



Arrival Guide: Current Students



Schulich
School of Business



Updated June 18, 2021

Planning for Canada Overview

Pre-Arrival Checklist

- Immigration
- PGWP Updates
- COVID Travel Restrictions
- Quarantine Requirement
- Accommodations
- University Health Insurance
- Packing List

Life in Toronto

- Self-quarantine Requirements
- State of Emergency (Ontario)
- Transportation
- Shopping



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Virtual Q&A Sessions	https://schulich.yorku.ca/international-relations-qa-webinars/

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Pre-Arrival Checklist

- ☐ [Immigration Documents](#)
- ☐ [PGWP Update](#)
- ☐ Understand [Travel Restrictions](#)
- ☐ [Self-Quarantine](#)
- ☐ Secure [Accommodations](#)
- ☐ Learn about [Health Insurance](#)
- ☐ [What to Bring](#) with you

Please note: Immigration and border information is valid as of 18 June 2021.

Monitor Government of Canada information for updates as information may change rapidly:

- [COVID 19- Travel, quarantine and borders](#)
- [IRCC COVID-19 website](#)
- [Flying to Canada checklist](#)

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Immigration Documents

- International students studying for longer than 6 months **require a [study permit](#)** to study inside Canada
 - As a current student, you should already have [applied for your study permit](#)
 - [For PGWP eligibility](#), must apply for study permit before starting your program
 - Study permit approval is not required before starting online from overseas (but is required if you are physically in Canada)
- Depending on your [country of citizenship](#), you will also be issued a temporary resident visa (TRV) or electronic travel authorization (eTA) to enter Canada (exception for US citizens)
- Upon approval, you should receive a [Letter of Introduction](#) from the visa office; required to board a flight
- Study permit will be issued at the border when you arrive
- Remember, being exempt from the travel restrictions and authorized to board your flight does not guarantee that you will be permitted entry to Canada
 - Entry to Canada is at discretion of border officer
- Continue to monitor [IRCC COVID-19 website](#)

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

PGWP Update

On February 12, the Canadian government announced that PGWP measures will be [extended and expanded](#)

- **ALL** online studies completed overseas will [count toward PGWP eligibility](#), up to 31 December 2021
 - Can complete 100% of your program online from outside Canada
 - No longer required to complete 50% of program in Canada
 - Must still meet other eligibility requirements (i.e.: full-time studies; no unauthorized breaks)
 - Adds flexibility to travel plans
- Summer 2021 term will continue online
- A partial return to in-person classes is anticipated for Fall 2021
 - Availability depends on program/level

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Travel Restrictions/Exemptions

Travel exemptions for international students:

1. Must have **appropriate travel documents** (i.e: study permit approval)
 - Visa/eTA/US passport **and** Letter of Introduction from visa office
2. University must have an approved COVID-readiness plan
 - York University is an [approved DLI](#)
3. Must have [negative COVID test](#) taken within 72 hrs of departure
4. Cannot be entering Canada for an optional purpose*
 - Must be enrolled in classes or will be starting classes within 3-4 weeks after arrival
5. Must have **valid immigration medical exam**
 - Exams are valid for 1 year from date of exam
 - There is **no vaccine requirement** for Canada (at this time)
6. Must have plan to [quarantine for 14 days](#) after arrival
 - York University is offering quarantine accommodation upon request
7. Must undergo COVID [test upon arrival](#)
8. Monitor country-specific travel bans (India/Pakistan)



You should **not** travel to Canada until 3-4 weeks before your classes begin

Review: [Find out if you can enter Canada](#)

*Optional/non-optional purpose of travel

- Students meeting above criteria will be considered to be travelling for a [non-optional purpose](#), regardless of mode of program delivery (online/in-person)
- Must show proof of enrollment; request [Confirmation of Enrollment with Entry Support](#) Letter from Schulich

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Mandatory Quarantine

Upon arrival, required by law to immediately quarantine for 14 days; fines in place for non-compliance

