

Pre-Arrival Program Series:

Arriving at the Canadian Border

YORK 



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: <https://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/about-us/>

Native Land Digital: <https://native-land.ca/>

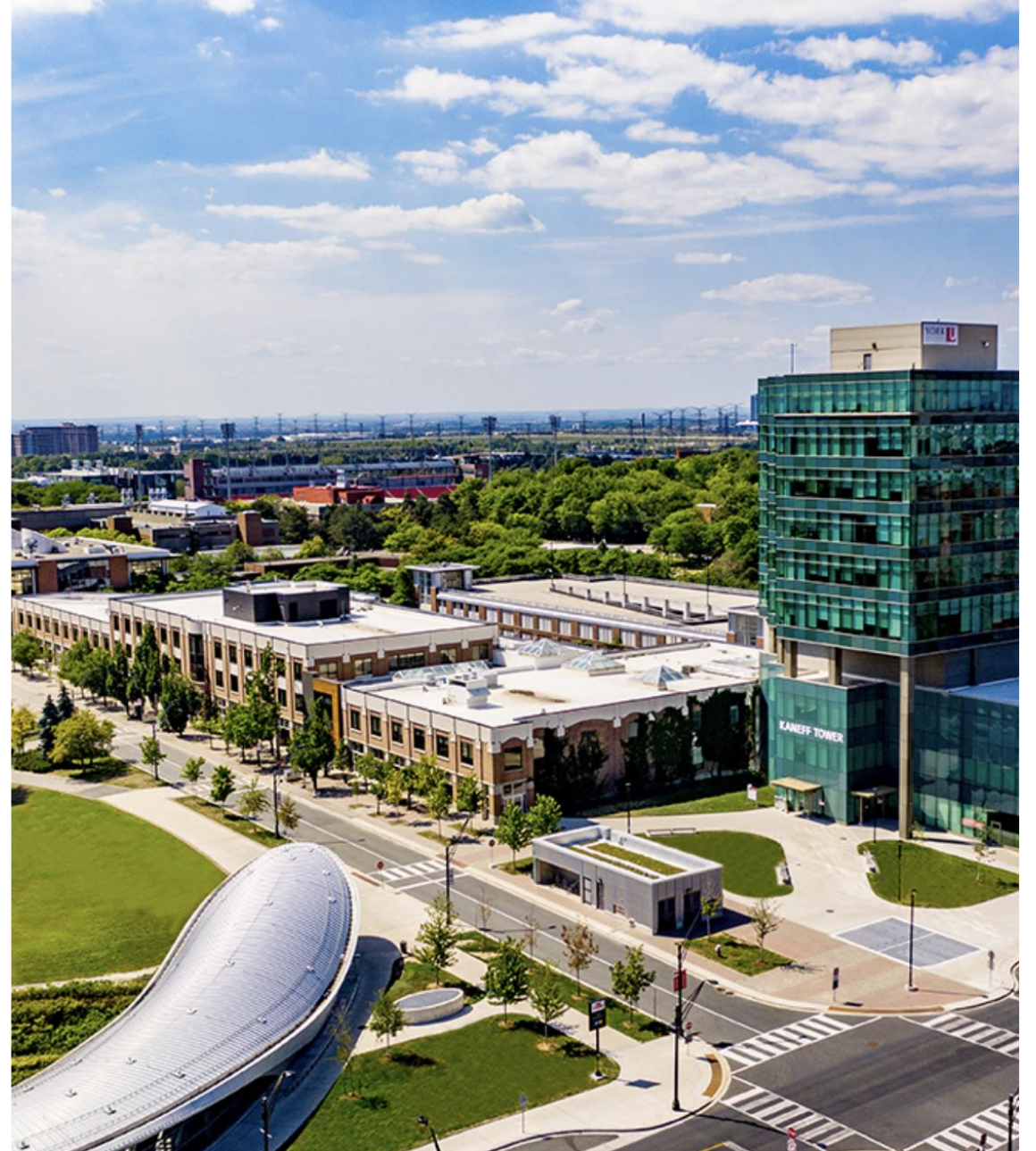
Session Overview:

- Welcome & Introduction to York International
- Understanding the Role of International Student Advisors and Immigration Specialists (ISIAS)
- Essential Documents for Entry at Canadian Ports (Airport or Land Border)
- Arrival Tips: What to Expect when You Land in Canada
- Study Permit Conditions: Key Reminders for International Students
- Questions & Answers Session
- Upcoming Pre-Arrival Webinars and Sessions

International Student Advisor & Immigration Specialist

GILBERT TOTIME

YORK 



MEET THE ISA TEAM



Mayoori Malankov

Immigration Lawyer

English, Tamil



Don Ghafari

RCIC

English, French,
Arabic



Samantha Yan

RCIC

English, Mandarin



Gilbert Totime

RCIC –IRB

English, Twi, Ewe



Mercy Omenye

RCIC

English, Efik, Igbo

Only a licensed person can give immigration advice

Disclaimer on scope of service

As licensed immigration professionals, we are authorized to provide immigration advice and represent individuals on Canadian immigration matters.

