



ISS NEWS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

Hello, October!

In this month's issue, make sure to check out our [programming](#) happening this October. We have lots of webinars, online workshops and contests to help you stay connected, while socially distancing.

Yours Truly,
[International Student Services](#)



Immigration Updates

Many international students are facing challenges with obtaining immigration documents as a result of the pandemic and accompanying travel restrictions. We are doing our very best to keep the [ISS website](#) updated with the most recent information and have developed a series of FAQs on different topics related to immigration documents and travelling to Canada.

On October 1st, Montreal's COVID-19 alert level changed to red (Maximum alert), inviting all residents to be more vigilant, restricting visits in private and public spaces and closing all restaurants and bars. For more information on the impact of living in a Red Zone, see the [Quebec government's website](#) and a [map of COVID-19 alert levels by region](#).

McGill has also announced that the Winter 2021 courses will be delivered primarily through remote platforms with enhanced in-person teaching activities. We do not have more details on in-person activities for the Winter semester yet, but we will provide more information on our website when this information becomes available.



The most recent immigration updates on our site are:

1. [Travel restrictions](#): These have been extended until October 31st for individuals entering Canada from any country other than the U.S. Travel restrictions for individuals entering Canada from the U.S. are in place until October 21st. Both of these travel restrictions may be further extended. Please consult this page before making any travel plans.
2. [Work FAQ – COVID 19](#) : Extension of studying online in the Winter 2021 semester will not have an impact on the recent accommodations announced by Immigration Canada regarding eligibility (and duration) for Post-Graduation Work Permits
3. [Permanent Residence](#): Immigration Quebec confirmed that, if you will complete your studies by December 31, 2020, you can apply for permanent selection and your application will be processed on the basis of the PEQ selection criteria in effect before July 22, 2020 even if your attestation of completion is issued by an educational institution after December 31, 2020. Please note that ISS Advisors do not provide individual advising on the PR application process.

We invite you to bookmark and consult [our website](#) for the most up-to-date information.

Health and Wellness

2020-2021 Health Insurance fees:

Following the recent announcement regarding remote learning in the Winter 2021 semester, we are working on developing new procedures to address the adjustments of the Health Insurance fee on your account. Within the coming weeks, We will be in contact with international students currently enrolled on the Blue Cross international student health insurance plan via e-mail to announce how our office's procedures will change regarding the IHI plan for students who are not within Canada and who may not be in Canada for the full 2020-2021 academic year.

We would like to remind you that all International Students at McGill have received an IHI fee deferral. This deferral will ensure no interest is charged onto the IHI fee of \$1128 until early January 2021. For students who have **already arrived in Canada** and who have requested an IHI fee adjustment, the fee deferral will be automatically removed from your account along with the adjustment being processed. From that point, you will be responsible to pay for the new IHI fee by the due date indicated on the eBill or risk incurring interest.

Students who qualify for the Quebec Provincial Health Plan (RAMQ):

If you are within Canada and you benefit from RAMQ coverage but your RAMQ has expired or will be expiring, you can contact the [RAMQ office](#) directly to renew your coverage. Please note that exceptionally this year, our office will be accepting RAMQ exemption documents after the September 30th deadline. In order to be eligible for an exemption, our office will require a copy of your

RAMQ confirmation of coverage. **This letter must indicate the start and end dates of your RAMQ coverage.**

Free, 24/7 Access to Mental Health Support:

Are you feeling overwhelmed with online learning, or isolated because of COVID restrictions? Wherever you are located now, this service could be useful to you:

Keep.meSAFE is a mental health counselling service, offered to students in partnership with SSMU and PGSS, that provides 24/7/365 access to licensed counsellors through telephone and mobile chat in over 60 languages. To access this service, download the MySSP app for [Apple iOS](#) or [Android](#). You can learn more about this service on [SSMU's website](#).

[Keep.meSAFE](#) is completely free and unlimited for all of our students.

Programs and Updates



Want to Work in Canada After Graduation?

Post-Graduation Work Permit Session

Attend this webinar to find out how to apply for your post-graduation work permit (PGWP).

Details

Tuesday, October 20th, 10am - 11am

[Register Here](#)



Update your File

All international students must submit their new or updated immigration



Winter 101

Whether you are in Montreal or abroad, join us online to find out more about Montreal winters.

Details:

[Monday, Oct 19 at 2pm](#)

[Wednesday, Nov 4 at 3pm](#)



Navigating Healthcare workshop

October 5th at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

Navigating Healthcare live Q&A session

Oct. 7th at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

documents to [McGill Legal Documents](#). If you are missing documents, see the [yellow box](#) for information on what to do.



Canadian Thanksgiving:

McGill administrative offices, including the ISS, will be **offline** on **Monday, October 12** for Thanksgiving.

Long weekend programs:

Join us Thanksgiving weekend for some holiday contests and prizes.

Trivia

Monday, October 12 at 10am

Prize: \$25 Amazon.ca gift card

[Register Here](#)

Photo Contest

[Follow us on Instagram](#) Friday, October 9th for the details!

Prize: \$50 Amazon.ca gift card



Contact us

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