IN CANADA INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION

Information in the presentation is current as of April 29, 2021.
Privacy Disclaimer

This presentation is hosted on Zoom and will be recorded. To protect your personal information and privacy, we ask you to keep your video off throughout the session. Access to information shared via chat function will be limited to presenters only.
Disclaimer

• Do not cite information from the presentation, information presented is current as we speak.

• Business students should contact Business International Programs Office at gsbwelcome@uvic.ca.

• This session is not for continuing studies students. Continuing studies students must contact uvcsimmigration@uvic.ca for help.
Presentation Agenda

• Getting to know ISS
• Getting started
• Immigration documents
• Academic status and immigration implications
• Working in Canada
• Health insurance
International Student Services (ISS)

We are a centralized resource providing international services, information and support for students at UVic.

International Student Centre

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (PT), Weekdays

Phone: +1 250 721 6361
Email: issinfo@uvic.ca
Website: www.uvic.ca/iss

We are working remotely until further notice.
International Student Advising

- ISS website – [Living in Canada](#)
- *In the Know: Advice for international students* – [UVic Global Community Newsletter](#)
- Email, phone, appointments
- Frontline advising – issinfo@uvic.ca or +1 250 721 6361
- Pre-booked advising appointments (Phone or Teams)
- Information sessions and workshops
- ISS - [COVID-19 information website](#)
- [UVic COVID-19 website](#)
International Student Advisers

Dos

• Answer questions about study permit, student work authorization, co-op work permit, post-graduation work permit, your accompanying family member’s immigration documents.

Don’ts

• Provide advice on academic planning
• Answer questions about Canadian citizenship or permanent residency related matters
Getting Started: Self-isolation Program

- UVic Self-isolation Program – uvicsip@uvic.ca

- As of March 25, 2020, it is mandatory that anyone arriving in British Columbia from outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days upon their arrival whether or not they have symptoms.

- As of February 21, 2021 all travellers are required to take a COVID-19 test on arrival to Canada; and quarantine for the first three nights of the 14 days self isolation period in a government-authorized hotel in the city in which they first arrive in Canada to await test results.

- After a negative test result is received, travelers may complete the additional 11 days of self-isolation in the location of their choice in accordance with Accommodation Options and guidelines for Self-isolation.
Getting Started - Online

Online

• Register for a Netlink ID
• UVic Online Tools
• Integrated Learning Resource
• Stay Connected
Getting Started - Settlement

- Attend Orientations
- Phone & Internet
- Health Insurance
- Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- OneCard
- Housing
- Bank Account

Resources: ISS Website Living in Canada
Getting Started - Housing

Short Term Accommodation
- Airbnb
- Hotel
- On Campus Housing (May-August)

On Campus Housing
- Apartments
- Cluster Rooms
- Family housing
  September 2021 – May 2022

Off Campus Housing
- Canada Homestay Network
  - Apartments
  - Suite in a house

Housing@uvic.ca
250-721-8395
# Getting Started – Off Campus Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Tenancy Rights &amp; Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • ISS Website: [Living in Canada](#)  
• [Places4Students](#) UVic portal | • [RentSmart](#)  
• [BC Tenancy Act](#)  
• [Tenancy Survival Guide](#) |
| • [Canada Homestay Network](#) | • [Off Campus Conduct Office of Student Life](#) |
Getting Started – Banking, Phone, Internet Services

Major Banks in Canada include: BMO, CIBC, CWB, HSBC, Scotia Bank, TD and Canada Trust

11 major mobile phone companies. Compare plans by using www.wirelesswave.ca/compare-plans

Access to Internet – On Campus
Need to discuss with landlord – Off Campus
Explore Victoria

- Shopping in Victoria
- Safety
- Culture Shock
- Tourism Victoria website
- BC’s Response to COVID-19
IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS
Study Permit

- Status document: allows you to stay in Canada and engage in a program of study
- Required for programs longer than 6 months
- You may NOT continue your studies if it expires
- You can apply to change, replace or extend your study permit from within Canada
- If you are outside Canada when your study permit expires you must apply for a new one
Study Permit Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLIENT INFORMATION/INFORMATION DU CLIENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Name/Nom de Famille:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Given Name(s)/Prénom(s):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Birth/Date de naissance:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex/Sexe:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country of Birth/Pays de naissance:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country of Citizenship/Citoyen de:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel Doc No./N° du document de voyage:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/INFORMATION SUPPLÉMENTAIRE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date Issued/Délivré le:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expiry Date/Date d’expiration:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Type/Genre de cas:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution Name/Identité de l’institution:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of Study/Domaine d’études:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Force From/En vigueur le:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conditions:**
1. UNLESS AUTHORIZED, PROHIBITED FROM ENGAGING IN EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA.
2. MUST LEAVE CANADA BY 2015/

