



Pre-arrival Session

For International Students in Continuing Studies

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International Student Coordinator

March 2026

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Hello!

I'm Olivia Kong (she/her)

International Student Coordinator



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We acknowledge that **snəwəyət leləm** **Langara College** is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Musqueam First Nation.

We are honoured to receive the name, **snəwəyət leləm**, from Musqueam, which means house of teachings.

<https://langara.ca/about-langara/musqueam/index.html>

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Welcome Fig
This is for you
from the
Musqueam

Agenda

- **Introduction to Langara**
- **Prepare for Arrival**
- **Post-arrival**
- **Breakout room**
- **Q&A (Questions and Answers)**

Introduction to Langara

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Langara College

- Started in 1965 as part of Vancouver Community College.
- In 1970, we opened our 49th Avenue campus.
- On April 1, 1994, Langara College was established as an independent public college.
- Today, Langara is one of BC's leading undergraduate institutions providing University Studies, Career Studies, and Continuing Studies programs.

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Main Campus



Transportation



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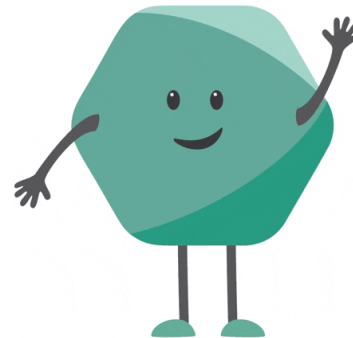
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What can I help you with?

- Immigration – study permit, visa, work eligibility, Post-Graduation Work Permit
- Medical insurance, social insurance number, and cultural adjustment
- Langara support service & student engagement referrals
- Etcetera!



Got other questions?

Fee payment, account information updates, transcript, student forms and letters (letter of enrolment)?

- You can visit or email CSRO at csgeneral@langara.ca

Program or course-related questions?

- You can contact your Program Coordinator

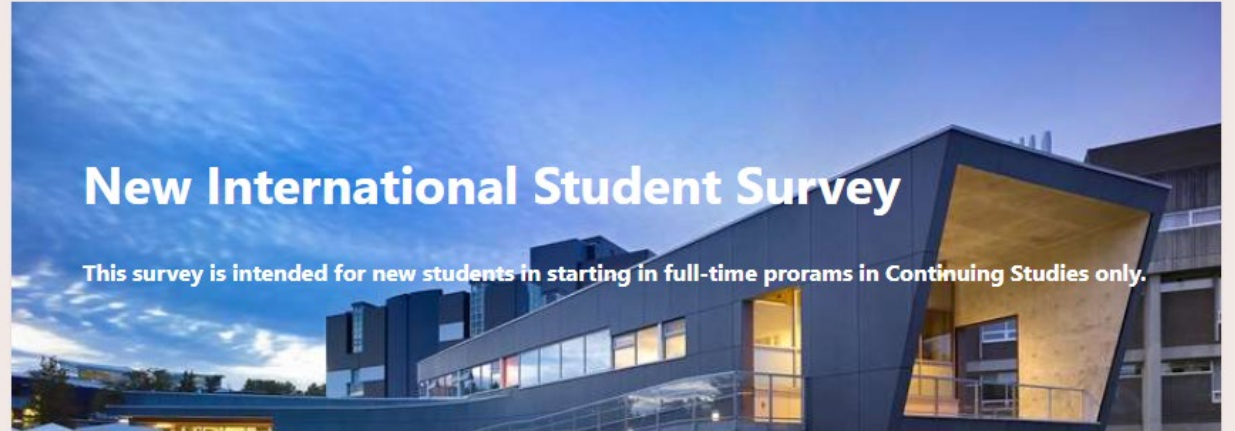
Program emails

If you have an academic question – e.g. course schedule, course location, program-related question, course material, etc?

| Programs | Program emails |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Advanced Accounting | csaccounting@langara.ca |
| Registered Massage Therapy (RMT) | rmt@langara.ca |

Reminder!

- If you have not submitted the New Student Survey yet, please do so asap.
- If the status on your study permit application has changed, please submit a new student survey.
- Please note that you have a unique link to your own student survey. So make sure not to share your survey link with another student.



