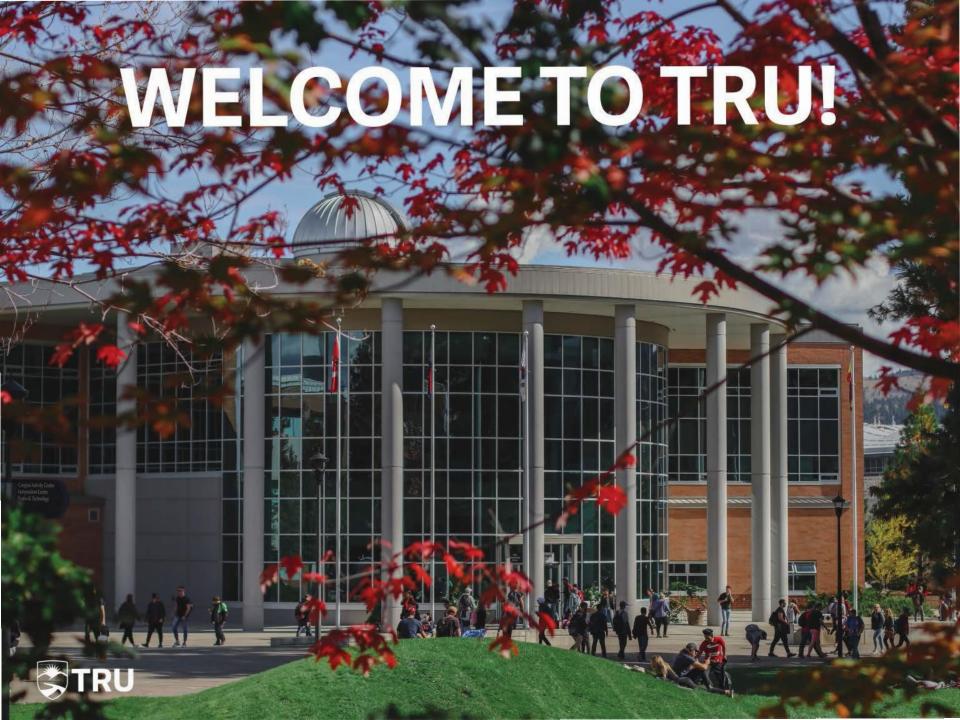


HOMESTAY
INTERNATIONAL
ORIENTATION

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY



#### HOMESTAY



#### E-mail

homestay@tru.ca if

you are inquiring or google "homestay tru world"



#### TRU World

**Future Students** 

**New Students** 

Orientation for New International Students

Before You Leave Home

Medical Insurance

Accommodations

Off Campus Housing Rentals

Homestay

Homestay FAQ

Student Homestay Evaluation Form



https://www.tru.ca/truworld/new-students/accommodations/homestay.html







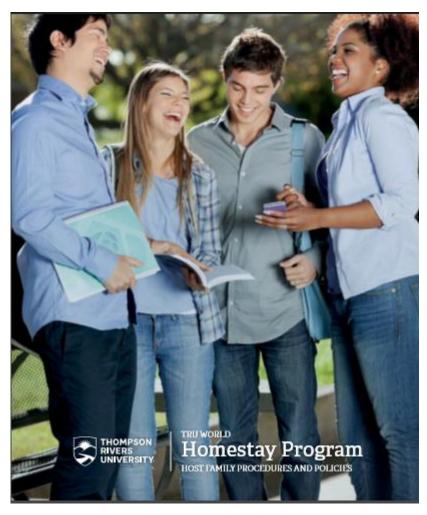
# Where to find the information



- International Student
   Advisors
- Homestay Guide ★
- Homestay Video: How to Apply
- Homestay Presentation for Semester Students
  - Ť
- Homestay Application
   Form ★
- <u>Leaving Your Homestay</u>
   <u>- Checklist</u> <u>↓</u>
- Homestay Termination
   Notice
- Refund Form for Continuing Students ₹
- Student Homestay
   Evaluation Form







# Homestay fees with your application



- Processing fee: \$150 to TRU (non-refundable)
   →Exchange ISEP students are exempt
- Homestay damage deposit: \$600 to TRU (refundable if no damage occurs after departure/room inspection)
- Always inspect your room upon the arrival, note any damage and let your host know asap. Thank you!





## **Homestay Fees**

- The homestay fee: \$1200 month/person (first payment due upon arrival)
- STUDENT pays host family directly in cash/cheque or e-transfer every 30 days on the same day
- Ask for a receipt with the date/signature if you would like and please pay on time - thank you!

For example, if you arrived at the home for your first night on August 23 then your fees are due on the 23rd of each month. Your next payment is due on September 23. There is an option to pay till the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month and then start from the start of the month (approx. 40 CAD/day)







# Homestay fees when on vacation



- If you go away on vacation for seven consecutive nights or less, you will pay your normal monthly home stay fee.
- If you are away for eight consecutive nights, or up to 30 nights, your host family will refund you 50% of the prorated daily rate per night away.

