

UVIC HOMESTAY

HOST INFORMATION SHEET

ELPI (English Language Program Intensive)

Program Details

- ❖ **The ELPI program** is a 12-week intensive English language program designed for international ESL students. This program is offered three times per year and students may enroll for more than one session. This program features 18 hours of core classes and 4 hours of elective classes per week, access to the Study Centre and Pronunciation Clinic, and various social and cultural events. Students may be placed in morning classes (8:30am-12:45pm) or afternoon classes (1:00pm-5:15pm). If you are hosting an afternoon student, please be flexible with your dinner schedule to ensure that your student can regularly enjoy dinner and conversation with your family.

Introduction Letter and Arrival Information

- ❖ Please **email a letter to your student** describing yourself, your family and your interests.
- ❖ Please **ask your student to send their complete travel information directly to you**. You will need to plan to meet your student personally at the arrival location. Acceptable arrival locations include the Victoria International Airport, the Victoria Bus Terminal, the University of Victoria, a Victoria Hotel or Hostel, or another host family residence in Victoria.
- ❖ Please provide your student with your cell phone number (if applicable) in case they need to call you if there are changes or delays while travelling.
- ❖ Please use email whenever possible. If your student has an email address and you do not, please feel free to communicate with your student via our email address at uvcsbp@uvic.ca or by fax at 250-721-8774. We will forward any student letters and photos that have been received by our office.
- ❖ Please note that the UVic Homestay Office does not have your student's travel information. You must obtain it directly from your student. If you have difficulty obtaining your student's travel information, please contact our office and we will check for alternate contact information.

Picking Up Your Student When They Arrive

- ❖ Please carry a name sign so your student can identify you at the Victoria Airport/Victoria Bus Terminal.
- ❖ Your student has been instructed to carry your name, address, telephone number and cell phone number with them when they travel.
- ❖ Flight delays can occur with International travel. If your student does not arrive on time:
 - Check with the airlines for information. www.victoriaairport.com
 - Check your home and cell phone for messages from your student.
- ❖ If your student does not arrive on the next scheduled flight:
 - Leave a message and your telephone number(s) with the airlines and the Airport Information Booth (Red Coats Volunteers - located in the centre of the Arrivals area, Tel: 250-953-7533).
 - If possible, have someone at home in the event that your student calls while you are in transit.

- ❖ If you are unexpectedly delayed (car trouble, family emergency, etc.) in arriving at the Airport:
 - Call the Airport Information Booth (Red Coats Volunteers - located in the centre of the Arrivals area, Tel: 250-953-7533) and ask them to page your student to let them know you are delayed.

Weekend Before the Program Begins and Program Start up

- ❖ **Orient your student to the bus system.** Please travel with your student on the bus to the University and downtown to show them the routes to and from your home. Advise your student that the bus driver does not provide change.
- ❖ Program staff will take your student to buy a UVic-discounted BC Transit Bus Pass on the first day of their program.
- ❖ During the Homestay Orientation, students will be provided with **an Emergency Card** – please complete with your student as soon as possible and ask your student to carry it in their wallet so they have the information they need to contact you when away from home.

Class Schedule

- ❖ Your student will receive a copy of their schedule by email prior to the start of the program.

- ❖ Students are required to be at the UVic Main Bus Terminal by 8:30 on the first day of their program – usually a Monday. If Monday is a statutory holiday, the first day of the program falls on Tuesday.

- ❖ Program staff will be waiting at the Bus Terminal to direct students to the location of their Placement Test.

*Please Note: Hosts dropping students off by car **cannot** drive into the bus terminal area.*

Student attendance is mandatory for all ESL Core Classes and Elective Classes offered by the English Language Centre. If your student will be absent from class, please have your student call the English Language Centre Reception at 472-4747 to inform our staff.

Student Homestay Orientations

- ❖ All Homestay students are required to attend a **Homestay Orientation** during the first week of their program. This Orientation will introduce students to the UVic Homestay program. Students will see a video about life with a Canadian family and talk about the challenges and rewards they will experience.
- ❖ Our staff will make every effort to provide students with the information and skills to make the best of their homestay experience.

Placement Contract and Host Guidelines

- ❖ Please review the Placement Contract details carefully; the Placement Contract stipulates your commitment for the Hosting Dates listed.
- ❖ Please read the information in the **UVic Homestay Host Guidelines** as it outlines your responsibilities as a host family.

Contact Information

University of Victoria Office Hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

UVic Homestay Office	250-472-4268
English Language Centre Reception	250-721-8469
Socio-Cultural Activities	250-721-8479

Only in the event of an emergency outside regular office hours, please contact:

UVic Campus Security (24-Hour)—Emergency **ONLY** 250-721-7599