Welcome to McGill

The team at International Student Services (ISS) warmly welcomes all of our new and returning international students on campus.

Whether you are here in Montreal or still making travel plans to join us shortly, ISS is “here” for you, remotely and in-person! We are happy to help you with immigration advising one-on-one or through a variety of programs, international health insurance administration (IHI), as well as specially designed programs to help you succeed academically, and socially.

Are you in the loop on the latest news on vaccination, quarantine requirements, travel tips, legal documents, work, health, and updates on entering Canada? Visit your COVID-19 online resources and FAQs. Please keep an eye out for the monthly ISS newsletter to stay up to date on everything happening for international students. If you have suggestions to make it better, please don’t hesitate to send them our way!

Best wishes for the academic year ahead

Pauline L’Ecuyer
Director, International Student Services

Online courses due to COVID-19

If you are inside of Canada, you must have a valid CAQ and study permit to begin your studies in the Fall 2021 term, even if all your courses will be held online; please see IRCC’s website for more details. You must also continue to study on a full-time basis with the exception of your last term before graduating, even if your courses will be held online. This is in order to be compliant with your CAQ and study permit conditions, and maintain your eligibility to work on and off-campus. For more information on the impact of part-time studies and taking a leave of absence, please see our information sheet on the potential impact of part-time studies and on taking a leave of absence.

Delayed Study Permit Update

Immigration Refugees Citizenship Canada is unfortunately processing Study Permits at capacity and many international students seeking to study in Canada have not yet received their study permit. If you have not yet received your Study Permit, please review the McGill Coronavirus webpage for Fall 2021 students, in particular the FAQ: What academic accommodations related to COVID-19 are available for students?
International students admitted for Fall 2021 who are experiencing visa/travel delays related to COVID-19 may request a deferral until **September 14th**. Instructions and forms are available on the [deferral request webpage](https://e1.envoke.com/m/8f5ff1b21b29fab62535812b1e85a40b/m/c953118905f3d3df3196128ea0082967/198b7d7686b5236a2123c36ebcc71fe4?mode=3&rev=1635). Please note that there is no guarantee that a deferral request will get approved; it depends on the availability in each program or Faculty.

In preparation for your travel to Canada, please continue to monitor our [Entering Canada page](https://e1.envoke.com/m/8f5ff1b21b29fab62535812b1e85a40b/m/c953118905f3d3df3196128ea0082967/198b7d7686b5236a2123c36ebcc71fe4?mode=3&rev=1635) and our [Travel FAQs](https://e1.envoke.com/m/8f5ff1b21b29fab62535812b1e85a40b/m/c953118905f3d3df3196128ea0082967/198b7d7686b5236a2123c36ebcc71fe4?mode=3&rev=1635) for the latest announcements from Immigration Quebec and Immigration Canada.

**Post-graduation work permit (PGWP) eligibility:**

If you are inside of Canada, you remain eligible for the PGWP if

- your in-person classes in Canada have been moved to an online-only format and you are taking 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.

For more detailed information, see IRCC’s [Post-Graduation Work Permit Program (PGWPP): COVID-19 program delivery](https://e1.envoke.com/m/8f5ff1b21b29fab62535812b1e85a40b/m/c953118905f3d3df3196128ea0082967/198b7d7686b5236a2123c36ebcc71fe4?mode=3&rev=1635) and [Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): International students](https://e1.envoke.com/m/8f5ff1b21b29fab62535812b1e85a40b/m/c953118905f3d3df3196128ea0082967/198b7d7686b5236a2123c36ebcc71fe4?mode=3&rev=1635).

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**Registering your international vaccinations in Quebec**

In order to get access to the COVID-19 vaccine passport, you must have your vaccines registered in the Quebec Vaccination Registry and get a vaccine QR code.

To register your vaccines, make an appointment on clicsante.ca. Under “Select your service” please select “COVID-19 Troubleshooting” and then enter your postal code. You can then book an appointment for vaccine registry.

It is important to note when filling out your information on the clicsante website that students on the IHI plan do not have a Quebec Health Insurance number.

Once your vaccine has been registered and you receive your vaccine QR code, you can download the VaxiCode App and enter your information in order to activate your COVID-19 vaccine passport.

For additional information on registering your COVID-19 vaccine, please refer to the [Government of Quebec website](https://e1.envoke.com/m/8f5ff1b21b29fab62535812b1e85a40b/m/c953118905f3d3df3196128ea0082967/198b7d7686b5236a2123c36ebcc71fe4?mode=3&rev=1635).

Please note, you may also use a printout of your vaccine QR code as your vaccine passport.

**For students who have not activated their IHI coverage - Your IHI Coverage has been activated as of September 1st.**

- The International Health Insurance (IHI) premium of $1,047 was billed to your student fee account along with your tuition in August 2021.
- You may now register for MAPLE virtual care and MEDAVIE BLUE CROSS to make claims.
- Please note that while your IHI contract has been activated, you do not have coverage until you have entered Canada. Your coverage and benefits will only begin once you have arrived in Canada.
Identity Theft in the "Smart" Era

Learn about:

- Trending scams
- Smart device vulnerabilities
- Tools to safeguard your digital presence
- Common hacks and how to prevent them
- What to do if your identity is stolen

Meet and Greet with your Career and Local Wellness Advisors

“Drop in” to our open zoom forum to meet some of your CaPS Career Advisors and your Local Wellness Advisor (LWA).

Our experienced team will give a brief overview of our respective services and programming, and then answer all your questions.

We want to make it easy for you to get the career and health information you need and take the next step in your journey at McGill.

Winter 101


Learn about:
- Staying cozy and warm
- Thermometer reading and wind-chill factors
- Shopping for winter clothes on a budget
- Winterizing your apartment
- Fun outdoor winter activities

Relationships and Consent for International Students

ISS, OSVRSE, iMPACT and the Student Wellness Hub are inviting international students to a tailored, online workshop on relationships and consent. This event will provide students with a non-judgmental and open space to discuss healthy relationships, green and red flags to look out for, consent and reporting, as well as rights, resources, and legal considerations specific to international students’ realities.

The Great 2021 Back to School Contest
**5 gift cards** to be won to equip yourself for the new school year (total value $1,500). **I choose Montréal** has thought of everything! **Enter until October 18th.**

- Prize 1: One $800 gift card from The Source
- Prize 2: Two $250 gift cards from Simons
- Prize 3: Two $100 gift cards from La Cordée

This contest is only open to international students residing in Québec, holding a valid study permit and enrolled full time at a Greater Montréal educational institution. **For more details, read the contest rules.**

**Enter Here**

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**Our partner student club: MISN**

McGill International Student Network (MISN) aims to create an unforgettable global experience for our international student body through a variety of events and services.

Like MISN on Facebook for upcoming events→

**Develop your skills with SKILLS21!**

Improve skills such as time management, test preparation, or mindfulness. Learn about anti-racism, communication, or library research. **SKILLS21 is a skills development program with workshops on all these topics and more!**

Register today at [mcgill.ca/skills21](http://mcgill.ca/skills21) to get weekly updates about all these free workshops.

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**Rapid Advising**

Do you have a quick question for an ISS Immigration Advisor? Join us for a 5-minute advising appointment Thursday mornings!

Register Here →

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**International Student Services**

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