

## **2025 ECDI Summer Camp**

Preparing your precious ones for successful integration into Canadian higher education and society through summer socialization and learning opportunities

Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI) has partnered with reputable community organizations, universities and colleges in Ontario to provide integration and socialization opportunities for international students, through fun, skills building summer camp experiences.

Our camps are especially tailored to enable international children socialize and build authentic lasting friendships with Canadian peers, understand Canadian social norms, explore and discover community, challenge their own capacities and gain leadership skills, while learning.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**How will my child be kept safe?**

The summer camps are designed to conform to Ontario Ministry of Education and Ontario Parks and Recreations standards with regard to quality, programming, equipment and adult/child ratios.

**What types of activities will my child be engaged in?**

Children will have the opportunity to participate in Art and Crafts, Science, and Sport activities, based on their preference, during the days. Fun games, activities and tours will run during the evenings and weekends. A detailed schedule will be provided at a later date

**What are the Camp Dates?**

<b>Itinerary</b>	<b>Camp Session 1 27 July – 09 August (2 weeks)</b>	<b>Camp Session 2 10 - 23 August (2 weeks)</b>
Departure from Nigeria	Saturday 26 July	Saturday 09 August
Arrival to Toronto	Sunday 27 July	Sunday 10 August
Camp Starts	Monday 28 July	Monday 11 August
Camp Ends	Friday 08 August	Friday 22 August
Departure from Toronto	Saturday 09 August	Saturday 23 August
Arrival to Nigeria	Sunday 10 August	Sunday 24 August

**I would like to keep in contact with my child?**

Parents will be provided with phone numbers at which they can reach their children between the hours of 6:00-9:00pm EST during the week and 10:00am-10:00pm EST during the weekends.

**What do the fees cover?**

The CA\$ 5,500 fees cover in-Canada transportation and accommodation, medical insurance, feeding, camp fees, tours, entertainment and community engagement activities. It also covers a 5% non-refundable registration fee.

**Payments/Cancellation/Refund Policy**

We recommend that parents make full payment upon application in order to secure a spot for your child. Spaces are filled on a first come-first served basis, determined by full fee payment. Full fees must be received, alongside fully completed registration forms on or before 28 March, 2025.

**Note: Please ensure that the full names of your child (including first, middle and surnames) and Date of Birth is quoted in the notes of your payment.**

### Cancellation

All requests for changes/cancellations must be initiated by the parent/guardian in writing via email to [YIHA@ecdinitiative.org](mailto:YIHA@ecdinitiative.org).

a) Cancellations BEFORE June 16th, 2025: **75% of the fees are refundable.**

A non-refundable administrative charge of 25% is utilized for expenses including the 5% registration fees, wire transfer fees, non-refundable costs for medical insurance and other required holding fees for camp space and accommodation. The best facilities are taken quickly. In order to maintain the ECDI standard of quality, we must make non-refundable financial commitments early.

b) Cancellations after June 16th, 2025: **NO REFUND**

### **Why do I have to pay so far ahead of the camp start date**

Various components of the international camp must be paid for several months of the Camp start date. These include reservation of camp spaces, quality accommodation facilities, and purchase of medical insurance.

### **How will I purchase the flight tickets?**

ECDI has partnered with an experienced travel agency in Abuja to coordinate the purchase of tickets for the group. We encourage all parents to contact the agent for a booking. All tickets must be fully paid for by 30 March 2025. A preliminary ticket search for travel between July-August 2025 (search conducted in September 2024) has ticket estimates at:

1. Lufthansa	N 2,593,160
2. QATAR	N 1,286,694
3. Ethiopian	N 1,183,323
4. Turkish	N 2,743,786

Ticket prices include airport group protocol and transfer. Please note: These prices are estimates only. The agent warns that these prices are not a commitment. Airlines are hesitant to commit to fares for flights so far ahead of time, as a result of the volatility in the industry. Prices will be whatever is current at the time of purchase. Please note also that proof of ticket purchase will likely be required for visa application.

### **What about the visa processing?**

ECDI has partnered with an experienced agent to facilitate the processing of visas. All visa applications must be submitted to the agent by **15th February 2025**. Canadian visa processing time is currently 124 days (approximately 5-months) for Nigeria.

### **I would like to accompany my children to Canada?**

Parents are welcome to bring their children to Canada and still have them participate in the camp. Once in Canada, children will need to report to camp by 5:00pm latest on the Sunday evening before camp activities begin and remain resident through the week. Parents may pick their children up from 5:00pm on Friday for the weekend, however, children must be returned to camp by 5:00pm latest on the Sunday ending the weekend. The integrated socialization experience offered is designed around children being resident and participating in all organized activities.

### **What types of food will children be offered?**

Children will enjoy a mix of Canadian and Nigerian meals, with lunch or dinner prepared daily by a Nigerian cook. A variety of healthy snacks such as fruit, vegetables, crackers and cheese will be available at regular intervals between meals.

### **How do I make payment of the fees?**

Account information has been provided in the registration package.

### **What COVID-19 protocols are in place?**

Canada's Public Health Agency provides the guidelines for ensuring the safety of Canadians. At this time, all COVID restrictions have been removed. ECDI monitors and will follow public health guidelines. In addition, PPEs will be made available for individual preferences.