International Graduate Student Resources Sheet

McMaster University is closed December 23 to January 1. The School of Graduate Studies reopens on January 2, 2018.

You've received an offer to enter graduate studies at McMaster and you've accepted... Congratulations and welcome to McMaster!

*Please take a few moments to review the resources found here. This is a companion resource to the International Graduate Student Orientation Webinar, January 2018.*

**Before you arrive in Canada:**

Visit [Canada Immigration and Citizenship](https://www.cic.gc.ca) for all information related to getting a Study Permit.

Some students, depending on country of origin, will need a travel Visa to enter Canada. For more information, visit [VISA Offices Outside of Canada](https://www.canada-visa.gc.ca)

**Register as a graduate student at McMaster University!**

Register! Go to [How to Enroll](https://www.grad.mcmaster.ca/grad-students/how-to-enroll)

McMaster has three academic terms: Winter, Summer and Fall
Students starting in January should register for Winter and Summer terms. Enroll in at least one course for each term.

*Note: For students how have completed course work, enroll in SGS 700 or 711 – these are placeholder courses.*

Contact your academic department for more information about attending McMaster, as well as your Course Schedule.
Arrival and Getting Settled

Getting to Hamilton from Lester B. Pearson Airport (YYZ) in Toronto

There are a few ways you can travel from Toronto to Hamilton:

- Airways Transit
- Taxi/Limo Service
- GO Transit

From Pearson Airport Terminal to Hamilton Go Centre, located in downtown Hamilton, you can use this fare calculator to determine the cost of a one-way trip.

Public transportation in Hamilton

Hamilton Street Railway – better known as the HSR – Hamilton’s city-wide public bus transportation.

You will need to pay HSR bus fare out-of-pocket until you pick up your HSR student bus pass at McMaster University. Please note that McMaster is closed from December 23, 2017 until January 2, 2018. Your pass will not be available until January 2.

For more about using your Presto Card

Cab services

Blue Line Taxi – Book online or call 905-525-0000
Hamilton Cab – Book online or call 777-777-7777
Short-stay Accommodations

- AirBnB Hamilton
- Trivago Hamilton Search

Housing

- Off-Campus Resource Centre
- Kijiji
- Craigslist
- Mac Housing on Facebook
- Mac IGSA on Facebook
- Student Manual

Residential Tenancy Act, Ontario

Working in Canada

Social Insurance Number (SIN)
You need a Social Insurance Number to work in Canada as a TA or any other employment.

Places you can get your SIN:
- Pearson Airport
- Hamilton City Hall (Fridays only)
- other locations can be found online
Living in Canada

Banking
Canada has five major banks. Each has student rates that you can ask about.

- Royal Bank of Canada
- TD Canada Trust
- BMO
- CIBC
- Scotiabank

Cell phones
Requires credit card

- Freedom Mobile
- Bell Mobility
- Rogers.com
- Telus
- Fido
- Koodo

Budgeting and Cost of Living

See an updated list of how much things cost in Hamilton.

If you are working as a TA, check your payment schedule!

Tuition + Mandatory Supplemental Fees

Financial Dates and Deadlines

How to pay your tuition

IMPORTANT! PAYMENT INFORMATION PACKAGE FOR FULL TIME GRADUATE STUDENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018. This link has all the info you need! Pay Schedule, understanding your funding, and Steps to Getting Paid, where to direct questions.
On Campus

McMaster University Campus Map

School of Graduate Studies
Located in Gilmour Hall (Building 20 on Campus Map), second floor, Room 212.
  • Graduate Calendar

Graduate Students Association
Located in Refectory Rathskeller Building (Building 4 on Campus Map), East Tower, 2nd floor
  • GSA Benefits Plan

McMaster Student Wellness Centre
Counselling, medical and wellness services. Located in McMaster University Student Centre (Building 51 on Campus Map), in basement, Room B101/118

CUPE 3906
Located in KTH B111
  • CUPE Dental Plan

McMaster International Student Services
Information about UHIP (University Health Insurance Program) and help with registering for the program.
  • More about UHIP.
  • UHIP at McMaster.

Equity and Inclusion Office

International Grad Student Association

Engineering Graduate Society

Scientist Association at McMaster

African Caribbean Grad Students Association

Join us for the January Social!
Register online to attend.

December 2017 | McMaster University School of Graduate Studies