

Tenant Rights in British Columbia

Tenant Rights Summary for International Students

Location: British Columbia

Tenants in British Columbia are protected under the Residential Tenancy Act. This law sets out the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords.

Key Rights

- Right to a written tenancy agreement or to the standard terms if no written agreement is provided.
- Right to quiet enjoyment including privacy and freedom from undue disturbances.
- No lockouts or removals without the correct legal process.
- Landlord must maintain the property in good condition.
- Rent can increase only once every twelve months with proper notice.
- Access to dispute resolution through the Residential Tenancy Branch.

For complete details see the official BC government page:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/housing-tenancy/residential-tenancies/during-a-tenancy/tenant-rights>

Important Notes for International Students

- Confirm that your housing is covered by the Residential Tenancy Act. Some situations are not covered such as living with the homeowner or school provided housing.
- Keep written records of all communication with your landlord.
- Review your agreement carefully before you sign. If English is not your first language ask for help to understand the terms.
- Short term and informal stays may have fewer legal protections.

Useful Resources

- BC Government Tenant Rights:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/housing-tenancy/residential-tenancies/during-a-tenancy/tenant-rights>

- Tenant Resource and Advisory Centre TRAC:

<https://tenants.bc.ca>

- ClickLaw guide to Landlord and Tenant Law:

[https://wiki.clicklaw.bc.ca/index.php/Introduction_to_Landlord_and_Tenant_Law_\(19:I\)](https://wiki.clicklaw.bc.ca/index.php/Introduction_to_Landlord_and_Tenant_Law_(19:I))

Support for ATC Students

ATC Surrey Student Services can guide you to local resources and help you understand your options.

Contact Information:

Email: info@autotrainingcentre.com

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