

1992 Yonge St, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M4S 1Z7 rciis.ca / education@rciis.ca / 416 222 5328 DLI# 019440339342

# RCIIS PRE-ARRIVAL PACKAGE

Congratulations on your visa approval and acceptance to study in Canada!

Students who are fully vaccinated according to the standards of Health Canada, will not be required to quarantine upon entry into the country.

This quarantine exemption is outlined on the following website:

### <u>Health Canada Vaccination Requirements</u> <- Click here

Fully vaccinated students must still adhere to the following entrance requirements:

- Pre-entry COVID-19 test
- Backup Quarantine plan (in case the quarantine exemption is not granted)
- Arrival COVID-19 test
- Requirements checklist

As part of the exemption, incoming students are not required to quarantine while they await the results of their on-arrival COVID-19 test.

Although fully vaccinated students will not be required to book the Study Safe Corridor Package (see below), they will still be required to utilize the package as a quarantine backup plan.

When requesting a quarantine backup plan letter, be sure to answer that you are fully vaccinated, and you will be prompted with a message that indicates you may be exempt from quarantine:

# www.studysafecorridor.com <- Click here

Once you receive this letter you will be able to input the information into the ArriveCan app before departure.



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Please note: RCIIS will not be involved in making the final judgment on your vaccination status, so please ensure you have all written documents and proof (in either French or English) to present to the Canadian border agents.

If you are not vaccinated or only partially vaccinated, it is very important for you to prepare for the challenges and responsibilities that this pandemic brings to international students including a mandatory 14-day quarantine period when you arrive in Canada.

This pre-arrival package will give you the information and tools you need to make informed decisions about your upcoming journey. Be sure to read and review all of information in this document as students may be denied entry into the country if they do not follow these protocols.

#### 1. Pre-Departure

International travelers to Canada are currently required to take a COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the scheduled departure time of your flight to Canada. Please keep proof of your test results as you must provide proof a negative test result before flying.

RCIIS has partnered with Languages Canada and adopted the "Study Safe Corridor" as part of the way we strengthen and enhance our ability to accept international students safely into Canada. Due to the cost effectiveness and combined benefits of the package, we feel RCIIS can provide our students a comprehensive and safe option.

Go to the following website, and complete the application process for your pre-departure, flight plans, hotel booking, and document submissions:

**Study Safe Corridor: Travel Safe** <- Click here

Each quarantining student will be provided:

• Private, safe transport from the airport to the hotel



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- A room which includes a private bathroom and is equipped with adequate toiletries, linens and other supplies for 14 days
- Delivery of three meals per day to your room
- A hotel which adheres to of all staff to rigorous hygiene, cleanliness and physical distancing practices
- Monitoring services to ensure that you do not leave your room.

You must provide RCIIS with proof of your Study Safe Corridor registration a minimum of two (2) weeks before your departure to Canada.

Plan for your physical and emotional wellness during quarantine, including any books, games, fitness equipment/apps, etc. you may wish to have with you.

# 2. Complete Quarantine Plan

Before your arrival, you will need to complete a quarantine plan to present to Canadian border officials when you land. Please complete the attached "RCIIS Student Quarantine Plan" document and follow these steps:

- Send a signed electronic copy of this document to RCIIS.
- Print a copy of this plan prior to travel and present it to border officials upon arrival

#### 3. Packing

It is very important to come prepared for your 14-day quarantine, as you will not be able to go to a store once you arrive. In addition to regular packing requirements, please also bring:

- 60 disposable face masks **OR** 30 disposable and 1 reusable cloth face mask
- One bottle of quality hand sanitizer
- One box of Nitrile gloves



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#### A thermometer

Please also have the following with you in your carry-on luggage: at least 2 masks, several pairs of gloves, a travel sized bottle of hand-sanitizer and some disinfecting wipes.

Make sure you have the following documents available when you arrive in your carry-on luggage. You will be required to present these to Canada Border Services when going through customs and immigration:

- Passport
- Study permit or permit confirmation document (if you have one)
- Letter of Acceptance
- Quarantine site contact information
- Contact information of RCIIS
- Print out of your RCIIS Student Quarantine Plan.

#### 4. Pre-Departure Self-Assessment

You (and your co-arriving family members) should not travel to Canada if you are experiencing COVID-19 - related symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19, or are awaiting test results.

#### 5. Arrival

Be sure to put on a fresh mask and gloves when you land and proceed through immigration and baggage pick-up while maintaining physical distancing.

You must take a test before leaving the airport. At that time, you will get a COVID-19 At Home Specimen Collection Kit to use for your test on Day-8 of your mandatory quarantine.

You may be required to take a COVID-19 test at your point of entry into Canada.



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You (and any co- arriving family members) should actively screen yourselves for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to heading to your hotel.

#### 6. Mandatory 14-Day Quarantine

All international students coming to Canada must complete a mandatory **14-day quarantine** along with any co-arriving immediate family members.

Meet your driver at the agreed pick-up location making sure to load your own luggage into the car and maintain a safe distance.