- Must have a plan in place before travelling to fulfill [quarantine requirement](#)
 - 1) York U Quarantine Accommodation Program; **OR**
 - 2) Self-Arranged Quarantine
- [3-day initial quarantine](#) at government-authorized hotel is required to await COVID test results
 - [York U will arrange and cover this 3-day quarantine](#) in Ontario, regardless of what your quarantine plan is

York U Quarantine Accommodation Program

- No-cost quarantine hotel accommodations available (*recommended*)
- Visit [York U Quarantine webpage](#) for more information
- *Note:* York U hotel accommodation is a standard hotel (3-star)
 - Basic accommodations and meals; Requests for upgrades, etc cannot be considered

Self Arranged Quarantine

- Review [quarantine requirements](#)

- The government plans to introduce quarantine amendment for fully vaccinated travelers
 - [Health Canada approved vaccines](#)
 - Anticipated mid July; details to come
- The Quarantine Accommodation program will be **unavailable** from June 21 – July 6

Mandatory! Must Complete York U [Quarantine Accommodation Form](#) at least 3 weeks before travel date, regardless of where you intend to quarantine

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Required Steps

Before travelling to Canada, you must complete the following:

Review York University [Essential Information for International Travelers](#)

University Requirements

At least 3 weeks before you travel:

- Complete the York University [Quarantine Accommodation Form](#)
- Request a [Confirmation of Enrollment with Entry Support letter](#) from Schulich

Canadian Government requirements

- Obtain [negative COVID test](#) taken within 72 hrs before travel
- Download the [ArriveCAN app](#) and submit your travel and quarantine information to the Canadian government before boarding your flight

Links: [Find out if you can travel to Canada](#)



PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Vaccine Requirement – On Campus Housing

York University has implemented a vaccine requirement for students living in on-campus residence this fall.

Requirement for Vaccination

- Applies to students living in undergraduate residence in Fall 2021
 - Graduate students living in York Apartments are exempt, but strongly encouraged to be vaccinated
 - Should have 1st shot before moving into residence (taken at least 14 days before move-in)
 - Only [Health Canada](#) and [WHO](#) approved vaccines are accepted
 - Students who cannot get vaccinated before move-in will have 14 days after move-in date to receive 1st dose
 - York U will help to facilitate access to vaccines
 - International students are eligible to receive vaccine in Canada at no charge
-
- **Review [York U FAQ on Vaccines and Vaccinations](#)**

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Accommodation

It is your responsibility to secure accommodations in Toronto. Consider the type of accommodation that is best for you by researching costs, location, etc.

On-Campus Housing – York Apartments (Graduate)

- Housing for graduate students and families
- Lease-based occupancy
- Furnished and unfurnished apartments - you will need to obtain your own bedding, small kitchen appliances and other items
- [York Apartments website](#)

On-Campus Housing (Undergraduate) - **Vaccine required*

- 8 Residence buildings at York's Keele Campus
- Meal-Plan is available for students
- Variety of social and educational activities are provided for residence students
- For more details including Virtual Tours and rates, please visit the [Student Housing Website](#)

Off-Campus Housing

- There are many options to search for off-campus housing, including:
 - York University [Off-Campus Housing Service](#)
 - Places4Students- [Off-Campus Housing Website](#)
 - [The Quad](#) - off-campus student residence within 2 min walk to Schulich
 - Use your network (GBC, buddy, etc); contact IR for off-campus housing resources

York Student Housing Office:

340 Assiniboine Road, York University

Tel: +1-416-736-5152

Email:

Grad – apstatus@yorku.ca

Undergrad – undergradres@yorku.ca

Website: [Student Housing website](#)

Note: *Tenants in Ontario have certain rights and responsibilities. Familiarize yourself with the general guidelines before entering into a lease or rental agreement by visiting the [Landlord and Tenant Board website](#)*



PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

Health Insurance



University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)

