Town Hall
Entering Canada & Quarantine

IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER: The information in this presentation is accurate as of the date of the presentation. For the latest immigration updates, please consult the ISS website at https://www.mcgill.ca/internationalstudents/

AUGUST 5th, 2021
Agenda

1. Welcome – Christopher Haber, International Student Services (ISS)

2. Entering Canada & Quarantine – Christopher Haber (ISS)

3. Residences & Quarantine Plan in August – Amanda Rosenberg, Student Housing & Hospitality Services (SHHS)

Question & Answer Period

A. McGill Residence – Amanda Rosenberg, SHHS
B. Immigration Issues – Christopher Haber, ISS
Entering Canada & Quarantine
Who can enter Canada at this time?

Entry into Canada is currently restricted to essential or non-discretionary travel. This means that only certain people are authorized to enter, including:

• **International Students**
• Temporary Foreign Workers; and
• Immediate family members of international students and foreign workers, such as a:
  • spouse or common-law partner
  • dependent child
  • parent or step-parent
  • guardian or tutor
What are the travel restriction requirements for International Students to enter Canada?

International students, regardless of which country they are entering Canada from and whether they are arriving by land or by air, will be considered to be entering Canada for a **non-discretionary** and **non-optional purpose**, if:

- Their **study permit has been approved** (regardless of the date of their letter of introduction), or they **hold a valid study permit**, or they are **authorized to apply for a study permit upon entry** to Canada (US citizens and US permanent residents only);
- They are **attending an educational institution** that is on the list of institutions with an approved COVID-19 readiness plan in place*;
- They **do not have any signs or symptoms** of COVID-19; **AND**
- They have **a plan to quarantine for 14 days****(If Required)**

* McGill is on this list.
What documents are required for International Students to enter?

When entering Canada, make sure to travel with ALL of the following documents:

1. A valid study permit or Port of Entry Letter of Introduction (study permit approval letter);
2. A letter of acceptance and proof of enrolment, if you are returning student;
3. Proof of financial capacity documents;
4. Valid immigration medical examination results if you have resided in a designated country or territory for more than 6 months within the past year, or if you will be employed in a position that puts you in close contact with people;
5. Your CAQ (or CAQ approval letter);
6. A valid eTA or Temporary Resident Visa (TRV). *Only U.S. Citizens are exempt from both
7. Your passport; AND
8. All other supporting documents you included in your study permit application.
Quarantine and Testing Rules for NON-VACCINATED travellers to Canada

STEP 1 - Before departure:

• **Plan your quarantine.**
• Pre-book your government-authorized hotel for a **3-night stay** upon arrival by air*.
• Take a [COVID-19 molecular test](#) within 72 hours before your last scheduled flight or entering Canada by land.
• **Register** for your **arrival test (Day 1)** in advance to save time at the border.
• Use [ArriveCAN](#) to enter your information 72 hours before your arrival.
• Have your **ArriveCAN receipt** and test result ready.

*No longer required as of 12:01am on August 9th, 2021*
Quarantine and Testing Rules for NON-VACCINATED travellers to Canada

STEP 2 – Upon arrival:

• Provide required documents and information, including your quarantine plan to the border officer.
• Answer all eligibility and health screening questions.
• Complete a Day 1 COVID-19 molecular test (more than likely at the border).
• Collect a test kit for use on Day 8 of your quarantine.

NOTE: If you have any COVID-19 related symptoms, you will be directed to a designated quarantine facility.
Quarantine and Testing Rules for NON-VACCINATED travellers to Canada

STEP 3 – Completing your quarantine:

• Go to your pre-booked hotel*.
• Create an account with the test provider for your Day 8 test.

➤ If your arrival test is negative, you may:
  • Check out of the hotel and go directly to your place of quarantine for the balance of the 14 days.
  • Complete and ship the Day 8 test kit according to the instructions.

➤ If your arrival test is positive, you must:
  • stay in your room.
  • A Public Health Agency of Canada official will call you with instructions. You’ll be required to isolate for 14 days from when you took your test

* No longer required as of 12:01am on August 9th, 2021
What is a suitable place to quarantine?

A suitable place to quarantine is a place:

• where you can stay for 14 days or possibly longer;
• where you have access to the necessities of life, including water, food, medication and heat without leaving quarantine
• where you can avoid contact with others who did not travel with you (unless a minor with a guardian);
• that allows you to have access to a bedroom that is separate from the one used by persons who did not travel and enter Canada with you;
• where you can avoid all contact with vulnerable persons (e.g. elderly – 65+, compromised immune system, etc.), unless a parent or child;
• that allows no other person to be present at the place, unless that person resides there habitually;
• where you have no visits from family or guest
What is a suitable place to quarantine?

A suitable place to quarantine can be:

• Your own apartment, hotel, Airbnb, or a shared living space if you can respect the conditions cited previously

Shared living spaces where you can't quarantine

You cannot quarantine in group living environments, for example:

• a small apartment you share with others
• a shared household with a large family or families or many people
• a shelter, group home, group residence, hostels, industrial camps, construction trailers or other group setting
• a student residence (unless you’ve received prior authorization)
• shared living spaces with housemates who haven’t travelled with you that you cannot avoid interacting with
What is a suitable place to quarantine?

Sharing a household with others that you did not travel with:
If you will be quarantining in shared living space with people that you did not travel with you must:

- avoid contact with anyone you did not travel with
- stay in separate rooms
- use separate bathrooms (if possible)
- keep surfaces clean
- avoid sharing personal items
- limit interactions with others in the household

Assessing your quarantine plan:
See the government of Canada’s Assess your quarantine plan tool for more information
Who is considered FULLY VACCINATED?

