

International Student Travel Guide

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Canada has implemented travel restrictions for international students entering Canada. In addition, they have mandated that all travelers entering the country quarantine for a mandatory period of 14 days. CSNN realizes that this creates new challenges for our international students, so we have compiled a list of resources below to assist international students with this process.

International Student Travel Guide to Canada:

1. Determine your Eligibility to Travel to Canada
2. Plan for Mandatory 14 Day Quarantine
3. Submit a CSNN Vancouver Travel & Self-Isolation Plan
4. Prepare your Travel Documents
5. Download ArriveCAN and BC COVID-19 Apps
6. Complete Mandatory 14 Day Quarantine

Step 1: Determine your Eligibility to Travel to Canada

To assess whether you may be permitted to enter Canada, carefully review Travel exemptions and restrictions for international students on the [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada \(IRCC\)](#) website.

CSNN Vancouver has applied to be on the list of Designated Learning Institutes (DLIs) with an approved COVID-19 readiness plan. In order to be eligible to enter Canada, you must:

1. Have a valid study permit or study permit approval (Port of Entry Letter of Introduction)
2. Have a valid CSNN Vancouver letter of acceptance (returning students should have an International Confirmation of Enrolment letter instead)
3. Submit a CSNN Vancouver Travel & Self-Isolation Plan to your CSNN Vancouver representative at least one week prior to traveling in order to comply with CSNN Vancouver's COVID-19 readiness plan

You may contact the [Canada Border Services Agency \(CBSA\)](#) directly for more information. A border services officer will make a final decision on your eligibility to enter Canada when you arrive.

In addition to other requirements for entering Canada, most foreign nationals will need to have a visitor's visa or an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA).

Step 2: Plan for Mandatory 14 Day Quarantine

Once you have verified that you are eligible to enter Canada and have booked a flight, you need to plan for your mandatory 14 day quarantine upon arrival to Canada as required by the federal Quarantine Act. Please review the following information for guidance as you create your quarantine plan.

Quarantine Accommodation

To better understand what kind of accommodation may be acceptable for your required 14-day quarantine read through [IRCC – For travellers without symptoms of COVID-19 returning to Canada](#).

You may be able to complete your quarantine at a private residence or a hotel as long as the accommodation has space for you to be completely separated from others at all times and allows you to meet all government quarantine requirements.

Hotels that are able to accommodate students during quarantine include:

[Park Inn & Suites by Radisson](#)

[Travelodge Vancouver Airport](#)

Transportation from the Airport

You must travel directly to your quarantine accommodation from the airport by personal car, taxi, or rideshare service. A mask or other face covering should be worn during this entire trip.

[Taxis](#) are available at the taxi stand located outside the International Arrivals area at Vancouver International Airport. [Ridesharing services](#) are also available. If you plan to stay at a hotel that operates a complimentary airport courtesy shuttle, you may be able to use that service (check with the hotel in advance).

Do NOT use public transportation from the airport to your quarantine accommodation.

Food and other necessities

Since you are not allowed to go out to shop during quarantine, you must have a plan for making sure you can access food and any other items that you may need.

If you have family or friends in the area that are willing to support you, then you may be able to depend on them to deliver these items to you. However, no contact delivery is required. If you are planning to quarantine at a hotel, check if they offer meals by room service.

If you do not have someone to deliver things to you during quarantine, then consider bringing certain items with you when you travel, such as:

- any medication you may require ([Traveling with medication](#))
- a mask or face covering

- a digital thermometer (to check your own temperature during quarantine)
- chargers and adaptors for all of your electronic devices
- a few good books or magazines
- packaged snacks
- extra toiletries

If you will depend on delivery services, it is important to have access to a credit card that you can use in Canada should you need to order any items. This is especially true since many businesses are not accepting cash at all due to the COVID-19 risk.

