*

Early Childhood Education for Transfer (AS-T) Electronics and Computer Hardware Technology:

Computer Technology\*
Electronics Technology\*
Engineering Technology:
Engineering Technician\*
Engineering Technology\*
Environmental Horticulture\*

Fashion:

Fashion Design and Production\*

Fashion Merchandising\*

Fire and Emergency Technology:
Fire and Emergency Technology\*
Paramedical Technician\*

General Science

Geography

Geology for Transfer (AS-T) Machine Tool Technology:

Machinist\*

Numerical Control Programmer\* Manufacturing Technology\*

Mathematics

Mathematics for Transfer (AS-T)

Nursing\*
Photography\*
Physical Science
Physics

Physics for Transfer (AS-T)

Pre-Engineering
Pre-Nursing\*

Radiologic Technology\* Respiratory Care\*

Welding\*

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates Career and Technical Education (CTE); Visit: www.elcamino.edu/academics/cte



## **Academic & Student Support**

Academic support is available to El Camino College students in a variety of areas, from tutoring and writing assistance to computer and copying services. Some services are available on a drop-in basis; others require an appointment. All students are advised to take advantage of these free and/or low-cost services. Click here to visit their website.

## **Tutoring Services:**

## **Writing Center**

## Humanities 122 | 310-660-3873

The Writing Center offers free assistance in all aspects of the writing process, from pre-writing to full draft writing conferences. Students can also find help with grammar and using MLA or APA documentation. Computers are available for word processing (Microsoft Word) and research.

## **Basic Skills Study Center**

## Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library | 310-660-3511

In the Basic Skills Study Center, students have free access to individualized computer programs in basic reading and basic math. These programs include testing and evaluation.

## **LRC Tutoring Program**

## Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library | 310-660-3511

Tutors help students prepare for tests, learn new concepts, improve study techniques, and answer questions about assignments. Tutoring is free for all ECC students; tutors are available in more than 25 different subjects each semester. Reservations are not required.

## **Math Study Center**

## Math, Computer Science, MBA 119 | 310-660-3593, ext. 6591

The Math Study Center (MSC) is open more than 45 hours each week to provide math help on a drop-in basis. Tutoring is free and designed to help students succeed in their classes. All levels of math are tutored; students should bring textbook and notes when attending tutoring.

## **Learning Resources Unit:**

## **Schauerman Library**

## Schauerman Library | 310-660-3519

The Schauerman Library is an excellent facility with more than 100,000 volumes, many periodicals, and computerized resources such as information databases, making it the campus research center. Materials are organized throughout the facilities for easy use. Open stacks are maintained to give students direct access to all books, except those on reserve.

## **Learning Resources Center**

The Learning Resources Center and labs are located at various locations throughout the Schauerman Library:

- Learning Center, Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library
- LRC Tutorial Program, in the Learning Center
- Basic Skills Study Center, Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library
- LMTC Computer Commons, Basement, East Wing of Schauerman Library (enter from the library lobby)

The Learning Resources Center offers all members of the ECC community the following programs to enhance teaching and learning: Basic Skills Study Center, LRC Tutorial Program, Learning Center Media Materials Collection, and LMTC Computer Commons.

## Computer Labs

Schauerman Library | 310-660-3519

- Basic Skills Study Center, Second Floor, West Wing, Schauerman Library
- LMTC Computer Commons, Basement, East Wing of Schauerman Library (enter from the library lobby)

The Learning Resources Center oversees computer labs within the Schauerman Library to serve the varied needs of ECC's students, faculty, and staff.

## **Other Services:**

## <u>Library Media Technology Center (LMTC)</u>

## East Wing of Schauerman Library | 310-660-6715

A color copier, word processing software and scanners are available in the Library Media Technology Center (LMTC) in the East Wing Library basement. The Schauerman Library uses a copy card to operate copy machines and to make print outs from word processing programs, online databases, and the World Wide Web.