- Mandatory for all international students and dependents who are physically in Canada
 - Dependents must be enrolled within 30 days of arrival to avoid \$500 late fee
- Coverage includes services such as doctor's visits and hospital accommodation in Ontario and emergency services in Canada. UHIP only covers dental care required as a result of a major accident
- UHIP does not cover medications, routine dental care, etc (*supplemental insurance recommended*)
- The approximate cost is \$720 (Sept 1st - Aug 31st)*
- **Only students in Canada will be enrolled. Must complete the [Quarantine Accommodation form](#)**
- Current students: Your coverage will begin as of your date of arrival in Canada; you should receive your UHIP card within a week (*check your junk mail*); if you do not receive it, complete the [UHIP Card Request form](#)
- For more information visit the [UHIP website](#) or the [York University UHIP website](#)

Graduate Student Association (GSA) / York Federation of Students (YFS) Supplemental Insurance

- Coverage includes items such as prescription drugs, paramedical services, dental benefits, etc.
- All full-time students will automatically be registered (dependents can be enrolled), regardless of country of residence
 - You may need to opt-in if you have not yet been enrolled
 - Students not in Canada can opt out by selecting 'Coverage provided by foreign Governments'
 - To be exempt, students must provide proof of an alternative coverage
- For fees and to opt-in/opt-out, visit the [GSA website](#) (graduate) or the [YFS website](#) (undergrad)

Health plan fees will be billed to your student account

Plan to attend a session in August for more details

** Fees are subject to change*

PREPARING TO ARRIVE IN CANADA

When to Arrive and What to Bring

Review what to [expect at the airport](#) when you arrive in Canada as an international student. If you are arriving as a permanent resident, please also review [PR arrival requirements](#). **Download the [ArriveCAN app](#).**

Living on-campus? - Check the move-in times/dates so you can plan your arrival, considering quarantine requirement

☑ Important Items to Pack

- ☐ Valid Passport, with your Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) / eTA; or US passport*
 - ☐ Letter of Introduction letter from visa office*
 - ☐ Your Schulich Letter of Acceptance (*printed copy acceptable*)*
 - ☐ [Confirmation of Enrollment with Entry Support](#) letter (*recently dated*) *
 - ☐ Proof of funds*
 - ☐ Quarantine Plan*
 - ☐ Ensure your immigration medical exam is still valid
 - ☐ Photocopies/digital copies of important documents (and send to your email)
 - ☐ Proof of vaccine, if applicable
 - ☐ Medications, health documents and prescriptions (if applicable); check [import limits](#) for medications
 - ☐ Credit Cards
 - ☐ Documents for extended health care insurance, if applicable
 - ☐ Driver's license or international driver's license ([drivetest.ca](#)); driver's abstract/history
 - ☐ Unlocked phone
 - ☐ Laptop
 - ☐ Power type A and B: Standard voltage is 120V, standard frequency is 60Hz <https://www.power-plugs-sockets.com/canada/>
 - ☐ Business attire for presentations and career events
 - ☐ Weather appropriate clothing for [the season](#)
 - ☐ Canadian dollars or cash to exchange for immediate use
 - ☐ [York U Campus Map](#)
- * Pack in your carry-on luggage, as you will be [required to show these to the border officer](#) after getting off the plane (before getting your checked luggage)**

IMPORTANT LINKS:

- [COVID 19- Travel, quarantine and borders](#)
- [IRCC COVID-19 website](#)
- [Flying to Canada checklist](#)
- [Canada Travel Wizard](#)

ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

Arrival Checklist

- ☐ [Transfer](#) from the airport and check into your accommodation
- ☐ Post-Quarantine
- ☐ Orient yourself with the [York campus](#)
- ☐ Learn how to use Public [Transportation](#)
- ☐ [Shop for Food](#) and [Living Essentials](#)
- ☐ Attend Pre-Arrival Series [Information Sessions](#)
- ☐ [Explore](#) (post COVID)

ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

Transport from Pearson International Airport

COVID-19: You MUST use private transportation from the airport; you are prohibited from using public transportation (bus, subway, train); shuttle provided for York U Quarantine

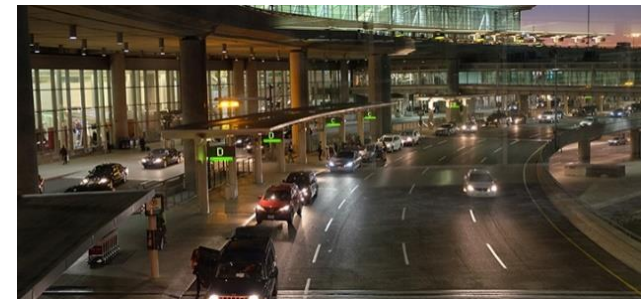
Airport Taxi (recommended)

- Taxi fares from the airport are based on a flat rate tariff.
- Fare : **\$50-60 CAD** approximately (tips and extra luggage fee extra).
- Travel time: 30 minutes to York campus.
- Taxis will be waiting once you exit the airport terminal. Use only authorized taxi providers.
- For more information on taxi services, visit the [Pearson Airport](#) website.



Ride-Hailing Apps

- Use [Uber](#) or [Lyft](#) to and from airport
- Fare: approximately \$50 from airport to York U
- Uber Rider kiosk available as you leave baggage area



COVID-19 IN TORONTO

What does this mean for me?

Ontario Public Health Measures

- **Step 1** of the [Roadmap to Reopen](#), as of June 11
- Restrictions remain in effect - <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures>
 - Many [businesses remain limited or closed](#)
 - Work remotely where possible
 - Must wear a mask in all indoor public spaces, including transit system
 - Must practice physical distancing (2 metres apart)
 - Not permitted to gather indoors with anyone you do not live with
 - No indoor events permitted; outside events limited to 10 people
- Monitor the [Toronto COVID-19 website](#) and [Toronto Public Health Measures](#)

WHAT IS SOCIAL DISTANCING?

Social distancing means avoiding close contact with others to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and can include:



Avoiding non-essential trips in the community



Limiting, postponing or cancelling gatherings



Working from home, where possible



Conducting meetings virtually



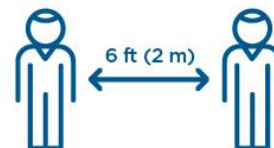
Keeping kids away from group settings



Avoiding visits to long-term care homes and other care settings

Keep a distance of 6 feet from others when going for walks or shopping for groceries.

Physical Distancing



Mandatory Face Masks



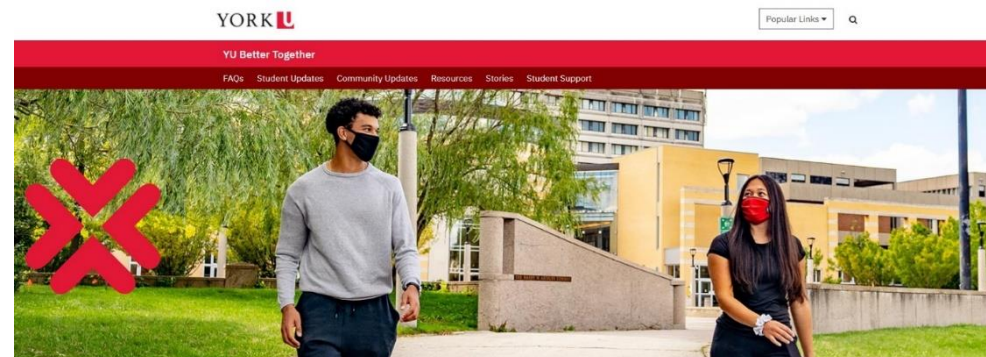
ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

COVID-19 at York U

As York U community members, we all have a responsibility to keep the campus safe