However, as International Student Advisor and Immigration Specialists:

In scope	Out of scope
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Provide general guidance/feedback for individual situations■ Review refusals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In-depth application review■ Reviewing/confirming supporting documentation (i.e. financial documents, study plan, etc.)■ Confirm eligibility or admissibility

Immigration law is complex and providing accurate and comprehensive legal advice requires complete understanding of personal/immigration history. This is out of our scope.



IMMIGRATION ADVISING SERVICES



Zoom Virtual Advising



**Immigration
Workroom**



**Topic-specific
Immigration Sessions
(virtual and in-person)**



**Email
iadvisor@yorku.ca**

YORK INTERNATIONAL



UHIP



**STUDENT
PROGRAMS**



**IMMIGRATION
ADVISING**



GO GLOBAL

Important Concepts

Letter of Introduction (LOI)



Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
June 03, 2019

Unique Client Identifier: 11-0004-0874 Application Number: S302618819

FALGUNI JITENDRA GIANCHANDANI
3006 AL ATTAIR TOWER NEAR DFC SHEKH ZAYED ROAD
PO Box 43630
DUBAI
United Arab Emirates

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 www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/study-arriving.asp.

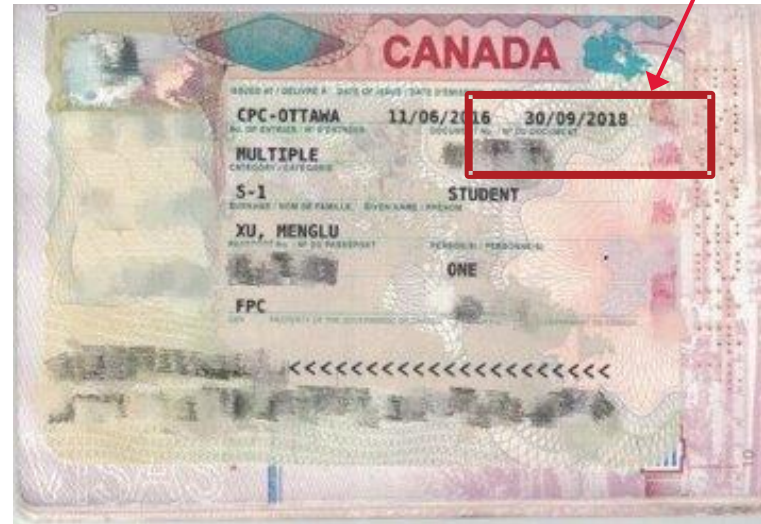
As you gather your documents, please take note of the following:

- 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 citizens 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>