For Example: \*\*\* the fee of \$1200 is from January 2024

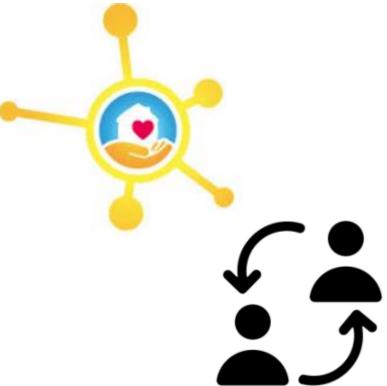
- Monthly payment is \$1,200
- Prorated daily rate is \$1,200/30 =\$40.00
- Refund is 50% of \$40.00 = \$20.00 per night away
- Total refund: \$20.00 x amount of days way
- Whole summer (negotiate a storage fee if you pack up your room; we suggest \$50/month)

## **Benefits of Homestay**

**TRU** 

- Care & support of a family, no loneliness
- Have special help & guidance with difficult situations
- 3 meals/some snacks are provided (and shared)
- Language practice
- Introduction to life in Kamloops
- Canadian reference
- Cultural exchange & Canadian lifestyle





## **Expectations**



#### What to expect

- Homestay rules
- Private, furnished bedroom
- Three meals per day & snacks
- Laundry (bedding) / linen / towel arrangements
- Keeping your room / bathroom clean / always clean up after yourself

### What NOT to expect

- Personal items (toiletries, clothes)
- Long distance calls/digital devices
- Medical insurance

Don't be mean. Keep it clean.



### Rules



In the first week at your new home, you will have many questions. **Communication** is important!

#### Understanding & complying with your family's rules:

- Daily schedule & communication
- Curfews & visitors
- Chores & responsibilities
- Internet data/plan/phone
- Pets/rules/allergies
- Kids/quite times
- Safety (appliances, swimming, driving...)
- Smoking/vaping/drinking
- Laundry (bedding, towels, your laundry...)
- Bathroom/shower times & toilets
- Kitchen/cooking/groceries/allergies
- Garbage/recycling
- Damage in the homestay
- Every family/student is different
- Get familiar with your homestay rules





### **Outings**



- Activities, family trips & vacations
- It is important to be a part of your family& do things together
- Enjoy and embrace the experience
- Restaurants & dining out (to replace the home dinner)
- It is OK to talk to your family about expenses
- It is OK to say "no thank you" and stay at home; you can explain why (I do not know how to swim; my mom does not want me to ski..)

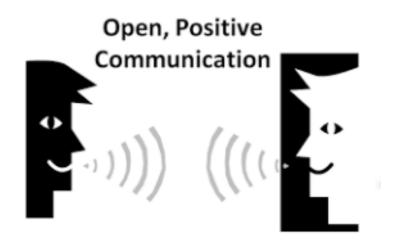


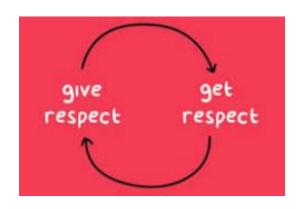


#### Issues



- All families can have misunderstandings. Every family is different.
- Talk to your family first. They will appreciate knowing how you feel.
- If talking to your family does not help or is not possible, come see the homestay supervisor or your ISA.
- Do not wait until small problems become bigger.
- Stay safe & positive.





#### **Meals**



- Meals are often casual/basic
- Breakfast times vary depending on schedules
- You might be asked to prepare your own breakfast/lunch
- Largest meal is usually dinner (6pm)
- Go grocery shopping with your host family
- It is important to talk to your host family about food: allergies/preferences/dietary needs
   Example: "At home I usually have rice for breakfast,

would it be possible for you to prepare me rice?"

- Absence:
  - If you will be late or absent for a meal, you must inform your family as soon as possible.



### Canadians eat...



#### Breakfast

- Cereal, toast, fruit, coffee, tea, juice
- On weekends usually pancakes or eggs/bacon/sausages

#### Lunch

- Sandwiches, salad, soup, fruit, snack, drink
- Occasionally leftovers to reheat

#### Dinner

Meat or fish with a side of potatoes/rice/pasta

Soup





Learn what goes in each bin.

### **Termination**



## Termination notice: one month (30 days)

- **1. Give 30 days notice** to your family (long term/exchange/visiting students).
- **2. Fill out the** homestay termination form.
- 3. Complete the homestay evaluation.
- **4. Ask your family to complete the** <u>student evaluation</u> (sometimes family does it themselves).
- **5. Clean your room** before the inspection.
- 6. Ask your homestay family to sign your homestay termination form after the inspection or send homestay@tru.ca an e-mail.
- - Homestay Termination Notice <u>\*</u>
  - Student Homestay Evaluation Form
- Homestay Termination Notice Ł
- Student Homestay Evaluation Form



## Damage deposit back payment – \$600 if you owe fees to TRU, these will be paid in full first

- Security deposit is refunded if you **meet the conditions** (30 days notice given, no damage is caused etc).
- Regular semester students will get credit to their TRU student account. Watch your myTRU (financial tab/account summary).
- There is an option to refund to your local or international bank if you are not owing any fees/leaving TRU permanently. Additional refund form is required. It can be combined with your other funds. Check your myTRU first.
- All refunds are processed by Paymytuition.

Takes up to six weeks to process

#### Contact us

#### **More Questions?**

- Attend an information session
- Visit the TRU website
- Speak with your host
- Ask your international student advisor (ISA): call, email, visit us in IB 3rd floor. Not sure who your ISA is? email isa@tru.ca
- Contact the homestay team: e-mail homestay@tru.ca









