

International Participants at PIMS Events

Obtaining a Visa:

If you require a visa to attend a PIMS event, you can find relevant information about the application process from Immigration Canada at: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/apply-who.asp>

Apply for your Visa well in advance of your travel:

- Review your visa status, and find out if you need to renew your travel document or obtain a Canadian visa.
- Review the visa wait times information for interview appointments and visa processing at each Canadian embassy and consular section: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/times/temp.asp>
- Plan on an interview at the embassy or consulate, which is required for most visa applicants. As part of the visa interview, quick inkless fingerprint scans should be expected. Some visa applications require additional administrative processing, which requires some additional time. Applicants will be advised of this when they apply.
- Citizens from [visa-exempt countries](#) (except for the United States) will require an [Electronic Travel Authorization](#) (eTA) when flying to Canada.
- Expect to show proof of full vaccination and/or a negative COVID Test before you enter Canada.

Letter of Invitation:

If you require a letter of invitation from PIMS, please submit an email to events@pims.math.ca and let us know your application file number (provided by CIC once you have submitted your application). The following criteria must be met by the requesting party in order to honor the request for a letter of invitation:

- You must be an organizing committee member, invited speaker or invited participant

And/or

- Your registration fee must be paid in full (if needed) and that the payment has been verified by the credit card company on which the payment was made and by PIMS (this can take up between 5 and 10 business days)

***Self-funded participants will be required to show a flight itinerary or purchase of travel tickets to and from the conference location, accommodation reservations, and proof of registration at the event. You may be asked to show that you have met the COVID health requirements for the meeting you wish to attend.*

Visa letters will state only the facts (conference title, dates, location and any financial obligations PIMS undertakes towards the participant's visit); they do not guarantee entry to Canada. Spouses or partners accompanying invited participants are responsible for their own documentation.

Please allow up to 5- 10 business days to process the document, which will be sent to you as an e-document.