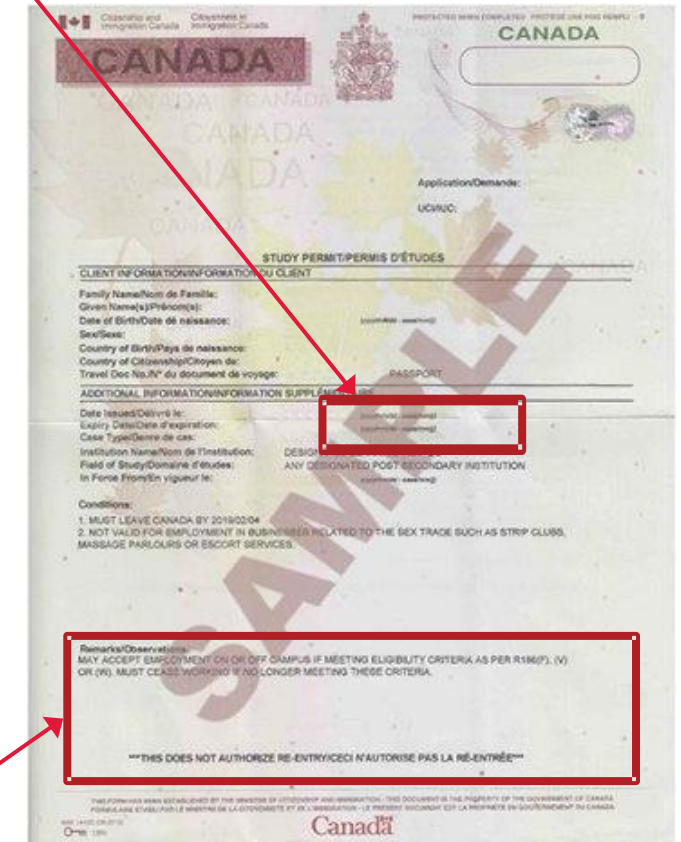
Temporary Resident Visa



- 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.

Check expiry date!

Study Permit



CANADA

Application/Demande: STUDY PERMIT/PERMIS D'ETUDES

CLIENT INFORMATION/INFORMATION DU CLIENT

Family Name/Nom de famille: FALGUNI JITENDRA GIANCHANDANI

Given Name(s)/Prénoms: FALGUNI JITENDRA GIANCHANDANI

Date of Birth/Date de naissance: 11/06/2016

Sex/Sex: F

Country of Birth/Pays de naissance: INDIA

Country of Citizenship/Citoyen de: INDIA

Travel Doc No./N° du document de voyage: 11-0004-0874

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTAIRE

Date Issued/Déposé le: 11/06/2016

Expiry Date/Date d'expiration: 30/09/2018

Case Type/Genre de cas: STUDENT

Institution Name/Nom de l'institution: ANY DESIGNATED POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION

Field of Study/Dominie d'études: ANY DESIGNATED POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION

In Force From/En vigueur le: 11/06/2016

Conditions:

- MUST LEAVE CANADA BY 2019/02/04
- NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT IN BUSINESSES RELATED TO THE SEX TRADE SUCH AS STRIP CLUBS, MASSAGE PARLOURS OR ESCORT SERVICES.

Remarks/Observations: MAY ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT ON OR OFF CAMPUS IF MEETING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AS PER R186(F), (V) OR (W). MUST CEASE WORKING IF NO LONGER MEETING THESE CRITERIA.

THIS DOES NOT AUTHORIZE RE-ENTRY/CECI N'AUTORISE PAS LA RÉ-ENTRÉE

Check the conditions to see if you can work

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

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

Documents to Carry With You

HAVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS READILY AVAILABLE. **DO NOT** PLACE 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 [here](#)
- **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 ([if you need one](#))
- 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 (if applicable)
- 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 (**Canada Border Services Agency government agency**) responsible for managing Canada's borders.
- Border Services Officers (BSOs) are the people who work for CBSA. They are the officers you meet at the airport or land border. BSOs check your documents, ask questions, and decide if you can enter Canada.



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 document 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 on-campus and off-campus or participate in a co-op or internship 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 keep your answers to the point.
- 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 change or amend your study permit.

Check your personal information carefully

Know your expiry date!

Check the conditions for work authorization

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

PROTECTED WHEN COMPLETED / PROTÉGÉ UNE FOIS REMPLI

CANADA

Application/Demande: [REDACTED]

UC/IUC: [REDACTED]

STUDY PERMIT/PERMIS D'ÉTUDES

CLIENT INFORMATION/INFORMATION DU CLIENT

Family Name/Nom de Famille: [REDACTED]

Given Name(s)/Prénom(s): [REDACTED]

Date of Birth/Date de naissance: (yyyy/mm/dd - aa/mm/aa) [REDACTED]

Sex/Sexe: [REDACTED]

Country of Birth/Pays de naissance: [REDACTED]

Country of Citizenship/Citoyen de: [REDACTED]

Travel Doc No./N° du document de voyage: [REDACTED] PASSPORT

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/INFORMATION SUPPLÉMENTAIRE

Date Issued/Délivré le: (yyyy/mm/dd - aa/mm/aa) [REDACTED]

Expiry Date/Date d'expiration: (yyyy/mm/dd - aa/mm/aa) [REDACTED]

Case Type/Genre de cas: 30

Institution Name/Nom de l'institution: DESIGNATED LEARNING INST-QC

Field of Study/Domaine d'études: SCIENCE, APPLIED

In Force From/En vigueur le: (yyyy/mm/dd - aa/mm/aa) [REDACTED]

Conditions:

1. MUST LEAVE CANADA BY [REDACTED]
2. NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT IN BUSINESSES RELATED TO THE SEX TRADE SUCH AS STRIP CLUBS, MASSAGE PARLOURS, AND SCORV SERVICES.
3. MAY ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT ON OR OFF CAMPUS IF MEETING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AS PER R186(F), (V) OR (W). MUST CEASE WORKING IF NO LONGER MEETING THESE CRITERIA.