#### **Career Center**

## Counseling Division, Student Services Center | 310-660-3593, Ext. 3458

The Career Center in the Counseling Division has a copy machine available for student use. The copy machine is accessible via the same copy card service available in the Schauerman Library.



~The International Student Program Warrior Cohort for the 2019-2020 academic school year.

## CALIFORNIA DRIVER LICENSE

## AND ID CARD

It is important for you to carry some form of personal identification (ID) which includes your photograph, name, address and date of birth at all times. The California driver license and the State ID card are considered the official documents for routine identification purposes in California.

## California ID Card

When you cash a check, open a bank account, register your automobile, etc., you will be asked for an ID. Your passport has this information, but it is not recommended that you carry it with you on a daily basis because it may get lost.

There are two types of ID's available to you from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV): the California ID Card and the California Driver License (if you plan to drive while you are here). For additional information on the DMV procedures, you can visit their website at:

https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv

## California Driver License

While international students can use their home driver's license if it is valid, it can only be used for the first couple months after you arrive in the U.S. If you plan on driving a motor vehicle while here, you will be expected to have a California driver's license. You cannot drive in California with an International Driving Permit. To acquire a California Driver's License, you must pass a written exam and a driving exam at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

## **Steps to Apply for a Driver License**

- Study a copy of the "California Driver Handbook" from DMV
- Pick up enrollment verification from ISP Office
- 3. Make an appointment at DMV
- 4. Take your I-20, proof of enrollment, passport and I-94 to appointment
- Complete application (DL 44), copies will not be accepted). Use your I-94 and passport for the social security #

# Local Department of Motor Vehicles (DVM) Offices:

#### **TORRANCE**

1785 W 220th St. Torrance, CA 90501

#### **INGLEWOOD**

621 N La Brea Ave Inglewood, CA 90302

### **HAWTHORNE**

3700 W El Segundo Blvd Hawthorne, CA 90250

### **COMPTON**

2111 S. Santa Fe Ave. Compton, CA 90221

Phone: (800) 777-0133

#### **Office Hours:**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Wednesday

Website: www.dmv.ca.gov

# BANKS AND OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

You should open an account at a bank as soon as you get to California. It is much safer and more convenient for you to have your money deposited into an account than to be carrying cash around. After an account is opened, if your family wants to wire you money, wire transfers can be made and money be available after a few days.

## Opening a U.S. Checking and Savings Account

When opening a U.S. bank account, international students will generally need documentation that proves their identity and residence in the local area. Items to take are: passport, I-20, and a lease agreement or utility bill.

# U.S. Banks Accepting International Students

Banks that serve our international students include: Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Chase, and US Bank. It is good to check with these banks along with others in town to see the best options for you. Also, you can check with your home country bank to see if they have a partnership with a bank in the U.S.

## **PAYING TUITION AND FEES**

## U.S. Bank Check or Cash

If you are paying your tuition and fees with a U.S. Bank check or with cash, you will pay your tuition at the cashier's window located on the lower level of the Bookstore Building.

#### Cashier's Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8am-6pm Friday 8am-1pm

**Phone**: 310.532.3670, ext. 3142

## Credit or Debit Card

Pay online 24 hours a day at <a href="http://www.elcamino.edu/myecc/">http://www.elcamino.edu/myecc/</a>

#### Wire Transfer

Student's wanting to pay with a wire transfer from their home country bank to El Camino College directly can do so. Make sure to have your name, student ID#, and indicate you are an F-1 student on the wire.

#### **Bank Information:**

Bank of America Hawthorne Office #203 12547 S. Hawthorne Blvd. Hawthorne, CA 90250

#### **Account Name:**

El Camino College Trust Fund Account Number: 02030-07677

Swift code: BOFAUS3N Routing Number: 026009593

## **El Camino College Parking Permit**

If you are planning to drive and park a car on campus, you will either need to purchase a \$3 daily parking pass at one of the yellow permit dispenser machines and display it on your car dashboard, or buy a semester permit.

