

# **Land Acknowledgement**

York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University.

York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat.

It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.



The Indigenous Students' Association at York's (ISAY) 21st
All Nations Pow Wow

Centre for Indigenous Student Services: <a href="https://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/about-us/">https://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/about-us/</a>

Native Land Digital: <a href="https://native-land.ca/">https://native-land.ca/</a>





By the end of this webinar, we hope that new incoming international students will have more knowledge about:

- What to expect when arriving at Canadian customs at the airport.
- Important documents to bring and present at Canadian customs.
- Questions that might be asked by Canadian customs officers.



# Agenda for Today:

# The agenda for today's webinar is:

- > International Student Advisors & Immigration Specialists
- > Arriving to Canada
- Questions and Answers
- > Upcoming Pre-Arrival Webinars and Events





# International Student Advisor & Immigration Specialist

**York International** 

Gilbert Totime



# **MEET THE ISA TEAM**





Mayoori Malankov

**Immigration Lawyer** 

English, Tamil



**Don Ghafari** 

**RCIC** 

English, French, Arabic



**Vivian Wang** 

RCIC

English, Mandarin



**Gilbert Totime** 

RCIC -IRB

English, Twi, Ewe





## IMMIGRATION ADVISING SERVICES



# Need immigration help?



Bookmark and check the <u>YI</u> events calendar regularly.





Visit YI for information and guides to help you.





Check YI immigration resource page for application guides





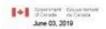
Email us at <a href="mailto:iadvisor@yorku.ca">iadvisor@yorku.ca</a>
Always include your student number in all communications with York



# **Important Concepts**

#### Check expiry date!

#### **Letter of Introduction (LOI)**



Unique Client Identifier: 11-0904-9874

Application Number: \$302618819

#### BUILDIESSCRIPT

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

FALGUNI JITENDRA GIANCHANDANI 3000 AL ATTAR TOWER NEAR DIFC SHEIKH ZIFED ROAD PO Box 43630 United Avail Entrains

#### Dear FALGUNI JITENDRA GIANCHANDANI.

Your application to study in Canada has been approved. A permit authorizing your studies will be issued to you on your arrival to Canada following an examination by an officer of the Canada Border Services Agency, subject to your compliance with the requirements of the immigration and Refugee Protection Act and its Regulations. The officer will ask to see this letter, your passport and may request to see your supporting documents, such as the letter of acceptance from your educational institution. Do not pack these or other valuable papers in your checked luggage. You can find out more about which documents you will need to bring with you by visiting service on calenglish/study/study arriving asp.

As you gather your documents, please take note of the following:

- . This letter is not a passport or travel document. You will not be permitted to board your flight without your passport, even if you have this letter with you.
- . This letter is not an authorization permitting you to enter or remain in Canada. An officer of the Canada Border Services Agency will make that determination upon your arrival to Canada.
- This letter is important because it contains information that will be used by the Canada Border Services Agency to issue your study permit. Please do not misplace it.

You must seek entry to Canada to obtain your study permit by 2022/07/30 (yyyy/mm/dd). Your passport must be valid beyond the period you intend to remain in Canada. If not, the validity of your study permit will not be issued beyond the expiry date of your passport, or, for United States oftizens and permanent residents, the validity date of your identity document.

Note: As an international student in Canada, it is your responsibility to ensure that you continue to meet the conditions of your study permit, including the requirement to actively pursue studies. Your study permit will automatically become invalid 90 days after you complete your study program, regardless of the expiry date indicated on your study permit. For more information, please consult: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp.



Also called a port of entry letter, this is issued to applicants outside Canada once study permit is approved.

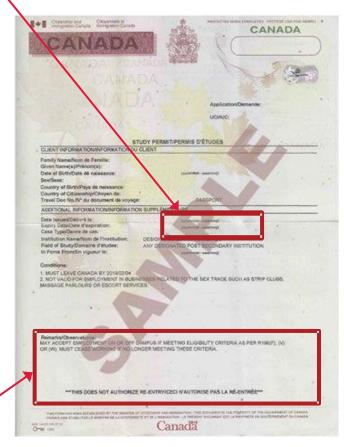
Check the conditions to see if you can work

#### **Temporary Resident Visa**



- Travel authorization only
- Does not confer status
- Expiry does not impact your ability to remain in Canada, but you cannot re-enter Canada with an expired visa.

