

# Welcome to Georgian

*Barrie*

*International Orientation Handbook*

# Important contacts

## For EMERGENCIES dial 911

(Fire, ambulance, police will all respond)

### Barrie Police

For non-emergency assistance: 705.725.7025

**On-campus security** 705.728.1968, ext. 5100

### Georgian College International Centre

705.728.1968, ext. 1218

**City of Barrie:** 705.726.4242 *Barrie.ca*

**Lost & Found:** E007

### Mobile Doctor

guard.me insurance gives you FREE 24/7 access to a doctor by phone. Start by registering online [guard.me/mobiledoctor](https://guard.me/mobiledoctor)

## Hospitals

guard.me international insurance gives you FREE access to hospital visits for **emergency** health needs. You may need to pay upfront, but can submit a claim with guard.me to be reimbursed. Print out your guard.me insurance card and bring it with you.

- Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH)  
201 Georgian Dr. Barrie 705.728.9802

## Walk-in clinics

guard.me international insurance gives you FREE access to walk-in clinics for **non-emergency** health needs. Print out your guard.me insurance card and bring it with you (look for it in your email).

- 125 Bell Farm Rd.  
705.726.1544
- 121 Wellington Str. W.  
705.726.1544
- 555 Mapleview Dr.  
705.792.5731
- 353 Duckworth St.  
705.739.8812
- 505 Yonge St.  
705.726.1544
- 480 Huronia Rd.  
705.722.0516

# Study, co-op and post-grad work permits

All students are responsible for completing and submitting their own applications for study, co-op and post-graduation work permits to the Government of Canada IRCC department. All this information is available to you online through the student portal. [portal.georgiancollege.ca](https://portal.georgiancollege.ca)

## Study permit extension

You must always have a valid study permit throughout your time studying in Canada. If you wish to extend your stay as a student you **MUST** apply before your study permit expires. You can do so online <https://bit.ly/2MH7R5W>

Before beginning please check your passport and current study permit expiry dates, as well as the [IRCC processing times](#) to make sure you give yourself enough time to complete the application process.

To ensure that you receive your new document before the old one expires, you should submit your application **AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE** the expiry date of your status.

## Post-graduation work permit

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) offers a post-graduation work permit Program allowing students who have graduated from a participating Canadian post-secondary institution to work in Canada upon completion of their studies up to three years (depending on the duration of your studies) and gain Canadian work experience. <https://bit.ly/1qthcwU>

## Co-op work permit

International students who are undertaking any kind of field education, (co-op, internship, practicum, placement, field placement, industry placement or clinical placement) regardless of length, must have a valid co-op work permit.

You must have the co-op work permit before you begin work component of your program (co-op, internship, field placement, etc.).

You need a valid study permit for the duration of your program and co-op when you apply for the co-op work permit. <https://bit.ly/2om3AH9>

## Additional support

Please read all the information on these permits found on the Student Portal [portal.georgiancollege.ca](https://portal.georgiancollege.ca) and the IRCC website [canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada.html](https://canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada.html)

If you need additional assistance please email us at [international@georgiancollege.ca](mailto:international@georgiancollege.ca) or visit the Segal International Centre on the Barrie Campus C279.

# College services

## Awards and scholarships (E200)

There are more than 750 awards available to students each year with a combined value of over \$750,000. Visit [GeorgianCollege.ca/awards](http://GeorgianCollege.ca/awards) to see which awards you qualify for information on application deadlines.

## Insurance and benefits

### guard.me international insurance (C279)

guard.me international insurance coverage is for **emergency or immediate** health conditions (flu, sore throat, broken leg, rash, etc.) that starts after your insurance coverage begins.

NOTE: the plan does not cover pre-existing conditions.

### Health and Dental Plan (A159)

The GCSA health and dental plan is for most **non-emergency** health and dental needs (dental check-up, physiotherapy, massage therapy, etc.). [mystudentplan.ca](http://mystudentplan.ca)

## Library and Academic Success (K110)

### Peer tutors Math Centre Writing Centre

Get help writing papers and understanding math and academic content from your courses.