## **Semester Permits:**

Fall and Spring \$35 Summer \$20 Motorcycles \$20

Semester parking permits can be purchased at the cashier's window or online using your MyECC account.

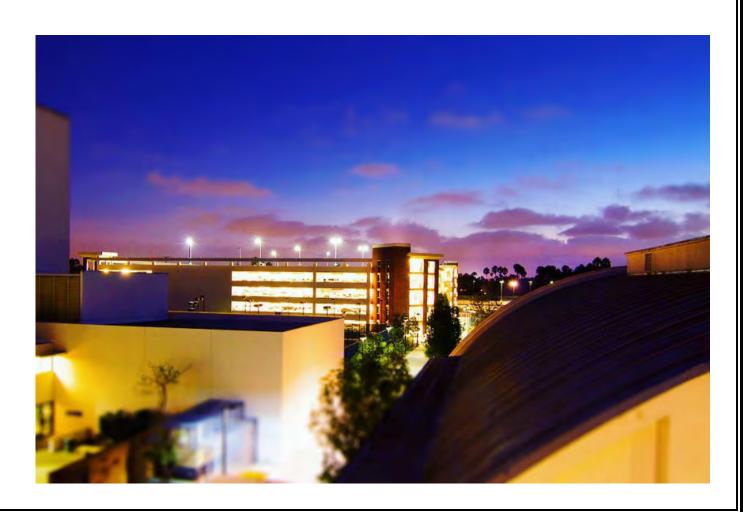
## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

## HOW TO...

## MAINTAIN YOUR STUDENT F-1 STATUS

To maintain legal F-1 student status at El Camino College, you are required to:

- Complete the mandatory visa check-in and attend the new international student orientation.
- Maintain full-time enrollment which is a minimum of 12 units per semester (Fall and Spring). You **MUST** have **AT LEAST** 9 units per semester (Fall and Spring) of **on-campus** instruction.
- Conform to regulations for travel outstide of the U.S. and keep your passport valid for six months beyond the program start date.
- Accept no off-campus employment; work no more than twenty hours per week on campus while attending school on a full-time basis.
- Notify the International Student Programs office **BEFORE** you transfer to another US institution. You must fill out transfer documentation and turn in an acceptance letter for your new school or we will be unable to transfer your I-20.
- Leave the US, transfer to another US school, or do Optional Practical Training (OPT) post-graduation within **SIXTY DAYS** after the completion of your program.
- Request an extension of your I-20 if you need additional time to complete the coursework for your program of study. Your I-20 cannot expire while you are studying at El Camino College.





## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What is an I-20?

The I-20 form is the document you need from El Camino College in order to apply for your F-1 student visa at the US Embassy located in your home country. You will also need to present your I-20 form at the US border along with your F-1 visa and other supporting documents in order to be able to enter the U.S. as an F-1 student.

### How do I make my visa interview appointment?

To make an appointment at a U.S. Consulate visit <a href="www.usembassy.gov">www.usembassy.gov</a>. Be sure to complete all required forms and pay the required fees before your visa appointment. Learn more at: <a href="https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2013/04/how-to-prepare-for-your-visa-appointment">https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2013/04/how-to-prepare-for-your-visa-appointment</a>

## What happens if my visa is denied?

If you receive a visa denial, request a denial letter from the US Consulate so that you will understand why your visa was denied. The main reason visas are denied for the U.S. is failure of the applicant to prove they have permanent ties to their home country. Learn more about visa denials at: <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/denials.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/denials.html</a>

## How do I register for and pay for my classes?

After you complete math and English placement testing, you will then meet with an academic counselor to determine course placement. Once you have your educational plan for the semester, you will be able to register for classes. If you are coming from another country to El Camino College, you will do these steps at orientation. You will pay tuition and fees **AFTER** you are registered to classes.

