



International Student Settlement Checklist

VIRS

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Immediately After You Arrive (First three weeks)

- Apply for your Social Insurance Number (SIN) if you have a study permit.
- Apply for the BC Medical Service Plan (MSP) (mandatory if you are staying in BC for more than 6 months.)
 - Please also see our Health Insurance for International Students Page
- Fill in the Third-Party Authorization Section in Workday if needed.
- Enter your document expiry dates in the International Student Reminder System if needed.
- Open a bank account (Refer to pg. 2)
- Get a cell phone plan (Refer to pg. 2)
- Sign onto UBC's wireless network (UBC Secure)
- Get your Student ID (UNC 214)
- Get your U-PASS (bus pass): Bring your student ID card to the Student Union Office (UNC133) or download the UMO app and redeem online
- Download the Transit App for live updates on bus scheduling, routes, and navigating around Kelowna
- Memorize the emergency number (911) for police, ambulance and fire
- Memorize the Campus Security number (250 807 8111), or program it into your cell phone
- Enroll your children in school (if applicable -- Refer to pg. 2)
- Photocopy all important documents with digital backups of all files and images

First Two Months in Canada

- Get your Canadian driver's license if you plan to drive in Canada or apply for a valid student exception to drive in Canada (Refer to pg. 2)
- Get a BC ID card (optional)
- Have your children immunized (Refer to pg. 2)
- Know locations of walk-in clinics and the Kelowna General Hospital
- Become familiar with the Off-Campus Housing Guide
- Review our Student Settlement Guide for helpful tips in navigating your new community.



Useful Links

Banking and Finance

- Banks in Kelowna: Scotiabank; RBC Royal Bank; CIBC; TD; BMO, Valley First Credit Union, Etc. *RBC has a branch on-campus
- Child Tax Benefit Application
 - Eligibility: If you are not a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, you will only be able to apply after you have lived in Canada for **18 months** on a study or work permit (Government of Canada, Canada Child Benefit, who can apply, retrieved on February 2nd, 2023).

- Community tax clinic: KCR free tax clinic

Childcare Services

- Children's Immunization: Interior Health – Review UBC's Community & Family Resources website
- Enroll Children in School: School District 23 website
- UBC Okanagan Child Care Services – Apply

Phone and Internet Services

- Phone companies: Telus; Shaw; Fido; Bell; Koodo; Virgin; Rogers; Chatr
 - Compare plans with RateHub
- Internet companies: Telus; Shaw
 - Compare plans with RateHub

ID and Documentation

- Canadian Driver's Licence or BC ID: review ICBC's website
Address: 1720 Springfield Rd, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7W
- Apply for your Social Insurance Number (SIN)

Seasonal Guides

[Summer Guide](#)

[Fall Guide](#)

[Winter Guide](#)