International Student Welcome Guide on COVID-19

(For Student Arriving at Pearson Terminal 3 – click here for list of airlines)

Congratulations on your acceptance to Niagara University! We look forward to seeing you soon on campus in Vaughan.

In order to be able to come to Canada and begin classes in-person, there are several requirements that you must follow before you depart for Canada, while in transit and when you arrive in Canada.

Niagara University has developed an International Student COVID-19 Readiness Plan, which provides more information on the requirements.   You can also find information on the Canadian government's website: https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid

To assist you with understanding the requirements outlined in the Readiness Plan, we have developed the following checklist and summaries with links to additional information.

If you have any questions about the requirements or information contained in this document or the Readiness Plan, please email InternationalOntario@niagara.edu for assistance.

We wish you safe travels to Canada and we will have a Niagara University representative to assist you upon your arrival to Canada.

I look forward to meeting you on campus in the near future.

Yours truly,

Vince Rinaldo PhD
Vice President, Ontario Administration

Pre-Departure Requirements

☐ Apply for a Study Permit from Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada (IRCC). You will require a valid study permit to be able to study in Canada along with obtaining permission to enter Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada.html

☐ Check IRCC's website for the latest updates on pre-departure requirements and whether there are any travel restrictions from certain countries: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/students.html

☐ Review IRCC's Pre-Departure Checklist to ensure that you have completed all necessary requirements: https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/flying-canada-checklist

☐ Complete your Quarantine Accommodation form contained in your Niagara University Welcome Package and email to InternationalOntario@niagara.edu

☐ Email InternationalOntario@niagara.edu to schedule a video chat to discuss your pre-departure arrangements including scheduling a pre-departure COVID-19 test and the required documents you need to show to the Canada Border Services Agency officer upon arrival at the airport including your 14-day quarantine plan at the hotel pre-booked by Niagara University.

☐ Confirm you have packed, in your carry-on luggage, the following documents printed out on paper and in a folder, that can be presented to the Canada Border Services Agency officer:

- Valid Study Permit
- Letter of Acceptance from Niagara University
- Letter of Enrollment from Niagara University
- Confirmation that you have enough money for your stay in Canada
- Valid immigration medical exam results (if you needed one)
- Your Quarantine Plan provided by Niagara University
- Results of your pre-departure COVID-19 test

☐ You will need to take a pre-departure COVID-19 test. You have the option to either take a COVID-19 molecular test within 72 hours before your scheduled flight to Canada OR a professionally administered or observed antigen test taken outside of Canada no more than 1 day before your scheduled flight to Canada. More information on the test requirements is provided on the IRCC's website under the heading: Pre-entry testing (accepted types, timing): https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#pre-entry-testing

☐   Register for the ArriveCAN app: https://arrivecan.cbsa-asfc.cloud-nuage.canada.ca/welcome

☐   You will need to submit the following information electronically through ArriveCAN within 72 hours before your arrival to Canada:

- travel and contact information

- pre-departure COVID-19 test result: either a COVID-19 molecular test within 72 hours before your scheduled flight to Canada OR a professionally administered or observed antigen test taken outside of Canada no more than 1 day before your scheduled flight to Canada.

- Details on the quarantine plan provided by Niagara University (Note: Here is some information that may be asked by the Canada Border Services Agency officer upon arrival in Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/arrivecan.html)

- COVID-19 symptom self-assessment

- travel history of countries visited within the 14-day period before arriving in Canada

☐   Register online with Toronto – Switch Health in case you are required to take a COVID-19 test upon arrival at the airport by the Canada Border Services Agency officer.

Arrival in Canada

As of January 15, 2022, international students must be fully vaccinated at least 14 days prior to arriving in Canada to be eligible to enter Canada.

International students who have either been double vaccinated with Sinopharm, Sinovac, COVAXIN, Pfizer, Moderna or AstraZeneca or a single dose of Johnson & Johnson at least 14 days prior to arriving in Canada may have the 14-day quarantine period waived by a Canada Board Services Agency official.

As it is not guaranteed that the 14-day quarantine period will be waived, international students will be required to provide a 14-day Quarantine Plan to the Canada Borer Services Agency official upon arrival at the airport.

☐   Upon arrival at Pearson Airport in Toronto, it is important that you let your Niagara University representative, [insert name] know that you have arrived in Canada and are in the terminal as you are walking towards the customs area/luggage pick up area.

You can log in to the airport's Free WiFi in the Terminal as follows:

- Select "Toronto Pearson Public Wi-Fi" from the list of available networks.
- The landing page will open. If the landing page does not open automatically, launch your internet browser and type in a website (e.g. torontopearson.com).
- Accept the terms and conditions.
- Select "Connect".