- In Level 1 of [Welcoming YU Back Roadmap](#)
- Before entering campus, must complete [COVID Screening Checklist](#)
- [Daily screening](#) required for those living on campus
- Vaccination required for on-campus undergrad residence
- Cannot enter campus if you have been outside Canada in previous 14 days
- Must wear a mask in all indoor spaces (i.e.: York Lanes, common areas in residence)
- Most buildings and services are closed on campus
 - All indoor fitness facilities
 - In-door dining (take out still available at some restaurants)
- Remote services are available such as mental health and wellness, academic advising, etc
- Must practice physical distancing

Review and monitor the [YU Better Together](#) site for FAQ's and Community Updates



ARRIVAL AT YORK UNIVERSITY

Know your Campus

Most services on campus are currently closed; access to most buildings is prohibited.

Connect to Wi-Fi

- **AirYork Plus** – use your Passport York credentials

York Lanes

- Includes places to eat, grocery shops, the bookstore, public transit passes, pharmacy, dentist, doctor, etc.
- Check for currently open services: <https://www.yorklanesmall.com/covid-19-updates>

Banking & ATM Machines

- **Bank of Montreal (BMO):** York Lanes. Branch & ATM machines.
- **Alterna Savings:** York Lanes. Branch location.
- **CIBC:** Schulich School of Business. ATM only.
- **Royal Bank (RBC):** 95 The Pond Road. Branch location.
340 Assiniboine Residence & Bennett Centre. ATM only.
- **Scotiabank:** Bergeron Centre for Engineering. ATM only.
- **TD Canada Trust:** Central Square. ATM only.

Emergency and York Security

- Contacts in case of emergency
 - In general: **call 911**. Free of charge from any phone
 - On campus: York Security at **+1-416-736-5333**
- York Security Office Location: Parking Structure 2, William



York U Safety App:

Offers safety services such as goSafe, Campus Shuttle, and interactive campus maps.

Download it today

[York U Safety App](#)



LIVING IN TORONTO

Public Transportation

For Reference Only: You are prohibited from using public transportation during quarantine period and strongly discouraged from using during COVID

Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)



- Fare: \$3.25 cash (drivers do not give back change), \$3.20 Presto
- Serves City of Toronto
- The subway system connects with buses and streetcars.
- Closest stop: York University station

Paying on the TTC:

- Reloadable Presto card is recommended (purchase at station or Shoppers Drug Mart at York Lanes)
- Can retap Presto card within 2 hrs of 1st tap and not charged
- For more information, visit: [TTC Website](https://www.ttc.com)

GO Transit



- Connects to out-of-town locations: Mississauga, Brampton, Hamilton, Scarborough, Milton etc.
- Closest bus stop: Highway 407 Bus Terminal.
- Fare : \$3-\$20 PRESTO (depending on the distance)
- For more information, visit: [GO Website](https://www.go-toronto.com)

York Region Transit (VIVA/YRT)



- Fare: \$4 cash, \$3.75 PRESTO
- Serves areas north of York University (York Region)
- Closest stop: Pioneer Village TTC station
- For more information, visit: [YRT website](https://www.yrt.com)

Brampton Transit (ZÜM)



- Fare: \$4 cash, \$3.75 PRESTO
- Serves Brampton region
- Closest stop: 5 min walk north of Schulich on Ian McDonald Blvd
- For more information, visit: [ZÜM website](https://www.zum.ca)

Mississauga Transit - MiWay



- Fare: \$3.75 cash, \$3.10 PRESTO
- Serves Mississauga region
- Closest stop: Islington TTC station
- For more information, visit: [MiWay website](https://www.miway.ca)

Union Pearson (UP) Express

- Fare: **\$12.35** by cash/credit card; or **\$9.35** by PRESTO
- Union Station to Toronto Pearson Airport