**Remarks/Observations:**

***THIS DOES NOT AUTHORIZE RE-ENTRY/CECI N’AUTORISE PAS LA RÉ-ENTRÉE***

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This form has been established by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. This document is the property of the Government of Canada. Formulaire établi par le Ministre de la Citoyenneté et de l'Immigration. Le présent document est la propriété du gouvernement du Canada.
Study Permit Conditions

• As per IRCC, study permit holder must show you’re actively pursuing your studies by:
  ▪ being enrolled full-time or part-time during regular academic sessions (excluding regularly scheduled breaks)
  ▪ making progress towards completing your program’s courses, and
  ▪ not taking authorized leaves longer than 150 days

• For detailed study permit conditions, refer to the IRCC website.

• Report school change
Temporary Resident Visa (TRV)

- Only required for certain nationalities
- Entry document: allows entry to Canada
- You may continue your studies if it expires
- You can apply for a new TRV inside Canada
- You can apply for a new TRV outside Canada
Sample TRV
Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

- Only required for certain nationalities
- Entry document: allows entry to Canada
- Only required for entry to Canada by air
- You may continue your studies if it expires
- You can apply for an eTA online
- If you change your passport, you will need to get a new eTA

More info on the [IRCC website](https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/e-travel.html)
Work Permits

- **Co-op work permit**
  - Work permit linked to study permit
  - Allows you to engage in UVic work terms, internships, or experiential learning

- **Post-graduation work permit (PGWP)**
  - Status document allowing you to stay in Canada and engage in work after graduation

- **Spousal work permit**
  - Only spouses of full-time students are eligible
  - Open work permit
ACADEMIC ENROLMENT
Program Planning

• Seek academic advice early and often

• Program Planning:
  ▪ Resources for Undergraduate students
  ▪ Resources for Graduate students

• Connect with your Academic Adviser:
  ▪ Undergraduate students
  ▪ Graduate students

• UVic Important Dates
Academic Year

The academic year at UVic is divided into 2 sessions: Winter session and Summer session

- **Winter session (September - April)**
  - Further divided into fall term and spring term
  - Regular academic sessions

- **Summer session (May - August)**
  - Further divided into several terms of varying length
Terms used at UVic

• Full-time definitions at UVic
  ▪ Undergraduate Calendar
  ▪ Graduate Calendar

• Regular academic sessions
  ▪ Winter sessions (September to April)

• Scheduled breaks
  ▪ Summer break (does not apply to Business program students or Graduate students and may not apply to all Undergraduate programs)
  ▪ Reading break
  ▪ Winter break
Terms used at UVic

• Authorized Leave
  ▪ Consult with your Academic Adviser
  ▪ Consult with an International Student Adviser about implications on your student status, work authorization and PGWP eligibility
WORKING IN CANADA
What is work?

Volunteer vs Paid Work

“Work” is defined in the Regulations as an activity for which wages are paid or commission is earned, or that competes directly with activities of Canadian citizens or permanent residents in the Canadian labour market. (IRCC)
Study Permit Work Authorization

Working on Campus

• You must have a valid study permit with on-campus employment remark.

• You are registered in full-time studies at UVic during regular academic sessions

• No time restriction

• **Who can you work for?**

Refer to the [IRCC Website](https://www.ircc.gc.ca) for detailed information.
Study Permit Work Authorization

Working Off Campus

• You must have a valid study permit with off-campus employment remark

• You are registered in full-time studies at UVic during regular academic sessions

• You may be eligible to work for up to a maximum of 20 hours per week during regular sessions

• If you meet conditions, you may work full-time during scheduled breaks

Refer to the IRCC Website for detailed information
Co-op Work Term

- You must have a valid study permit
- You must also have a work permit
  - To qualify for the work permit you must be admitted into UVic Co-op or Work Experience Program
  - You can apply for the work permit from within Canada
  - You can apply to change, replace or extend the work permit from within Canada
Social Insurance Number (SIN)

- Required to receive payment for work
- Make sure your study permit has the right condition or remark
- You can apply online or by mail
- Required documents:
  - Valid study permit with employment remark or a work permit
  - A primary ID
  - Secondary piece of ID to prove your identity
  - Acceptable proof of address
Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

To obtain a post-graduation work permit, you must have:

- completed an in-person delivery program, that is at least 8 months long
- completed at least 50% of the program in-person unless exempted by COVID-19 special measures
- continuously maintained full-time status as a student in Canada during each semester of your study program except for final term or Leave of Absence.