## Do F-1 students need health insurance to study at ECC?

All F-1 Visa students are required to purchase El Camino College designated health insurance. You can find more about the insurance company at their website www.lewermark.com/elcamino. The cost of the health insurance is currently \$1,300\* per calendar year (12 months). \*Lewermark Insurance may change this rate at any time.

- Contact Information: Lewermark Insurance Agency, 4534 Wornall Rd #102, Kansas City, MO 64111
- Email: lewermarksupport@lewer.com
- Tel: (888) 711-6645

#### Can I waive the El Camino College student health insurance?

No. All F-1 students are required to purchase the El Camino College designated health insurance; student health insurance waivers are not accepted.

#### How can my dependents (spouse and children) come with me to the US?

Only a spouse and/or child(ren) under the age of 21 can accompany you as a dependent. Parents, grandparents, and other relatives are not eligible to come to the U.S. with you as your F-1 dependent.

#### What do I need to do once I reach the US?

Upon arrival to the U.S., you must check in to the ISP office at El Camino College within 10 days of arrival.

#### How can I update my address and phone number?

It is required that international students report a change of address within 10 days of moving to the ISP office.

#### Where can I find information about housing and living in California?

Although El Camino College does **not** provide housing for students, we hope to ensure that our students have information about housing options to assist in their housing search. We suggest students start the search for housing options several months before their expected move in date. Please see the housing information page (pg.6) in this booklet.

\*The inclusion of any apartment or agency on the list does not represent an endorsement of services or facilities, nor does it guarantee vacancies exist. Please be aware that ECC does not assume responsibility for inspecting or supervising any housing facility.

#### Can my visa expire while I am in the United States?

Yes, you can remain in the United States on an expired Visa as long as you have a valid I-20. If you need to exit the country, you will need to renew your Visa before you can re-enter the US. However, your passport cannot expire while you are in the US.

## INTERNATIONAL

## **MARKETS**

El Camino College is located in an extremely diverse area that has international markets for a lot of different ethnicities nearby. Below is a list of just some of those markets.