For help with Wi-Fi, please speak to our Passenger Service team at a Passenger Information Booth

Please contact [insert Niagara University representative] using WhatsApp and calling xxx-xxx-xxxx.

In the airport customs area, you will be required to show the following documents to the Canada Border Services Agency officer:

- Valid Study Permit
- Letter of Acceptance from Niagara University
- Letter of Enrollment from Niagara University
- Confirmation that you have enough money for your stay in Canada
- Valid immigration medical exam results (if you needed one)
- Your Quarantine Plan provided by Niagara University
- Results of your pre-departure COVID-19 test
- A paper and digital copy of proof of both your first and second doses of the vaccination you are seeking a waiver from the 14-day quarantine period)

Although you are not automatically required to take a COVID-19 test on arrival at the airport, you may be requested to do so by the CBSA officer as randomly selected testing is occurring for fully-vaccinated travellers.

If waived of the quarantine requirement and released by the officer, you will proceed into the main atrium of the terminal to meet with the Niagara University representative. As you exit the doors from the baggage area, turn left and walk to your designated meeting place in front of the Tim Hortons restaurant on the Arrivals level of Terminal 3 beside Door F (click to see Terminal 3 map)

For international students, who are required by the CBSA officer to quarantine for 14 days:

☐ You will also be required to take a COVID-19 test at the airport which you have previously booked through this link: Toronto – Switch Health

☐ After you have cleared customs and retrieved your checked luggage, you will proceed into the main atrium of the terminal to meet with your Niagara University representative. As you exit the doors from the baggage area, turn left and walk to your designated meeting place in front of the Tim Hortons restaurant on the Arrivals level of Terminal 3 beside Door F (click to see Terminal 3 map).

If you have any problems finding the Niagara University representative in the terminal, contact:

> Ms. Yasmeen Shubber
> Services Coordinator for Niagara University in Ontario
> Cell: (905) 923-7260
> Email: yshubber@niagara.edu

☐ Your Niagara University representative will screen you for COVID-19 symptoms and provide you with new surgical masks, to be used during your transportation.

The University representative will escort you to your private transportation that will take you directly to the pre-booked hotel to begin your 14-day quarantine period.

The University representative will assist you in checking into the hotel.

During the 14-day Quarantine

☐ It is imperative that you read and follow the rules set by the Government of Canada during your 14-day quarantine: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice/mandatory-hotel-stay-air-travellers.html

If you begin to show symptoms during your 14-day quarantine, are exposed to another traveller with symptoms, or test positive for COVID-19, you must begin an additional 14 days of isolation.

A Niagara University representative will contact you daily and you can also contact them if you have any questions or concerns.

> In an emergency during your quarantine or if you are unable to contact your appointed Niagara University representative, please contact the Campus Safety Department at **(716) 286-8111 or safety@niagara.edu** for assistance.   **The Campus Safety Department operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.**

☐ You will also be required to check in daily with the Canada Border Service Agency through the ArriveCAN app.

In addition to checking in daily through the ArriveCAN app, you will receive live or automated calls daily from the Canada Border Service Agency. You must answer calls from 1-888-336-7735 and answer all questions truthfully to demonstrate your compliance with the law.

☐ Important information about your stay at the hotel is outlined on page 29 of the Niagara University International Student COVID-19 Readiness Plan (insert a hyperlink once the updated March 2022 Plan is posted).

☐ On Day 8 of your quarantine, you will be required to complete the COVID-19 test kit and send for analysis according to the instructions. This video provides important information: https://www.switchhealth.ca/en/individuals/home-kits/covid-test/#video

☐ On Day 14 of your quarantine, a Niagara University representative will meet you in the hotel lobby and direct you to your private transportation that will take you directly to a York Region Public Health Testing Centre for a COVID-19 test.

Upon receiving a negative result, you will be advised about how to complete your quarantine and check out of the hotel. The Niagara University representative will assist you with the check out procedure.

Post-Quarantine (and for fully-vaccinated international students who are waived of the 14-day quarantine by a Canada Border Services Agency officer:)

☐ Following the successful completion of your quarantine or self-isolation, you are expected to continue to follow federal, provincial, local, and Niagara University policies and directions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community including:

- wear a mask when in public spaces for the first 14 days after your entry;
- maintain a list of all close contacts for your first 14 days in Canada;
- monitor yourself for signs and symptoms of COVID-19; and
- keep copies of your proof of vaccination and pre-arrival tests.

☐ Regularly check Niagara University's website for the latest information about COVID-19 and requirements for coming on campus: https://niagarau.ca/current-students/forward-niagara/