#### **Study Permit**



- Status document
- Authorizes you to study and remain in Canada
- Must remain valid



# **Documents to Carry With You**

HAVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS READILY AVAILABLE. <u>DO NOT PLACE</u> THEM IN YOUR CHECKED LUGGAGES:

- Passport
- Letter of Introduction (AKA Port of Entry Letter)
- > Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) or Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)
- > York University offer of acceptance letter OR proof of enrollment if you have begun your program remotely
  - Your letter of Acceptance can be downloaded under "admission letter" on MyFile
  - Your proof of enrollment can be downloaded <u>here</u>
- Proof that you have enough money to support yourself during your stay
  - Clear and legible printouts of bank statements, GIC, etc.
  - Scholarship letters
  - If you have prepaid your tuition, you can download and print your student account statement online
- Valid immigration medical results (<u>if you need one</u>)
- Address where you will be staying and important phone numbers
- > Travel and health insurance to cover your trip to Canada (optional)
- Medical and immunization records (optional)
- Some cash in Canadian Dollars (optional)

#### Reminders

- 1. Scan, take photos, or make photocopies of your important documents.
- 2. Be sure to have access to your Passport York and MyFile.



# **Plan Your Luggage**

- Know your baggage allowance.
- > Some items are not allowed into Canada in your luggage. There are restrictions on alcohol, tobacco, guns, food as well as animal and plant products. Travellers cannot bring in prescription drugs that aren't approved in Canada. (\*See link in chat)
- Do not carry another person's bags or their things in your luggage.
- > You are only allowed to liquids in clear containers less than 100ml in carry-ons.
- Attach an address tag to each piece of luggage with your name and the address of your destination in Canada.
- Keep all important documents, medications and expensive items such as cameras, jewellery, laptops, phones, credit cards and cash with you in your carry-on bag, rather than pack them in your checked luggage.

↑↑ Do not finalize your travel plans until you have received your ↑↑ Letter of Introduction and Temporary Resident Visa.



## **Roles of IRCC & CBSA**

- IRCC stands for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Responsible for developing immigration and refugee policies, processing of permanent and temporary residence applications, and issuance of visas and permits
- CBSA stands for Canada Border Services Agency
- Responsible for carrying out enforcement functions conducting entry examinations, conducting investigations of those believed to be inadmissible to the country, preparing cases for presentation at the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB), and detaining and/or removing individuals from Canada
- > The CBSA officer will make the final decision about whether or not you qualify







# What to expect when you arrive in Canada

- > Due to peak travel season, you may experience longer border processing wait times in order to complete all necessary paperwork.
- > All passengers must complete entry examination at customs before proceeding to baggage claim area.
- A border services officer (BSO) will direct you to where you need to go to complete your study permit application. Some airports have a special processing area for international students arriving in Canada. Please watch for signage that may be directing you to this designated area.
- At entry examination, you may be asked basic questions about your identity, citizenship, residency, purpose of entry, length of stay, etc. and you could also be asked more in-depth questions about your eligibility and admissibility.
- > Study permit is issued at the conclusion of entry examination.



# **Entry Examinations**

#### PRIMARY EXAMINATION

- Identity What is your name?
- Citizenship What is your citizenship?
- Residency Where do you reside?
- Intention What is the purpose of your trip to Canada?



- Length of Stay How long do you intend to stay in Canada?
- Employment Do you intend to take or seek employment while in Canada?
  - Eligible international students are allowed to work <u>on-campus</u> and <u>off-campus</u> or participate in a <u>co-op or internship</u> while studying at the Designated Learning Institution (DLI).
  - You cannot work before your program begins

#### **SECONDARY EXAMINATION**

- International students entering for the first time are automatically referred for secondary examination.
- Officers at secondary examination can ask more in-depth questions that are not part of the primary examination to determine your eligibility.
- Officers will make an assessment on your admissibility to Canada on medical, criminal and security grounds.
- Your study permit is issued at the conclusion of the secondary examination.



# **Tips on Interaction with CBSA**

- Answers questions asked by the officer truthfully.
  - Familiarize yourself with your own application.
  - Only answer what was asked and to the point.
  - If you do not know the answer or are unsure, say "I think..." or "I am not sure".
- > If you do not understand the question or did not hear the question properly, you can ask the officer to repeat or rephrase.
- > Have your documents readily accessible to help streamline the examination.
- Be respectful and cordial.





