

## Electronic Travel Authorization Program (“eTA”)



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A Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant (RCIC #R417711) pursuant to  
section 91 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*

**This is not a legal document. Information may change without notice. Always refer to Canada Immigration  
[www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca) for the most updated information. This document was last updated on Oct. 20, 2015**

On August 1, 2015, the Government of Canada launched the Electronic Travel Authorization (“eTA”) program. The program is similar to the United States of America's Electronic System for Travel Authorization. Implementation of the eTA program will allow Canada to pre-screen eTA-required travellers to ensure that they are admissible to Canada.

As of March 15, 2016, most foreign nationals who are exempt from the requirement to obtain a Temporary Resident Visa (“TRV”) to enter Canada will be required to obtain an eTA before they travel to Canada by air. A list of countries and territories whose citizens will need an eTA to travel to Canada can be found at CIC website:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas-all.asp>

As such, it will no longer be the case that residents of these countries can simply purchase tickets and board planes to travel to Canada. Rather, an individual will be unable to board a commercial airline to Canada unless the airline first confirms that the individual possesses an eTA through the Canada Border Services Agency's new Interactive Advance Passenger Information system. *Americans are exempted from the requirement to obtain an eTA.*

The eTA is an online application on the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (“CIC”) website. Applicants will need to provide their passport details, personal details, contact information, and answer background questions regarding their health, criminal history, and travel history. CIC anticipates that it will automatically process most eTA applications within minutes. When an eTA application cannot be automatically approved, it will be referred to a CIC officer for a manual review. Officers can request additional documents, and, where required, further the application to a Canadian visa office abroad for further processing, including a possible interview.

The eTA will be valid for five years or until the applicant's passport expires, whichever occurs sooner. The cost to apply is \$7.00.

### **Countries and territories whose citizens need an eTA to travel to Canada**

Foreign nationals from the following countries will need an eTA before boarding their flight to Canada as of March 15, 2016:

- Andorra Antigua and Barbuda Australia Austria
- Bahamas Barbados Belgium British citizen
- British overseas citizen who is re-admissible to the United Kingdom
- British overseas territory citizen who derives that citizenship through birth, descent, naturalization or registration in one of the British overseas territories of:
  - Anguilla Bermuda British Virgin Islands Cayman Islands Falkland Islands Gibraltar
  - Montserrat Pitcairn Island Saint Helena Turks and Caicos Islands
- Brunei Darussalam Chile Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark

- Estonia Finland France Federal Republic of Germany Greece
- Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy Japan
- Republic of Korea Latvia Liechtenstein Lithuania Luxembourg
- Malta Monaco Netherlands New Zealand Norway
- Papua New Guinea Poland Portugal
- Samoa San Marino Singapore Slovakia Slovenia Solomon Islands Spain Sweden Switzerland

### Other foreign nationals who need an eTA to travel to Canada

The following foreign nationals will need an eTA before boarding their flight to Canada as of March 15, 2016:

- Persons who have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence (United States Permanent Residents).
- Holder of a national Israeli passport.
- Holder of a passport issued by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.
- Holder of a passport issued by the United Kingdom to a British National (Overseas),
- Holder of a passport issued by the United Kingdom to a British Subject
- Holder of an ordinary passport issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taiwan that includes the personal identification number of the individual. Note: Taiwanese citizens who hold a passport issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taiwan that does not include their personal identification number need a visa to come to Canada.

### eTA Exemptions

The following foreign nationals will be exempt from the eTA requirement:

- Nationals of the United States.
- Her Majesty the Queen of Canada and any member of the Royal Family
- Citizens of France who are residents of St. Pierre and Miquelon who seek to enter Canada directly
- Visitors, students and workers, who seek to re-enter Canada after solely visiting either the United States or St. Pierre, providing that they return to Canada by the end of the period initially authorized for their stay or any extension to it.
- Foreign nationals who are passengers on a flight stopping in Canada for the sole purpose of refuelling and
  - possess proper documents to enter the United States and their flight is bound for that country, or
  - They were lawfully admitted to the United States and their flight originated in that country.
- Foreign nationals seeking to transit through Canada under [Transit Without Visa](#) or China [Transit Program](#).
- Foreign nationals who hold a passport that contains a diplomatic acceptance, a consular acceptance or an official acceptance issued by the Chief of Protocol for the Department of Foreign Affairs.
- Foreign nationals seeking to enter and remain in Canada solely:
  - As a crew member of a means of transportation that may be used for transportation by air or to become a member of such a crew; or
  - To transit through Canada after working, or to work, as a crew member of a means of transportation that may be used for transportation by air, if they possess a ticket for departure from Canada within 24 hours after their arrival in Canada.

#### ***Need more advice or help with your application?***

*Please email our Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, Agata Rebisz, located at **Global Village Vancouver**, 888 Cambie Street, and arrange for consultation in person or by phone, skype or email. [arebisz@gvenglish.com](mailto:arebisz@gvenglish.com)*

*The consultation charge is CND \$70.00 + 5% GST tax per 30 minutes (minimum charge).*

*A rebate of up to CND \$125 will be applied to the registration fee if the client enrolls in courses at GV Vancouver.*



*Agata Rebisz is a member in good standing of Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (RCIC #R417711) pursuant to section 91 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.*