### Student advisors

Get study skills support so you can learn more effectively. Support includes time and task management, note-taking, effective studying, understanding assignments, giving presentations, and taking tests.

### Library

Get help with library resources, finding resources for an assignment, or researching a subject area. Computers, books, study areas, and quiet private rooms are also available.

## ONEcard student card (Registrar's Office)

ONEcard is the official Georgian identification card. It's your student card, library card, gym card, bus pass, and a convenient payment method for select vendors on- and off-campus. Submit your photo online [onphoto.georgiancollege.ca](http://onphoto.georgiancollege.ca)

## Peer mentors (K207)

Get help transitioning into college life. You will be connected with a student who has been at Georgian for at least a year – they'll help you meet people, make friends and navigate the school and community.

## Segal International Centre (C279)

### Housing assistance

Get help finding a place to live in Homestay or on- or off-campus. Email for additional assistance [GCintlHousing@georgiancollege.ca](mailto:GCintlHousing@georgiancollege.ca)

### International advising

Get help completing forms for study permits, co-op work permits, temporary residence visa, post-graduation work permits, replacement documents, or permits for dependents.

### International student ambassadors

Get help transitioning into Canadian life and Georgian College.

### Georgian students abroad

Get help finding a co-op placement or study opportunity in a country outside of Canada.

[GeorgianCollege.ca/international/study-work-abroad](http://GeorgianCollege.ca/international/study-work-abroad)

## Student Success (B110)

### Accessibility services

Get help with accommodations and other support services for students with disabilities.

### Counselling

Get access to FREE confidential and professional counsellors that can help you:

- Clarify problems impacting your life, and explore solutions.
- Learn new ways of communicating that can benefit your important relationships.
- Plan ways to promote your mental wellness.

### Co-operative Education and Career Success

Get help with questions about your co-op placement or future career.

### Career Hub (B115)

Get help with your resume, cover letter, interview skills and finding a job.

# Transportation

## Within Barrie

### Bus

All full-time postsecondary students will have unlimited access to City of Barrie buses. Use your ONEcard to get on any City of Barrie bus. Just get your sticker added to your ONEcard by GCSA, located outside the ONEcard office (C building, first floor) throughout the first week of school. [Barrie.ca/Living/GettingAround/BarrieTransit/Pages/SchedulesMaps.aspx](http://Barrie.ca/Living/GettingAround/BarrieTransit/Pages/SchedulesMaps.aspx)

### Uber

Download the Uber car service app onto your phone to request a ride by a certified Uber driver. It's a cheaper alternative to a taxi and great for going directly to your destination. [Uber.com](http://Uber.com)

### Taxi

There are three major taxi companies operating in Barrie that offer 24-7 service.

Barrie Taxi 705.721.7777 App available in the app store

Deluxe Taxi 705.728.4444 App available in the app store

Alliance Taxi 705.794.1111

## To Toronto (or other cities)

### GO Transit

For those looking to travel outside of Barrie, GO Transit offers both train and bus options that serve a large part of Ontario. [GOTransit.com](http://GOTransit.com)

### Greyhound

Greyhound Canada provides regular bus service to Toronto from Barrie. They offer discounts for students who provide valid student identification. [Greyhound.ca](http://Greyhound.ca)

### Ontario Northland

Ontario Northland is another large bus transportation company offering long distance bus rides across Ontario. [OntarioNorthland.ca](http://OntarioNorthland.ca)

# Driving in Ontario

For information on driving in Ontario, visit [Ontario.ca/page/drivers-licence](http://Ontario.ca/page/drivers-licence)

It's against the law to use hand-held communication (e.g. your phone) and electronic entertainment devices (e.g. DVD player, e-reader) while driving.

In fact, simply holding a phone or other device while driving is against the law.

You can use:

- A hands-free device (e.g. Bluetooth), but only to turn it on and off.
- A mounted device (e.g. phone, GPS), as long as it is secure (not moving around while you're driving).

## Automotive insurance

You are required by law to have automotive insurance on your vehicle if you plan to drive in Canada. Automotive insurance is used to provide financial protection against physical damage and/or bodily injury resulting from traffic collisions and against liability that could result from an accident. Specific terms of automotive insurance will differ depending on the coverage you have and the insurance company you're with. Your age, gender and model of vehicle will also impact on cost of insurance.