Please be aware, you must always wear a mask during your trip to the quarantine location.

As part of the "Study Safe Corridor" package, you will be provided a SIM card upon check-in. If the SIM card has not been received at this time, one will be delivered to your room as soon as it arrives.

During the quarantine, you must stay inside your hotel room for the entire duration of the 14 days. You are not allowed to leave your room unless you are seeking medical attention.

You will be able to begin your academic program online during your quarantine period. Discuss the academic plan for your quarantine with your counselor.

Throughout your quarantine period, RCIIS will be checking in with you every day to ensure you are monitoring yourself according to provincial guidelines. Our staff will also be making random video calls to verify that you are staying in your room at all times.

Please be aware that we will be directly reporting to Health Canada and local law enforcement if you are not in compliance with the quarantine requirements. The government of Canada will use its authority under the Quarantine Act to ensure compliance with all quarantine procedures. There are steep penalties if you decide to break the self-isolation rules including:

"a fine of not more than \$750,000"

and / or

"imprisonment for a term of not more than six months"



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All fines and penalties will be <u>your responsibility</u> so please follow all of the guidelines in this document to avoid them.

During regular check-ins, our counseling staff will also make sure that you have all the support you need during your quarantine period. As all the accommodation options are reputable hotels, you will have access to food and water as well as phone and internet services throughout your stay (additional costs may be charged).

If you feel the need for medical care or are experiencing mental distress, please indicate this to our counselors immediately. They will provide you with the resources you require in a timely fashion.

## 7. ArriveCan Application

RCIIS recommends that all incoming international students download the ArriveCAN application which has been created by the Government of Canada. The ArriveCAN application can be used to speed up your arrival process in Canada and help you spend less time with border and public health officers.

The app also helps arriving students:

- provide mandatory information that's required for entry into Canada
- Provide a backup quarantine plan (if fully vaccinated)
- reduce their wait time at points of contact at the border
- provide the Government of Canada with voluntary updates on your quarantine compliance and the development of any symptoms during the 14 days after arriving in Canada

The ArriveCAN app can be downloaded for iOS or Android, but can also be used on the internet by accessing the following link: https://arrivecan.cbsa-asfc.cloud-nuage.canada.ca/

Please be aware, <u>even if you are fully vaccinated</u>, students are required to prepare and upload their quarantine information using the ArriveCan app before departure.

#### 8. Additional Costs



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Arriving students need to be aware that there may be additional costs beyond the 14-day mandatory quarantine period. These costs are the full responsibility of the student and we recommend considering them when budgeting for your arrival.

You will need to budget for <u>at least</u> 14 days. If your mandatory COVID-19 test determines you are positive for COVID-19, <u>you may be required to extend your hotel stay.</u>

In the event of a positive test result, the hotel will be notified, but extending the room and meal plan is the responsibility of the student.

#### **Hotel Pricing Information <- Click here**

#### 9. Coming to School

After your mandatory quarantine period has concluded, RCIIS will monitor and support you by performing periodic wellness checks via our counseling staff. Additionally, materials and resources will be made available to you regarding some of the social challenges you may face as an international student studying in Canada.

Living abroad is a big challenge. You may experience some level of stress adapting to the new culture, environment and workload. We encourage you to talk openly about your stress and challenges with your teachers and counselors.

Although we hope this isn't your experience, it is possible that you may face social barriers, COVID-19 based stigma, or feelings of isolation. Please reach out to your counselor or agent if you feel any of these things during your stay.

Cultural and social events can contribute greatly to a student's success when learning a new language.



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RCIIS organizes unique and diverse social and cultural events online during the pandemic. Every month, our students will have opportunities to practice English in real situations, experience Canadian culture, and make friends online.

Along with this package, you have received the RCIIS Student Orientation. Please read it carefully as it explains many of the changes taking place inside our school to help keep you and our staff safe. We have also included our RCIIS reopening policy which describes what life at school will look like during the pandemic.

Most importantly, we want to welcome you to our school! Despite all of these safety procedures we know that this learning experience will be fun, exciting, and beneficial for your future goals.

#### **Consent and Confirmation**

If an RCIIS student chooses not to proceed with their education/training as a result of these policies or additional costs, RCIIS will refund our tuition fee according to the RCIIS Refund Policy which is fully described in our refund policy:

#### **RCIIS Refund Policy <- Click here**

Cancellations of the Study Safe Corridor package can be made up to 72 hours prior to the arrival date. All cancellations are subject to an 10% processing fee that will be deducted from your refund.

There are no refunds on any cancellation made within 72 hours of the arrival date.

By signing this form, you are agreeing that you have read and fully understood this document package in its entirety. Additionally, by signing this form, you are consenting to the collection of your personal health information with regards to your COVID-19 test results. These results will be stored securely on site and will be disposed of after a period of no more than 3 years.



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You understand that you will need to test negative for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to boarding your flight to Canada.

Student Name:	
Student Signature:	
Date:	