IRCC PGWPP Criteria
COVID-19: Extending your Study Permit

• You must extend your study permit if it’s expiring soon and you need to continue studying
  ▪ Apply to extend your study permit at least 120 days before it expires

• IRCC continues to process online applications

• In-Canada temporary exemption on Biometrics until further notice

Contact ISS for guidance if needed
COVID-19: Study Permit Conditions

• As per IRCC, you’ll still be complying with your study permit conditions if your in-class courses are temporarily moved to an online-only format or suspended completely because of COVID-19.

• To stay compliant you must
  ▪ stay enrolled in your DLI, and
  ▪ participate in your studies online, if your DLI offers them

• [UVic support letter for COVID-19 impacted terms](#)
COVID-19: PGWP Eligibility

- As per IRCC, you’re still eligible for the post-graduation work permit program, if
  - your in-person classes in Canada have been moved to an online-only format and you had to begin or will continue your classes online because of COVID-19, or
  - you had to put your studies on hold or study part-time during the winter, spring or summer 2020 semesters because of COVID-19

As of the fall 2020 semester, you must be studying full-time to be eligible.
IRCC COVID-19 Updates

- IRCC COVID-19 website
- Post-Graduation Work permit eligibility and impacts of online studies
- Renewing your status in Canada
- Family Reunification for individuals in Canada on a temporary status.
- The Government of BC website
- The Government of Canada website
IRCC

- Website: [www.canada.ca/immigration](http://www.canada.ca/immigration)
- Help Centre
- [IRCC Web Form](http://www.canada.ca/immigration)
- Client Support Centre: 1-888-242-2100
  - Agents available 8:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays
  - To speak with an agent
    - Choose 3 for temporary residents
    - Choose 4 for study in Canada
    - Choose 0 and you will be transferred
Comprehensive Health Insurance

Primary Health Insurance

Guard.me (MTMI)

BC Medical Services Plan (BC MSP)

Extended Health Insurance

UVSS Extended Health Benefits

GSS Extended Health Benefits
**Primary Health Insurance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guard.me @ UVic</th>
<th>BC MSP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most new international students are enrolled upon course registration for their first term (May-Aug)</td>
<td>Apply online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guard.me is for students to use in the BC MSP waiting period</td>
<td>Wait period is the balance of month of arrival plus 2 additional months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee of $265 MTMI Fee should appear on your UVic student account</td>
<td>Monthly Fee - $75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective coverage dates April 17– August 31</td>
<td>Effective coverage date will be valid till your study permit expiration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive policy information through email</td>
<td>Receive invoice and non-photo card in the mail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Can I opt out from the guard.me@uvic plan?

You can opt out **only if** you are covered by one of the following:

- Valid BC Medical Services Plan at least to August 31, 2021
- Canadian provincial or territorial public health plan
- Saudi Arabian Cultural Bureau-sponsored plan
- Libyan-North American Scholarship Program-sponsored plan
- African Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship Program-sponsored plan
- Corbett British Columbia-Washington International Exchange & Fellowship Program

Visit [guard.me/uvic](guard.me/uvic), click opt out and follow the instructions. (deadline: **May 22, 2021**)
# Extended Health & Dental

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Summer (May 2021-Aug 2021)</th>
<th>Regular year Sept 2021 – Aug 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UVSS Extended Health &amp; Dental</strong></td>
<td>If you have previously opted out, you will not be able to opt in.</td>
<td>Automatically enrolled when enrolled in a minimum of 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GSS Extended Health</strong></td>
<td>Available to opt in by May 30, 2021</td>
<td>Automatically enrolled when in a minimum of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GSS Dental</strong></td>
<td>If you have previously opted out, you will not be able to opt-in</td>
<td>Available to opt-in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accessing Healthcare in Victoria

• Students with Guard.me: **Mobile Doctor**
• Students with MSP: HealthLink BC 811
• **UVic Student Wellness Centre**— calling in advance to book an appointment
• **SupportConnect** through UVic
• Walk in clinics ([Medimaps](#))
• **Guard.me clinic search**
• In case of emergency, call 911
Key Messages

• All students in Canada require comprehensive health insurance!

• If you are not already covered by the BC MSP, you must submit the application for enrolment

• If you are covered an eligible plan you can opt out of the guard.me plan before May 22, 2021

• Coverage provided by the Extended health and dental plan is not the same as coverage provided by guard.me plan and BC MSP
Health Insurance Session

Health Insurance Information Session
Join us tomorrow, Friday April 30, 3pm-4pm (PT)

• Overview of health Insurance
• Provide detailed instructions on how to apply for BC MSP
• Provide instructions on how to enroll in Guard.me if you are arriving after your first semester
• Question and Answers
International Student Services

International Student Centre

**Hours:** 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (PT), Weekdays

**Phone:** +1 250 721 6361  
**Email:** issinfo@uvic.ca  
**Website:** [www.uvic.ca/iss](http://www.uvic.ca/iss)

*We are working remotely until further notice*