## African

**Dat Moi Market** 144415 Crenshaw Blvd Gardena, CA 90249

### Asian

Asia Foods 10200 Venice Blvd #105 Culver City, CA 90232

Asian Mart 3732 W 3rd St Los Angeles, CA 90020

## <u>Brazilian</u>

**Brazil Mania** 1521 Cabrillo Ave Torrance, CA 90501

**Hi Brazil Market** 2418 Artesia Blvd Redondo Beach, CA 90278

## Chinese

99 Ranch Market 1340 Artesia Blvd Gardena, CA 90248

Ai Hoa Market 860 N Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012

Market World 3030 Sepulveda Blvd Torrance, CA 90505

## <u>Indian</u>

Makkah Market 22846 S Western Ave Torrance, CA 90501

**Super Hayat Market** 3964 Redondo Beach Blvd Torrance, CA 90504

## <u>European</u>

Hawthorne Market 24202 Hawthorne Blvd Torrance, CA 90505

## **Filipino**

Joy Bakery 124 W Carson St Carson, CA 90745

Seafood City Market 131 W Carson St. Carson, CA 90745

## **French**

**Le Pain Du Jour** 13528 S Inglewood Ave Hawthorne, CA 90250

Monsieur Marcel Market 6333 W 3rd St Los Angeles, CA 90036

## Japanese

**Chikara Mochi** 16108 S Western Ave Gardena, CA 90247

Mitsuwa Market 21515 S Western Ave Torrance, CA 90501

**Nijiya Market** 2533 Pacific Coast Hwy Ste B Torrance, CA 90505

**Seiwa Market** 21815 Hawthorne Blvd Torrance, CA 90503

**Tokyo Central** 1740 W Artesia Blvd Gardena, CA 90248

2832 Sepulveda Blvd Torrance, CA 90505

## Korean

Han Kook Supermarket 124 N Western Ave Los Angeles, CA 90004

**H Mart** 621 S Western Ave Los Angeles, CA 90005

**S-Mart** 2515 Torrance Blvd Torrance, CA 90503

## Mexican

**Adelita Bakery** 14807 S Western Ave Gardena, CA 90249

**Diana's Market** 16529 Normandie Ave Gardena, CA 90247

Northgate Gonzalez 3930 W Rosecrans Ave Hawthorne, CA 90250

**Superior Grocers** 15000 Crenshaw Blvd Gardena, CA

## Middle Eastern

Al Salam Market 4636 Del Amo Blvd Torrance, CA 90503

Hawthorne Market 24202 Hawthorne Blvd Torrance, CA 90505

## <u>Taiwanese</u>

**85 Degrees Bakery** 1735 W Carson St. #A Torrance, CA 90501

1386 W Artesia Blvd Gardena, CA 90248

## Vietnamese

**Dat Moi Market** 144415 Crenshaw Blvd Gardena, CA 90249

Saigon Market 15705 S Hawthorne Blvd Lawndale, CA 90261

## **Employee Favorites**

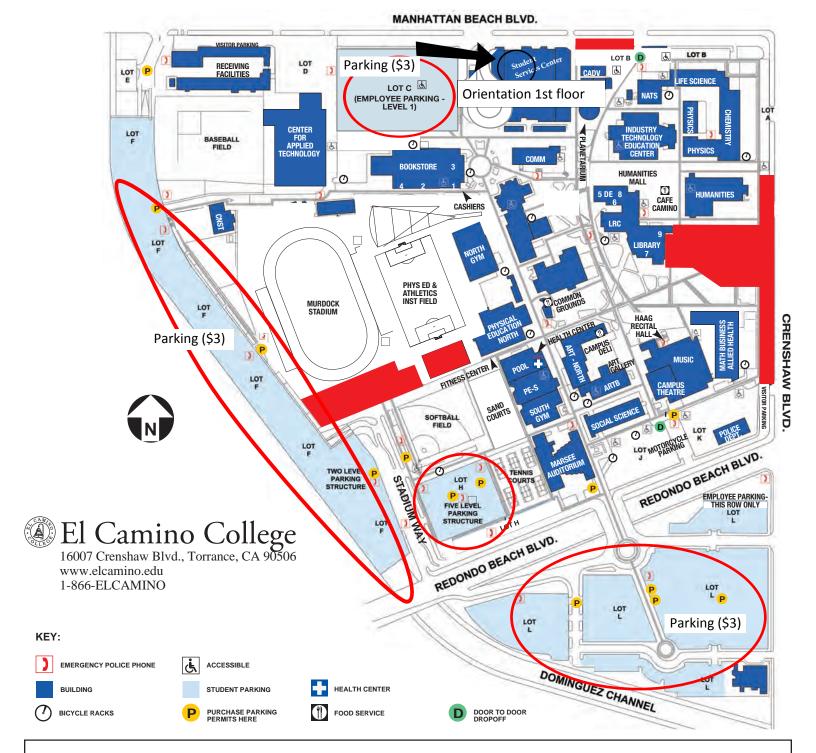
#### **Caroline from Brazil**

El Gaucho Market-Latin American 2715 Manhattan Beach Blvd Redondo Beach, CA 90278

## Leonid from Russia/Israel

H Mart-Korean Market 4340 Pacific Coast Hwy Torrance, CA 90505

Alma from USA/Mexico World Market-International 22929 Hawthorne Blvd Torrance, CA 90505



#### **Orientation Location**

Student Services Center, Room 141, First Floor

**Parking Information:** Lot C, on Manhattan Beach Blvd is the closest parking structure to orientation.

\*Can also use parking Lot F, Lot H, Lot L-Student Parking Lots (must pay \$3.00 using exact change for daily pass at the yellow payment machines located in the parking lots and put the pass in car on the dashboard print side up so that it can be seen through the windshield).

\*You can also purchase a daily pass at the Police building on campus if you do not have exact change.

REV 1/2020