Student Information

1. Student ID:

2. Student First Name:

3. Student Last Name:

CS International Student Orientation website

<https://langara.ca/student-services/why-langara/international-student-experience/before-you-arrive/orientation>

Orientation Resources

Welcome to Langara College! We are excited you chose to be with us and are here to support you throughout your academic journey.

To help make the most of your first semester at Langara, we encourage all new students to join an orientation session for Regular Studies or Continuing Studies before the start of their term.



Continuing Studies International Student Orientation

Not sure if you are a Continuing Studies student? Click [here](#) to view a list of Continuing Studies programs.

Students beginning their studies at Langara are invited to attend the Continuing Studies International Student Orientation. In this session, students will learn more about Langara, Langara's services, how to adjust to Vancouver and

i-Guide Mentorship Program

- This is a one-semester program that you may choose to opt in for your first semester.
- By joining the program, you will get paired with a more experienced Langara student.
- iGuide mentors have studied at Langara for at least one semester, they will be able to provide guidance, advice, support, and friendship to new students.
- iGuide mentors can help new students understand the essentials (e.g. where to go for transit, library, shopping, banking, or mobile phone services)
- You and your mentor can decide whether meeting virtually or face-to-face would be more preferred.
- Email communication has been sent out to you.
- <https://langara.ca/why-langara/international-student-experience/students>



Prepare for Arrival

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Home

New Regular Studies Students

Early Arrivals

Opt Out

Continuing Studies and LEAP
Students

Returning Regular Studies
Students

Dependents +

Policy Documents

Submit a Claim

Find a Canadian Clinic

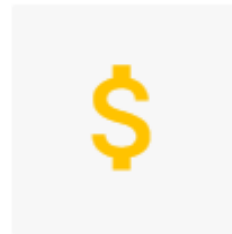
mobileDOCTOR

CONTINUING STUDIES AND LEAP STUDENTS

This is intended for students in a [Continuing Studies program](#) or [LEAP](#) only.

Upon arrival, you will need to apply for [Medical Services Plan \(MSP\)](#) as it is mandatory in the province of British Columbia (BC) for international students to have medical insurance. Since BC MSP does not begin until 3 months after your arrival, you will need to purchase private insurance for those first 3 months. Once your travel arrangements are made, buy the insurance to begin on your first day in BC, for 3 months. To begin, click on the “Apply for Insurance” icon below.

If you are in a Regular Studies program, please refer to the [Returning Regular Studies Students](#) or [Early Arrivals](#) pages to purchase your insurance or for more information. Do not purchase insurance from this page.



APPLY FOR INSURANCE



POLICY DOCUMENTS
FOR
GUARD.ME CANADA
DRUG CARD



FIND A CANADIAN
CLINIC



MOBILEDOCTOR

Homestay Accommodations

- Students live with Canadian families while they complete their education
- While living in homestay, students are:
 - Provided with a furnished, private bedroom
 - Given three meals per day
 - Given use of household appliances (washer, dryer, vacuum cleaner, iron, etc.)
 - Welcomed to join in family activities and excursions
 - Encouraged to practice English with their families and to learn about Canadian culture
 - A part of their host families
- For more information, contact the Homestay Office:
 - Email: homestay@langara.ca
 - Phone: 604.323.5696



Other Options

1. AirBnB: www.airbnb.ca
2. GEC Living (Student Residences): gecliving.com
3. Student.com: www.student.com/ca/vancouver
4. University Living: www.universityliving.com/canada/city/vancouver
5. Point2Homes: www.point2homes.com/CA/Apartments-For-Rent/BC/Greater-Vancouver.html
6. PadMapper: www.padmapper.com/apartments/vancouver-bc
7. Rentsline: www.rentline.com
8. Craigslist: vancouver.craigslist.org/d/all-housing-wanted/search/hsw
9. Search4StudentHousing: www.search4studenthousing.com/students



For general information about your rights as a renter in British Columbia: tenants.bc.ca/

Prepare for arrival

How early you can arrive before start studying?