# Things to check for on study permit

- Check your study permit carefully and inform the CBSA Officers of any mistakes immediately.
- Your study permit is usually valid until the end of your program plus 90 days, or until your passport expires. \*CBSA Officers have the discretion to determine the length of your authorized stay.
- Have a reminder system for your study permit and visa expiry dates and be sure to extend them before they expire!
- If you need to make changes or corrections to your study permit after entry, you must apply to <u>change</u> or <u>amend</u> your study permit.

Check your personal information carefully

**Know your expiry date!** 

Check the conditions for work authorization





# Maintaining full-time status at York

- > As an international student, it is important to maintain full-time status if you wish to:
  - Work on and/or off campus while you study
  - Apply for a post-graduation work permit
- > While it is possible to be part-time and compliant with your study permit, please speak to an international student advisor **before** you drop to part-time so you can make an informed decision about whether this is best for you or not.
- > To be considered full-time, you must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credits every Fall and 9 credits every Winter. Any Year credits should be divided in 2 to calculate your credits per term.

QUIZ: Which scenario is considered full-time?		
Scenario A	Scenario B	Scenario C
I have 6 credits in Fall and 12 credits in Winter.	I have 9 Year credits, 6 Fall credits and 3 Winter credits.	I have 9 Fall credits, 9 Winter credits and 3 Summer credits.



# Working on/off campus

#### **ON CAMPUS WORK**

- Have a valid study permit
- Have a valid social insurance number (SIN)
- Study permit conditions allow
- Full-time student (except in final semester)
- No limit on number of hours
- Work authorization ends once you complete your program (once you receive your final grades), regardless of the expiry date on your study permit

#### **OFF CAMPUS WORK**

- Same as on campus plus:
- Enrolled in a post-secondary program that is at least 6 months long and leads to a degree, diploma or certificate
- Must not work more than the authorized hours:
  - Permitted up to 24 hours/week\* in a regular academic session
  - May work full-time during an academic break (e.g. reading week, Winter closure) IF you were a full-time student before and after the break



### **Post Graduation Work Permit**

#### What is it?

- Helps you gain Canadian work experience
- An open work permit
- Can help you support your PR application in the future

#### **Eligibility:**

- Your program must be at least 8 months long.
- > You must maintain **full-time student status** throughout your program.
- > You must have completed your program and have a final transcript and graduation letter.

#### **Length of PGWP:**

Program Length	PGWP Length
8 months – 2 years	Up to program length
2 years or more	Up to 3 years

# **DONLINE STUDIES**

#### **Studies Outside Canada**

The following time won't count toward the length of a PGWP:

- Time spent studying outside of Canada after December 31, 2023
- Time spent studying before you applied for a study permit

#### <u>Studies in Canada</u>

- Until December 31, 2023, you must complete at least 50% of your program online or in class in Canada.
- Starting January 1, 2024, you must complete at least 50% of your program in class in Canada.



# CISIA E



# **York International**

Winter 2025
International and
Exchange Student
Orientation





Join us for an incredible opportunity to meet fellow incoming international and exchange students, build community, and to learn all about important resources and services available to you at York University!

\*This event is only open to incoming international and exchange students

- 🛗 Saturday, January 4th, 2025
- 9:00AM to 5:00PM
- Onvention Center, Second Student Center



# **York International**

Winter 2025
International and
Exchange Student
Orientation

**Alternate Day 1** 





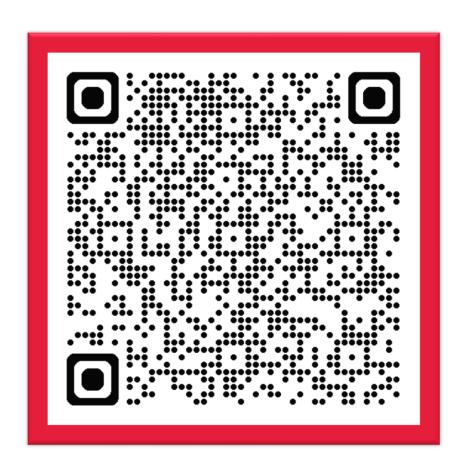
Join us for an incredible opportunity to meet fellow incoming international and exchange students, build community, and to learn all about important resources and services available to you at York University!

\*This is only for new international students who will be arriving to Canada after January 4th, 2025

- Friday, January 17th, 2025
- 9:00AM to 2:00PM
- Onvention Center, Second Student Center



# York International Event Calendar







- fb.com/york.international
- @yorkuintlstdnts
- @yorkuintlstdnts
- **3** @yorkuintl