Remarks/Observations:

TEMPORARY RESIDENT STATUS MAINTAINED AS PER R183(6).
MAY ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT ON OR OFF CAMPUS IF MEETING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA PER PARAGRAPH R186(F), (V) OR (W); MUST CEASE WORKING IF NO LONGER MEETING THESE CRITERIA.
ISSUED DOCUMENT TILL PPT.

THIS DOES NOT AUTHORIZE RE-ENTRY/CECI N'AUTORISE PAS LA RÉ-ENTRÉE

THIS FORM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA - THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
FORMULAIRE ÉTABLI PAR LE MINISTRE DE L'IMMIGRATION, RÉFUGIÉS ET CITOYENNETÉ CANADA - LE PRÉSENT DOCUMENT EST LA PROPRIÉTÉ DU GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA

IMM 1442B (1-2019)

Canada

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)
 - Register for SIN Clinic on [Sep 4](#) or [Sep 18](#)
- 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

ONLINE 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

Studies in Canada

You can't count the following time toward the length of a PGWP:

- Time spent studying online from outside Canada after August 31, 2024
- Time spent studying before we receive your study permit application

Need immigration help?



Bookmark and check the [YI events calendar](#) regularly.



[Visit YI for information and guides to help you.](#)



Check YI immigration resource page for application guides



Email us at iadvisor@yorku.ca

Always include your student number in all communications with York

Upcoming Webinars & Sessions



Pre-Arrival Webinar

Student Life at York



Join us to learn all about student life at York University. We'll dive into Canadian culture, tips for balancing academics and life as a student, and resources to support your health and wellness. Get ready to make the most of your experience in Canada!

 **Wednesday, August 6th, 2025**

 **9:00AM to 10:00AM**

 **[Register for webinar](#)**

Pre-Arrival Webinar

Look Ahead at Your First Year at York



Join us to get a head start on your first year at York University. We'll go over the academic calendar, key deadlines, and holidays, plus share academic resources to help you succeed. Learn how to make the most of your first year and feel ready for what's ahead!

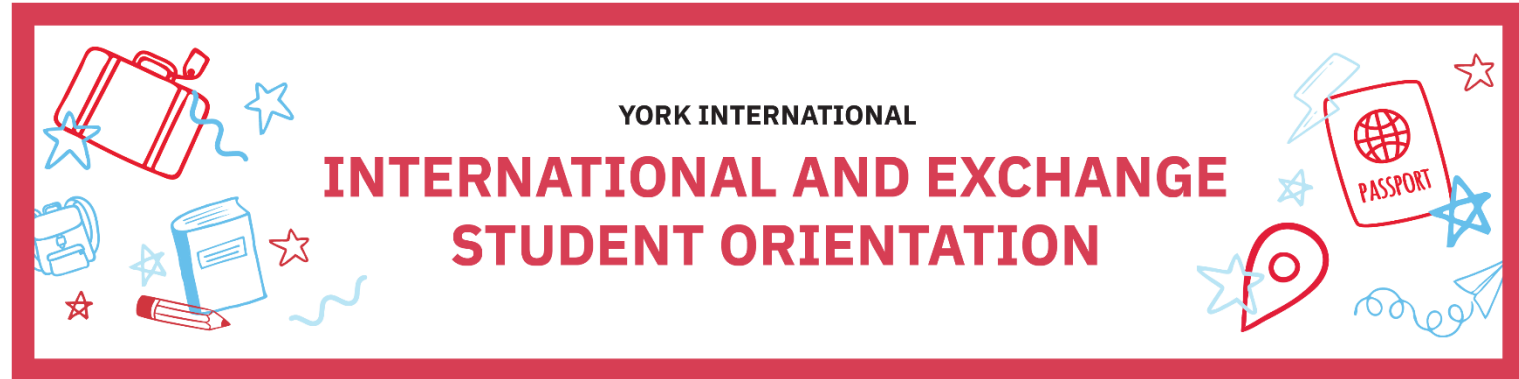
 **Wednesday, August 13th, 2025**

 **9:00AM to 10:00AM**

 [**Register for webinar**](#)