There are many automotive insurance companies to choose from. Look online or ask your bank provider if they offer automotive insurance.

Remember, always keep a copy of your insurance and ownership in the vehicle.



# Shopping

- **Downtown Barrie**  
Dunlop St.
- **Georgian Mall**  
509 Bayfield St. (most popular mall in Barrie)  
[GeorgianMall.com](http://GeorgianMall.com)
- **Bayfield Mall**  
320 Bayfield St.  
[BayfieldMall.ca](http://BayfieldMall.ca)
- **Kozlov Centre**  
400 Bayfield St.
- **Walmart**  
450 Bayfield St. OR  
35 Mapleview Dr. W.  
[Walmart.ca](http://Walmart.ca)
- **Park Place**  
100 Mapleview Dr.

## Shopping tips:

- Walmart normally has the most reasonable prices for clothing.
- Georgian Mall has a greater variety of choices and more brand name merchandise.
- Most stores accept debit, Visa and cash.
- The biggest discounts are offered during Boxing Week, which is the week following Christmas.

# Grocery stores

- **Centra (international products)**  
320 Bayfield St. (inside the Bayfield Mall)
- **No Frills**  
319 Blake St. and 165 Wellington St.
- **Sobeys**  
409 Bayfield St. and 37 Mapleview Dr.
- **Zehrs/Loblaws**  
472 Bayfield Street & 620 Yonge St.  
& 201 Cundles Rd. E.
- **FreshCo**  
409 Bayfield St.

# Banking

The five major Canadian banks have multiple locations in the area. They include:

- BMO (Bank of Montreal)  
[BMO.com](http://BMO.com)
- CIBC (Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce)  
[CIBC.com](http://CIBC.com)
- RBC (Royal Bank of Canada)  
[RBCRoyalBank.com](http://RBCRoyalBank.com)
- Scotiabank  
[Scotiabank.com](http://Scotiabank.com)
- TD Canada Trust  
[TD.com](http://TD.com)

# Canadian tax system

## Sales tax

- 13% Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) added to most purchases.

## Income tax

You must file an income tax return if:

- You have income and owe taxes.
- You want to claim and refund.
- You want to apply for the HST (and other tax credits).

If you have no income to report then you are not required to complete tax forms, though you may be eligible for HST or provincial tax credits. NOTE: you must file a tax return to receive this refund.

Note: income from employment, scholarships, bursaries, and interest income are taxable; however, money transferred to you from your parents is not considered taxable income.

For more information: call International Tax Services at 1.800.267.5177

Visit the Canada Revenue Agency at [ccra-adrc.gc.ca](http://ccra-adrc.gc.ca) for more information.

# Legal issues

	Alcohol	Cigarettes	Cannabis	Gambling	Vaping
Legal Age	19	19	19	Tickets - 18 Casino - 19	19
Allowed on campus	no	designated areas until May 6, 2019 after May 6, no	no	no	Designated areas until May 6, 2019 after May 6, no
Allowed off-campus	inside only	yes - restrictions apply	yes - restrictions apply	yes - restrictions apply	yes - restrictions apply
Allowed while Driving	no	yes	no	n/a	yes

## Legal signature

- Under *no* circumstances should you sign any paper unless you completely understand every word and what your obligations are.
- Once you sign a contract, you are legally responsible to fulfill the terms of that contract.

## Drugs

- May only be purchased for medical purposes from a pharmacy or drug store and only with a written prescription (note) from a doctor.
- It is illegal to use or possess restricted drugs (e.g., cocaine, heroin). Possession could result in charges laid with a possible jail sentence.

## Alcohol

- In Ontario, you must be 19 years of age to legally consume or purchase liquor, and it illegal to provide alcohol to anyone under the age of 19.
- **It is against the law to consume alcohol or carry it in an unsealed container in a public place (including parks and vehicles).**
- Local bars will be ask you for appropriate photo identification (e.g., passport, driver's license).
- Driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol or drugs is against the law and will result in the loss of a driver's license, fines and possible jail time.