COVID NOTE: Face masks are mandatory on all public transportation

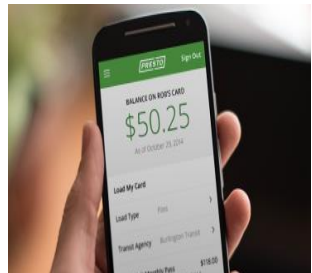


ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

Presto Card

[PRESTO](#) is accepted on all GTA transit systems

- Purchase a PRESTO card
 - [Online](#)
 - at a PRESTO vending machine (TTC subway stations)
 - at a [customer service outlet](#)
 - at Shopper's Drug Mart locations that sell PRESTO cards
- Cost: \$6 for card + \$0.05 minimum load/reload if purchased in person or \$5/\$10 minimum from a vending machine
- Load in advance - may take up to 24 hours to reload on-line
- Manage your card at: [My PRESTO](#) to add funds & passes and manage your profile
- Fares may vary between systems
- Additional fare when transferring between systems
- Tap your card to pay
- Hop on/off any direction for 2 hours without being charged again from the 1st time you tap on
- Research [Post-Secondary Monthly Pass](#) on PRESTO to save money on each transportation system



ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

Shopping for essentials... during quarantine

There are a number of online delivery services that may be useful during your quarantine period and beyond. Also connect with your quarantine buddy for insider tips on best online shopping in Toronto

Grocery Delivery

Cornershop
by Uber



Restaurant / Fast Food Delivery



SKIP THE **DISHES**



Essential/ Home Items Delivery



ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

Shop for food close to campus... post-quarantine



Grocery Checkout

York Lanes



Your Community Grocers

University City Mall, Sentinel Rd



T&T Supermarket

The Promenade, 1 Promenade Cir, Thornhill



No Frills

3685 Keele St., Keele St. & St. Regis Cres
1 York Gate Blvd, York Gate Mall



Walmart

3757 Keele St., Keele St. South of Finch Ave
101 Edgeley Blvd, Hwy #7 & Edgeley Blvd

ARRIVAL IN TORONTO

Shopping for living essentials...post quarantine

Regardless of where you choose to stay, you will need to purchase living essentials like pillows, blankets, dishes, etc.

Stores close to campus



Walmart

A popular store due to its low prices and good quality.

You can also buy groceries.

- 3757 Keele St., Keele St. South of Finch Ave.
- 101 Edgeley Blvd, Hwy #7 & Edgeley Blvd



IKEA

Known for ready-to-assemble furniture and home accessories at an affordable price.

- 200 Interchange Way, Vaughan



DOLLARAMA

Known for affordable shopping. Broad range of products at fixed price from \$1 to \$3.

Many locations in the area!

<http://www.dollarama.com/store-locator/>

Large Shopping Malls

Vaughan Mills

(YRT #20)

Toronto Eaton Centre

(TTC Queen or Dundas Subway Stations)

Yorkdale Shopping Centre

(TTC Yorkdale Subway Station)



ARRIVAL IN CANADA

Explore!

Toronto

Information: www.toronto.ca

Visitor Information: www.toronto.ca/visitors/index.htm

Tourism: www.seetorontonow.com

Festivals & Events: www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/festivals-events/festivals-events-calendar/

Ontario

Moving to Ontario: www.ontarioimmigration.ca/

Tourism: www.ontariotravel.net/en/home

Festivals & Events: www.festivalsandeventsontario.ca/

Canada

Information: www.canada.gc.ca

Travel to the USA

Visa information: <https://ca.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/toronto/>



York U Safety



Weekly
Events in
Toronto



Toronto
Travel Guide



My TTC



Presto



Shopping
(find deals)



Q&A

Q&A Sessions:

<https://schulich.yorku.ca/international-relations-ga-webinars/>

1:1 Advising:

Grad: <https://appt.schulich.yorku.ca/gradadvising/>

Undergrad: <https://undergrad-advising.schulich.yorku.ca/>

Email:

intlrelations@schulich.yorku.ca

Academic/Enrollment questions?

studentservices@schulich.yorku.ca

Financial Aid questions?

finaid@schulich.yorku.ca