York International

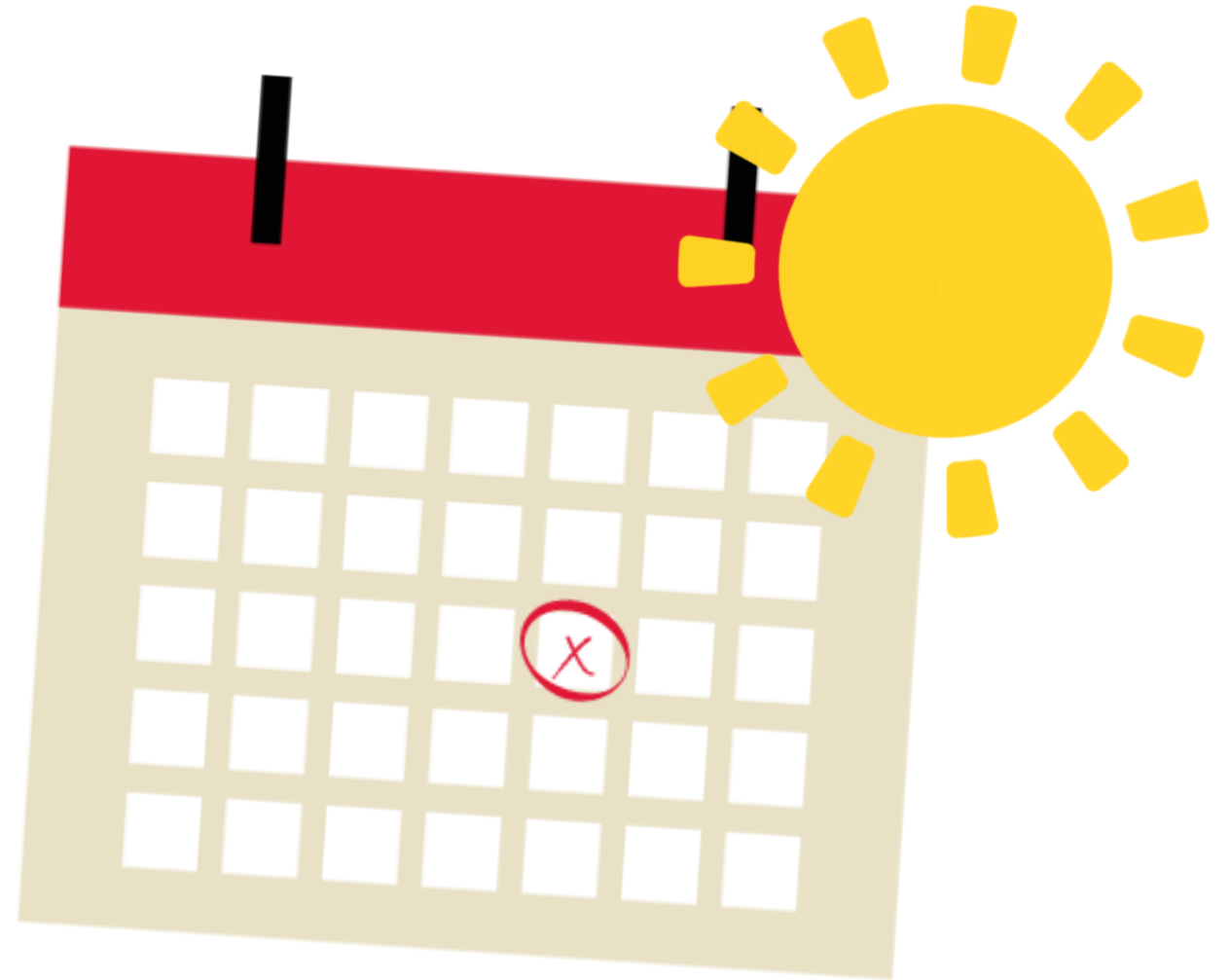
Fall 2025 International and Exchange Student Orientation



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

- › **Date:** Monday, August 25th, 2025
- › **Time:** 9:00AM to 6:00 PM
- › **Location:** Second Student Centre, Second Floor

York International's Event Calendar



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@yorkuintlstdnts



@yorkuintl



Global
Engagement –
York University



York
International



@yorkuintlstdnts

A large crowd of students is gathered at a night event, likely a school sports game. Many students are wearing red t-shirts with a white lion logo and the text "WE ARE ALL LIONS". Some students are holding up phones to take pictures. In the background, there are banners with the letter "D" and some numbers. The scene is illuminated by stadium lights.

**Stay connected, stay informed—
don't miss our next session!**