April Showers... Bring May Flowers

We wish a big congratulations to all those expecting to graduate this year. The Final Exam Schedule is available here. Student Life and Learning is providing resources for a healthy exam season. You’re almost at the finish line - hang in there, and before you know it, you’ll be done! Bon courage!

ISS would like to thank our many Buddy Volunteers who’ve been a part of our Buddy Program. We would like to announce that we will be launching a new and improved Buddy Platform on May 1st and will be sending out updates soon. For more information, you can follow us on Instagram or visit the Buddy Program website.

Stay tuned for our final newsletter of the 2023-2024 year on May 1st with tips for the summer.

Best wishes,
The International Student Services Team

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IMMIGRATION UPDATES

Temporary Policy Allowing Students to Work Full-Time Off-Campus During Academic Term Ends on April 30th, 2024

IRCC’s temporary policy measure that allows eligible full-time international students to work more than 20 hours per week off-campus during an academic term will be ending on April 30th, 2024. Starting May 1st 2024, eligible full-time students can work a maximum of 20 hours off-campus per week during an academic term (some exceptions for the Summer term) and full time during a regularly scheduled break if students return to full time study in Fall 2024.

For more information on working in Canada as a student, see our Work Authorization Cheat Sheet!

Graduating students and the Post-Graduation Work Permit

If Winter 2024 is your final term of studies, the degree granted remark will appear on your transcript on May 24th 2024. You are no longer authorized to work as of this date.
If you receive a PGWP Letter confirming program completion from Service Point before May 24th 2024, you are not authorized to work in Canada from the date the letter was issued. In both cases, you may resume working only:

- After you obtain your Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP); or
- After you submit an online PGWP application from inside Canada and only if you meet certain conditions.

Want to find out more? See our PGWP guide, our Work in Canada FAQs, and watch a PGWP webinar.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (IHI)

Cancellation of IHI coverage due to Graduation

If you are remaining in Canada upon graduation from McGill University and transitioning to a provincial health insurance, we recommend keeping IHI coverage until the end of the contract (August 31). However, if you know you are leaving Canada by April 30th, you are eligible for a term-based prorated credit of your annual IHI fee, and you must request your credit in writing by e-mail.

Deadline to request a refund is:

- May 31 for a credit for the Summer semester.

All claims must be received by Medavie Blue Cross Insurance no later than 90 days after the end of the policy year in which the claims were incurred or 90 days after the end of your coverage, whichever is sooner. For more information, please see page 19 of the Medavie Blue Cross Handbook.

PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Centre de Santé des Femmes/Women's Health Center

Medavie Blue Cross developed an agreement with the Centre de Santé des Femmes de Montréal for the coverage through direct billing of various medical services for McGill students covered by the International Health Insurance plan. For more information on the clinic and its services, please visit their website.

Mon parcours vers la résidence permanente après mes études (Sessions in French)

Le ministère de l’Immigration, de la Francisation et de l’Intégration (MIFI), en collaboration avec Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada (IRCC), vous propose d’assister à une séance d’information portant sur les principales voies d’accès pouvant conduire vers la résidence permanente après vos études.

jeudi, le 4 avril, 16h à 18h
mardi, le 9 avril, 14h à 16h
Working in Canada Info Sessions

Part 1: Job Search
Learn tips on networking and searching for jobs in Canada
Wednesday, April 17th at 1:30pm

Part 2: Immigration Overview
Find out detailed information about immigration documents you will need to be eligible to work in Canada.
Thursday, April 18th at 1:30pm

Income Tax Sessions for International Students
The Canada Revenue Agency and Revenue Quebec will present together to give you the information you need to file both your provincial and federal income tax returns in one session. Please see the schedule for a list of general sessions and sessions tailored to international students.

Wednesday, April 10th, 1:30pm - 3:30pm ET
Monday, April 29th, 10am - 12pm ET
Register via the Frugal Scholars Website

Pet Therapy
As exams approach, the Student Wellness Hub Animal Therapy initiative seeks to bring stress relief, joy, and companionship with furry friends and their handlers.

When: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:30pm - 1:30pm
Where: Brown Building, Lobby

No registration needed.
APRIL CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Apr 4: Qingming Festival
Apr 6: Tartan Day
Apr 9: Ugadi
Apr 9: Gudi Padwa
Apr 9-10: Eid-al-Fitr
Apr 13: Sinhala and Tamil New Year
Apr 13 – Apr 15: Songkran (Thai New Year)
Apr 13- Apr 15: Khmer/Cambodian New Year
Apr 15: Sechseläuten
Apr 17: Ram Navami
Apr 20 – May 1: Ridván
Apr 22-30: Passover
Apr 30: Walpurgis Night

**If we missed a celebration in your country or region, send us more information at events.iss@mcgill.ca!**