- There is no set time frame for you to arrive in Canada before you begin your studies.
- You should give yourself a reasonable amount of time to prepare before you start studying.
- To help you get ready, check out the Pre-Arrival resources on <https://langara.ca/student-services/why-langara/international-student-experience/before-you-arrive/orientation>



Prepare for arrival

General Entry Requirements

When you arrive in Canada, you'll meet a border services officer (CBSA) who will make sure you meet general requirements for entry.

Be honest and ask if an interpreter is available if you don't understand the questions.



Documentation

Primary documents:

- ✓ Valid Passport
- ✓ Temporary Resident Visa or eTA
- ✓ Letter of Introduction from IRCC
- ✓ Original copy of your LOA – Letter of Acceptance from Langara (print from your email)



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Documentation

Secondary documents:

- ✓ Course registration information
- ✓ Flight booking tickets
- ✓ Accommodation information
- ✓ Important contacts
- ✓ Driver's license
- ✓ Proof of immunization, if any
- ✓ Photocopies of important documents, such as: birth certificate, previous education documents, family member documents, etc.



Documentation

Other things the officer may ask:

- ✓ Where you will stay
- ✓ Will leave Canada by the end of your visit
- ✓ Evidence of Funds
- ✓ Have ties with home country
- ✓ Be in good health
- ✓ Have no criminal or immigration convictions



Post-arrival

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BC Medical Services Plan (MSP)

- Apply for BC MSP as soon as possible
<https://my.gov.bc.ca/ahdc/msp-eligibility>
 - You will need:
 - Copy of your study permit
 - BC residential address
- Waiting period for MSP: ~3 months
- You will receive an enrolment letter, which provides you information on how to obtain your Services card.



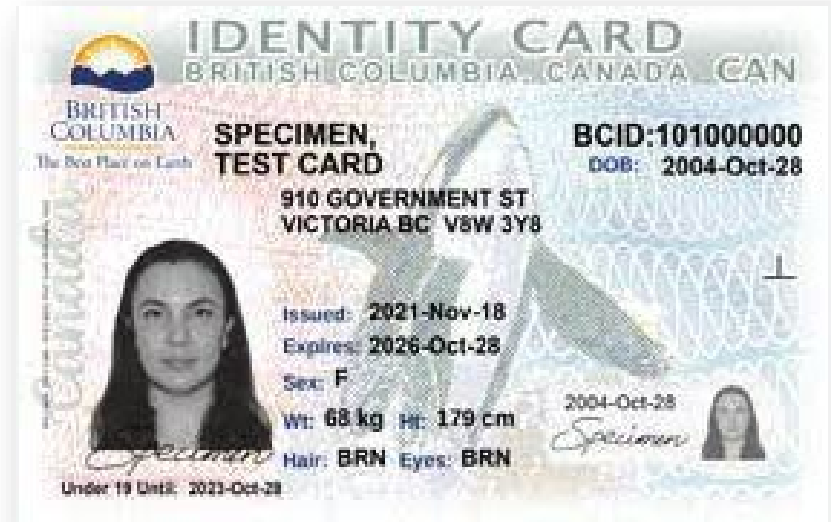
Social Insurance Number

- It is a 9 digit number that you need to work in Canada or to have access to government programs and benefits
- Apply online or visit a Services Canada office



BC Identity Card (BCID)

- Official government photo identification card
- More information at [ICBC.com](https://www.icbc.com)
- Fee: \$35



Banking and Money Management

- There are many bank institutions in Canada
- Many of them have special offers and accounts for International Students
- Budgeting is important as there are a number of fixed costs – tuition, accommodation, commute (car or public transit), food, cell phone, medical insurance, necessities, etc.



Translink - Compass Card

- Public transit system in Metro Vancouver
- Need **Compass Card** to take the bus or subway
- More information at translink.ca



Thank you!

Any questions?

If you have an immigration question, you can contact myself - Olivia Kong (okong@langara.ca)

If you have a program-related question, you can contact your Program Coordinator

Follow Langara Global on social media!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/langaraglobal

Instagram: @langaraglobal

Scan to complete a short survey about this pre-arrival session



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