Companies that deliver groceries or prepared meals include:

- [DoorDash](https://www.doordash.com/en-CA) - <https://www.doordash.com/en-CA>
- [Skip the Dishes](https://www.skipthedishes.com/) - <https://www.skipthedishes.com/>
- [Instacart](https://www.instacart.ca/) - <https://www.instacart.ca/>
- [Spud.ca](https://www.spud.ca/) - <https://www.spud.ca/>

BC Self-Isolation Plan

Make sure that your quarantine plan is complete by submitting an optional [BC Self-Isolation Plan](#). Please do not confuse this with the separate mandatory CSNN Vancouver Travel & Self Isolation Plan described in Step 3.

Step 3: Submit a CSNN Vancouver Travel & Self-Isolation Plan

As part of CSNN Vancouver's COVID-19 readiness plan, all international students who plan to travel to Canada must submit a mandatory CSNN Vancouver Travel & Self-Isolation Plan to CSNN Vancouver representative at least one week prior to traveling. This includes new students as well as continuing students who left Canada temporarily.

Once you submit your Travel & Self-Isolation Plan, staff from the CSNN Vancouver will be in touch to provide one-on-one support and to make sure that you will have valid medical insurance when you plan to arrive in Canada.

Step 4: Prepare your Travel Documents

Before traveling to Canada, prepare and double check that you have all of your important documents including:

- A valid passport or travel document
- Necessary documentation for entering Canada
- The [Port of Entry \(POE\) Letter of Introduction](#) the visa office sent you when they approved your study permit

- A copy of a valid letter of acceptance from CSNN Vancouver (returning students should have an International Confirmation of Enrolment letter instead)
- Proof of [financial support](#) for yourself and any other family members who may come with you to Canada
- Your medical insurance information
- Letters of reference or any other documents the visa office told you to bring

Carry these documents with you at all times and do not put them in your checked luggage. You may not be allowed into Canada if any of your documents are missing or if any of the information on your application or letters of reference is incorrect.

Step 5: Download ArriveCAN and BC COVID-19 Apps

The government of Canada requires international travelers to provide certain information. We suggest that students download and complete the [ArriveCAN App](#) and the [BC COVID-19 App](#) before departing home for their trip.

When you arrive at a Canadian port of entry, you will meet a [Canadian Border Services Agency \(CBSA\)](#) officer who will verify your documents and ask you questions about the purpose of your visit to Canada. See [When you travel to Canada](#) (Same link as above) for more details.

If you are issued a study permit by the CBSA officer, quickly double check that your personal information and validity is correct, and that there are remarks about working eligibility if that is important to you. It is much simpler to correct any errors on your study permit while you are still with the CBSA officer.

Step 6: Complete Mandatory 14 Day Quarantine

Carefully [review IRCC – How to quarantine \(self-isolate\) at home when you may have been exposed to COVID-19](#) to understand how to successfully complete your quarantine.

It is important to understand that failure to comply with the federal [Quarantine Act](#) could result in serious punishments including a maximum fine of \$1,000,000 and up to 3 years in prison.

A staff member from the CSNN Vancouver will be your point of contact and will check in on you three times a week to conduct a COVID questionnaire, to check in regarding your general well-being, to ensure you are abiding by quarantine guidelines, and to provide any additional support throughout your 14-day quarantine. You can expect to receive an email from CSNN Vancouver by the time you arrive in Canada. Please make sure to read this important email message and to reply as soon as possible to confirm that you have arrived safely. This email will also include links to social media groups and our newsletter in an effort to connect you with the broader CSNN community and culture while in quarantine.

You should be in touch with your CSNN Vancouver representative immediately if during your quarantine you have any:

- Difficulty accessing food or other necessary items
- Possible [symptoms of COVID-19](#). If you require a COVID-19 test, you can find the [testing centres](#) here.
- Questions about CSNN Vancouver, resources for students, or the local area.
- To schedule a free and confidential appointment with a professional CSNN Vancouver Counselor.

Mental Wellbeing

Visit the following links during your quarantine for important resources/information:

General Mental Health Resource - <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/mental-health>.

Stigma - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/reducing-stigma.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fsymptoms-testing%2Feducating-stigma.html

Virtual Mental Health Resource - <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/mental-health-substance-use/virtual-supports-covid-19>

Post Quarantine

After you successfully complete your 14-day quarantine, we encourage you to continue to take all precautions to [prevent the spread of COVID-19](#) when around other people.