

International Student Handbook



Freedom Air Services & Training
2023

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~ Welcome to Freedom Air ~

The Sky is Not the Limit

Freedom Air Services & Training offers professional flight training to local and international students. Freedom Air is located just 30 minutes east of Edmonton, Alberta. We will personalize your self-paced training program to meet your time frame and needs. Freedom Air is one of the only flight schools in Canada to offer training with Hand Controls for those with disabilities.

If you are interested in training to become a pilot with us as an International Student, please first explore our website to ensure we are the right flight school for you.

In this handbook you will find all the recourses to assist in your application to Freedom Air.

Our staff members at Freedom Air are available to answer any questions about the application process. Please email mark.logan@freedomair.ca with any questions or concerns.

We look forward to helping you achieve your flight dreams.

Mark Logan
Chief Flight Instructor
Freedom Air Services & Training

~ Training and Services offered by Freedom Air ~

Freedom Air offers professional flight training in Canada. The following courses/licenses are offered by Freedom Air:

- Recreational Pilots License
- Privates Pilots License
- Commercial Pilots License
- Night Rating (must already have a pilots license)
- Over the Top Rating (must already have a pilots license)
- Mountain Checks
- In Person or Online Ground School

For a more detailed breakdown, please visit our website Freedomair.ca.

~ Admission Requirements ~

English Language Proficiency

All students are required to meet a certain standard of English language proficiency to become a pilot in Canada. This test is a conversational test and does not involve a written or reading component. At Freedom Air we encourage this test to be completed prior to the students first solo.

Therefore, students whose mother language is not English should take some form of ESL prior to commencing training with us. More details on the English Language Proficiency can be found on the [Transport Canada Guide to Aviation Proficiency](#).

Study Permit

Under the Canadian immigration laws, the student will be required to obtain a Student Authorization Visa from their local Canadian Consulate if the projected duration of the flight training is more than 6 months. The student does not need to acquire a study permit if they are planning to complete their flight training in 6 months or less, but rather they can enter Canada as a visitor. Citizens of some countries require a Visitor's Visa to enter Canada while some do not. If the student does not need one, they can enter based upon their valid passport. More information on Study Permits can be found on the [Government of Canada website](#).

Health Insurance

Students wanting to study in Canada are required to have their own Health Insurance. Below are a few options for Health Insurance.

[AHS Health Care Coverage](#)

[TuGo – Student Health Insurance](#)

[Insurance Finder Tool](#)

IQAS Assessment

To learn to fly in Canada, the student will need an Educational Credential Assessment (ECA) for education received outside of Canada. A High School Diploma is required although no previous flight experience is required. Visit the [IQAS website](#) to assess what other requirements may be required.

~ Payment ~

For all payments Freedom Air accepts cash, credit cards, E-transfer or cheques.

Tuition

- 10% of the tuition fees, plus the \$400.00 application fees will be required in advance for International Students
- An additional 25% of the tuition fees will be collected upon arrival and registration at Freedom Air.
- An additional 25% of the tuition fees will be collected once 50% of the program benefits has been delivered.
- The balance of the tuition fees will be collected once 90% or more of the Flight Training program has been delivered.

Refunds

Refunds will be based on the progress of the student and the amount of the training program completed. Any undelivered portion of the training program will be refunded at a 10% administration fee, unless it provides a means for the student to complete the program without any disadvantage, in which case a refund is not required.

~ Orientation ~

After arrival in Edmonton, we will schedule a general orientation and tour of the facilities, aircraft, and airport once the student has settled into their accommodations. We will complete any remaining documentation and book the first flight and ground school training sessions. If time permits the student and Chief Flight Instructor will do a city tour (in the aircraft) to point out key locations and attractions. In addition, new students will receive complimentary Freedom Air swag.

If additional assistance is required upon arrival in Edmonton, the student can contact the Chief Flight Instructor or address the issues at the general orientation.

~ Complaints and Dispute Resolution Process ~

Outlined below is the process in which a student may file a formal complaint and how it is to be resolved.

1. The student shall contact the Chief Flight Instructor or designate in writing of the complaint.
2. Once received, the submission will be dated and reviewed no later than 3 business days by the Chief Flight Instructor or designate.
3. If the Chief Flight Instructor or designate has not acknowledged the written submission within 3 business days, the student is awarded their dispute.
4. The Chief Flight Instructor will meet with the student and another nonbiased individual and resolve any issue.
5. Written notification along with notes from the meeting will be given to the student.
6. The Chief Flight Instructor will keep a copy of the meeting notes on the student's file for 1 year from the date of the initial complaint.

~ Housing and Transportation ~

All housing and transportation costs (including transportation to and from the Josephburg airport) are the sole responsibility of the student. Our staff

will be available to all students to assist as much as possible with student inquiries related to accommodation and transportation.

Where to live?

Edmonton is the capital of Alberta and the 5th largest city in Canada! Edmonton is known as Canada's Festival City! From Canoe Racing in the middle of winter to North America's largest Fringe Festival in the summer, Edmonton is not short of festivals of all kinds, year round. With the many recreation centres and the over 160 km of maintained pathways in the River Valley - Canada's largest urban park - Edmonton will never leave you without something to do! For more details on Edmonton, please visit the [Newcomer's Guide to Edmonton](#).

Located just 25 minutes northeast of Edmonton is the city of Fort Saskatchewan. This city is only located 10 minutes away from the Freedom Air Hangar. Fort Saskatchewan offers many of the same amenities as Edmonton with its Performing Arts Theatre, historical North West Mounted Police Fort and a recreation facility. Fort Saskatchewan is also located on the North Saskatchewan River and offers 80 km of walking trails through lush forests. Fort Saskatchewan offers the same wide range of services as a bigger city and retains the sense of community and charm.

Please note that the student may live in any community within travelling distance to the airport. The student is to choose the best location for their accommodations.

Housing/Accommodations

We recommend the student plans for at least 4-6 weeks of temporary housing to give ample time to look for a long term option. The Edmonton Area has lots of [Air BnB](#) properties available for short term rentals. Below are a few links to top rated rental websites offering long term rentals in Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan, and the surrounding areas.

[Rentfast.ca](#)

[Rentals.ca](#)

[Homestay.com](#)

Transportation

Freedom Air is located at the Josephburg Airport which is 40 minutes from downtown Edmonton and 10 minutes from Fort Saskatchewan. There is no bus service that goes to the airport.

~ Counselling and Emotional Support ~

Below are links to some counselling and emotional support services offered in the Edmonton area.

[Mental Health – Alberta Health Services](#)

[City of Fort Saskatchewan – Community Support](#)

[Canadian Mental Health Association](#)

[YEG Psychologists](#)

~ Health and Social Services ~

Below are links to some health and social services offered in the Edmonton area.

[Alberta Health Services](#)

[Health Services - AHS](#)

[Edmonton FCSS](#)

[City of Fort Saskatchewan – Community Support](#)

~Career and Academic Services ~

Freedom Air staff are always available to help guide and further the students academic career. There are several external businesses that offer mentorship programs and career counselling.

[Elevate Aviation](#) offers aviation focused mentorships.

The [Alberta Mentorship Program](#) offers mentorships and career guidance to newcomers to Canada.