## Cigarettes

- Identification providing age of majority (19 years) is required for the purchase of cigarettes.
- Smoking areas at Georgian College are clearly marked with signage to indicate where smoking is or is not allowed.
- Smoking is not allowed inside in any public place within Simcoe County.

- Georgian College is moving to become a Smoking-Free institution on May 6, 2019.

## Gambling

- In Canada, you must be 18 years of age to gamble through store bought scratch or lottery tickets.
- You have to be 19 years of age or older to enter a casino.

## Shoplifting

- Stealing/taking something that does not belong to you is a crime and is punishable by law (stealing something from a retail store like clothing, or from a grocery store or restaurant, or someone else's personal property).

## Cannabis

- As of October 22, 2018, Cannabis (marijuana) is now legal to use in Canada.
- Consumption of any recreational cannabis on Georgian College property is not allowed. That includes vaping, smoking and eating.



## Garbage Disposal

### Your responsibility



#### Garbage

- use black garbage bags
- bags provided by you
- two bag limit
- pickup once every two weeks



#### Recycling

- blue bin
- bin provided by city (ask your landlord)
- separate paper products in 1 bin and plastic/glass/tin in the other
- unlimited allowance
- pickup every week



#### Organic Waste

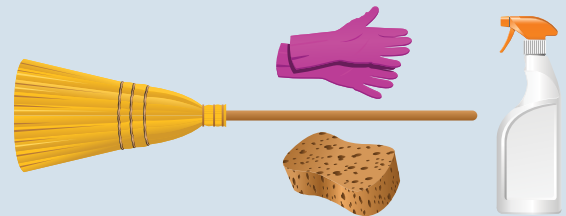
- green bin with bags
- bin provided by city (ask your landlord)
- organic waste bags provided by you
- unlimited allowance
- pickup every week

*All items must be placed by the curb at the end of your drive by 7 a.m. on your collection day.*

*Check your collection schedule here: <https://bit.ly/2Jyy1mM>*

## Regular Cleaning

### Your responsibility



#### Kitchen

- if you use it, clean it
- if you take it out, put it away
- you can use plain white vinegar to disinfect
- clean daily: countertops, stove top, sink, dishes and cups
- clean weekly: floors, inside microwave and stove (when turned off and cooled down)

#### Bathroom

- you can use plain white vinegar to disinfect
- clean daily: sink and countertop after use
- clean weekly: floors, bathtub/shower, toilet (inside bowl and top and bottom of seat)

#### Everywhere else

- you can use plain white vinegar to disinfect
- keep room clean and tidy
- wash bedding regularly
- keep floor clear and clean
- tidy and clean common spaces weekly
- if you live with other people you can share the responsibility

### *Why keep it clean?*

- reduces bacteria
- better for your health
- keeps germs away
- less risk of getting sick
- less clutter helps you focus on your studies
- helps improve mental health





# Respecting Your Community and Home



## Your Community

Respecting your community involves doing your part to take care of it. Whether it's a library book you borrowed or a park and/or sportsfield you enjoy - treat it as if it were your own.

What are ways you can show your community respect?

- Disposing of trash in appropriate places
- Refusing to vandalize (destroy public property or painting unwanted drawings and writing on walls and other property)



## At Home

Every home you live in should be treated the same way - with respect. Showing respect at home helps make life easier and more enjoyable for everyone, including yourself.

As an adult, you show respect when you:

- Act with consideration of the feelings of the people you live with, including differences of opinion and others' mistakes
- Take initiative and help out willingly around the house
- Clean up after yourself
- Take responsibility for your actions and do not blame others for your mistakes
- Follow your landlord's rules and the city bylaw/rules/laws
- Treat the possessions of others with care
- Respect the environment

Everyone's health and well-being are directly related to the health and well-being of the environment - both at home and around the world.



## In Your Neighbourhood

Neighbours show respect by watching out for each other's safety and well-being.

- They stay informed about community issues
- They report concerns to landlords or home owners - and when necessary, call the local police
- They volunteer to help neighbours who require assistance, which could be by cutting their grass, tidying litter on the streets or carrying a grocery bag

Another way to show respect to your neighborhood is to properly dispose of trash and to recycle glass, newspaper, cans and plastic products.