To be considered fully vaccinated, travellers must have received the required dosage of a vaccine or combination of vaccines approved by the Government of Canada at least 14 days prior to entering Canada.

Travellers can receive their vaccines in any country. At this time, the list of vaccines accepted by the Government of Canada is limited to those made by:

- Pfizer;
- Moderna;
- AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD; and
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson).
EXEMPTIONS for FULLY VACCINATED travellers to Canada

As of **July 5th, 2021**, **FULLY VACCINATED** travellers are **exempt** from some quarantine rules and do not have to:

1. Arrange for a **3-day stay** at a government-approved hotel
2. Undergo a **14-day quarantine**
3. Take a COVID-19 **test on day-8** of their arrival to Canada

***BUT MUST STILL***:

- Take Covid-19 test 72 hours before entering Canada AND on arrival (Day 1)
- Be asymptomatic when entering Canada
- Have proof of vaccination documentation in English or French (or accompanied by a certified translation)
- Use **ArriveCAN** prior to arrival in Canada; **AND**
- Present a suitable quarantine plan, and be prepared to quarantine, if deemed required by a border officer
UPDATE: Changes coming into effect 12:01am (ET) August 9th, 2021

1) Fully vaccinated US citizens and permanent residents who are currently residing in the US:

- Will be able to enter Canada for discretionary (or non-essential) travel, such as leisure or tourism or accompanying student to help them settle in;

- Will no longer have to take a Day 1 COVID-19 test (upon arrival) unless randomly selected to do so at the Port of Entry (POE); and

- Will remain exempt from the federal requirement to undergo a 14-day quarantine.
2) **All fully vaccinated** travellers (regardless of their **country of citizenship** or permanent residence):

- Must continue to be travelling for a non-discretionary or essential purpose*, with the exception of **fully vaccinated** US citizens and PRs (see point above)

- Will no longer have to take a Day 1 COVID-19 test (upon arrival) unless randomly selected to do so at the Port of Entry (POE);

- Will remain exempt from the federal requirement to undergo a 14-day quarantine.
UPDATE: Changes coming into effect 12:01am (ET)
August 9th, 2021 continued

3) All travellers (regardless of vaccination status or country of citizenship):
   • Must continue to take a pre-arrival Covid-19 molecular test 72 hours prior to arrival;
   • Must continue to submit a quarantine plan through ArriveCAN prior to travel;
   • Will be exempt from the three-night government-authorized hotel stay.

NOTE: Travellers who have previously tested positive for Covid-19 will be allowed to present proof of a positive Covid-19 molecular test result taken within 14 to 90 days prior to arrival in Canada as part of pre-arrival test requirements (in lieu of a negative test result).

IMPORTANT: All travellers that are not fully vaccinated
   • Must continue to take a Covid-19 test on arrival (Day 1) and on Day 8; and
   • Must continue to quarantine for 14-days
GOOD TO KNOW!

- **International students can get vaccinated in Canada for FREE** – please see the [Vaccinations FAQs](#) on our Health Insurance webpage for more details.

- **NEW! International Health Insurance (IHI) coverage** will commence as of August 1\(^{st}\), 2021 for incoming Fall 2021 admits and returning students who did not have coverage in 2020-21 – [must activate](#) IHI on Minerva.

- We recommend that new international students arriving by air, plan to arrive in August and register for the [Acceuil PLUS](#) service, **opening August 1\(^{st}\)** at Montreal International Airport (only). This will save you a considerable amount of time on arrival.

- Starting **August 3\(^{rd}\), 2021 at 10am**, ISS’s Wellness Advisor will be hosting a weekly Pandemic Drop-In Support Group for any student struggling with grief, anxiety, isolation, and/or distress related to COVID-19. [Registration is required](#).
GOOD TO KNOW!

Quebec Public Health Kiosk at the Montreal-Trudeau International Airport

- Vaccinations are available for **FREE** to anyone in Quebec, including **international students**. Two doses are recommended. Students who received their vaccines outside Quebec are invited to register their vaccines in Quebec to receive a proof of vaccination issued by the Quebec Government.

- The **Quebec Public Health** team will have a kiosk, next to **Acceuil Plus**, at the Montreal airport (August 1\textsuperscript{st} – September 10\textsuperscript{th}). International Students can receive vaccination information, schedule their vaccination appointments and/or register their vaccines with Public Health staff at the kiosk.

**IMPORTANT:**
Vaccinations will not be administered at this kiosk nor at the airport.
GOOD TO KNOW!

Will the Quarantine Bursary Program continue after the Aug 9th changes in travel/quarantine restrictions?

- Yes! The program will remain in place even once the 3-day quarantine at designated hotel is no longer required, as there are other quarantine costs for non-vaccinated students.

- Students in receipt of the quarantine bursary and who may now be exempt from having to quarantine will NOT have their aid rescinded.

For more detailed information on the Quarantine Bursary offered by SSAO, please refer to the recording of the July 29th, 2021 Town Hall on the Entering Canada section of our website!
Resources:

• McGill has a dedicated website on COVID-19. We invite you to consult this website for up-to-date information on the impact of COVID-19 on McGill’s activities, such as course delivery and convocation.

• **IMPORTANT:** Fall 2021 will begin as scheduled and will proceed **in-person** – valid CAQ and Study Permit required.

• As this information is rapidly evolving, we invite you to consult our COVID-19 Updates website in order to have access to a list of official government resources and FAQs related to travel and applying for immigration documents.

• Join the Pandemic Drop-In Support group – details in newsletter sent on July 27th

• **Need more help:**
  Visit our website first. Fill out our advising request form!
  We can be reached by phone at +1 (514) 398 – 4349. See the phone hours on our website
## Need more information?

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Questions?