All living creatures depend on respect to live happily in their environment.



# As an international student enrolled in a postsecondary program at Georgian College you have:

insurance coverage from **guard.me**

and a

health and dental plan from **GCSA/mystudentplan**



insurance coverage

*This insurance coverage is for emergency health conditions and anything new (flu, sore throat, rash, etc.) that starts after your insurance coverage begins (the plan does not cover pre-existing conditions).*

Hospital and walk-in clinic visits  
x-rays and Lab Testing  
Physician/Surgeon  
Psychiatric Hospitalization  
Psychotherapy  
Eye Exams  
Paramedic Services  
Physiotherapy/Speech Therapy  
Private Nursing  
Ambulance  
Prescription Drugs  
Dental - Accidental Injury  
Dental - Emergency  
Medical Equipment & Supplies  
Accessibility  
Immunization  
Maternity  
Family Transportation  
Air Evacuation/Return Home  
Trauma Counseling

You also have the option of purchasing insurance for your dependents.

For details visit

**guard.me/georgian**

Or pick up a detailed brochure in the International Centre C279



health and dental plan

*This health and dental plan is for most non-emergency health and dental needs (dental check-up, physiotherapy, massage therapy, etc.).*

## Health

Physiotherapist	Chiropractor
Speech Therapist	Vision
Naturopath	Orthopedics
Psychologist	Social Worker
Registered Massage	Athletic Therapist

(above services require a doctor's note)

## Dental

Annual Exams	Recall Exams
Diagnostic	Preventative
Minor Restorative	Extractions
Oral Surgery	Endodontic
Periodontic	Major Restorative

*EAP students do not have this coverage.*

You also have the option of purchasing health and dental coverage for your dependents.

For details visit

**mystudentplan.ca/georgian**

Or visit the Benefits plan office A159

# How to make the most of your Canadian experience

Here are some suggestions to make the most of your time here, including making new friends from around the world and immersing yourself in Canadian and Georgian culture.

## Volunteer

- There are always opportunities to volunteer at Georgian and in the community. Contact GCSA on your campus for current opportunities.

## Student clubs

- The GCSA supports many student clubs on campus. You can join one or start your own! Visit [GeorgianCollege.ca/clubs](http://GeorgianCollege.ca/clubs) for a list of active clubs.

## GCSA

- GCSA is the Georgian College Students' Association. They are a group of elected students who represent the student body. There are many different ways to be a part of the GCSA. If you are interested, visit them in A162 (across from the Athletic Centre and The Last Class restaurant and bar).

## Chat club

- This is a great way for international students to sit down with each other and practice their English skills in a relaxed environment. Check out the current schedule in Room A218.

## Global Talkafé

- Global Talkafé facilitate informal conversations/information sessions several times a month. They help provide more information on important topics related to international students such as awards, working in Canada, and resumé building. Follow us on Facebook to view upcoming events. [facebook.com/ICGeorgian](https://facebook.com/ICGeorgian)

## In class

- Make friends with classmates from other countries, ask them questions about their background and what they like to do for fun. When asked to work in groups, try to partner up with students from different countries.

## Attend events

- Attend campus events and activities. [facebook.com/ICGeorgian](https://facebook.com/ICGeorgian) or [GeorgianCollege.ca/news-events/all-events](http://GeorgianCollege.ca/news-events/all-events)

## Stay connected online

- The easiest way to stay updated is through Facebook. We post regular updates on everything that is happening at Georgian College that applies to international students. We also post to Twitter and Instagram.
- Join the [Georgian College International Centre Student Connection](https://facebook.com/ICGeorgian) group on facebook to chat with other current or future Georgian international students.



@ICGeorgian

 [facebook.com/ICGeorgian](https://facebook.com/ICGeorgian)

 [twitter.com/ICGeorgian](https://twitter.com/ICGeorgian)



Make sure to update your contact info (including your Canadian address, phone number and email) with Georgian so you don't miss any important information!

**[GeorgianCollege.ca/changeaddress](https://GeorgianCollege.ca/changeaddress)**

