



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HANDBOOK



GEORGIAN
COLLEGE

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WELCOME

On behalf of the office of International Education and Training, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to you! For many of you, it is your first time living and studying in a different country. As a former international student, I understand the excitement and challenges you face in adapting to a new cultural and academic environment. Making new friends and building your support network is the key for your smooth transition in Canada. I encourage you to take advantage of all of the programs and activities we have planned for you. The International office is your home away from home. We are with you every step along the way during your study at Georgian College to provide guidance and support.

You have traveled from far away to study at Georgian College in Canada. It is a significant milestone in your life and the experience provides a tremendous opportunity for your personal growth and professional development. The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page. I am confident that studying at Georgian College, you will not only add many exciting chapters in your book, but also will contribute to our goal of internationalization by sharing different perspectives and teaching Canadian students and instructors about your country and culture.

Again, warm welcome to you all and wish you all the success at Georgian College!

Ben Yang
Executive Director
International Education & Training
Georgian College



GEORGIAN COLLEGE

Georgian College is a community college funded by the province of Ontario and offers over 70 Diploma and 12 graduate certificate programs in disciplines such as Engineering Technology, Health Sciences, Arts, Business and Computer studies, Automotive and Aviation studies and Tourism. Georgian College hosts more than 10,000 full time and over 28,000 part-time students, from more than 20 countries.

Georgian offers two and three year diploma programs, some of which have Co-op requirements. Georgian is one of the leading co-op colleges around, with 50 co-op/intern programs. Students alternate academic semesters with paid work terms that directly relate to their area of study. Co-op terms are normally four months in length. In addition, the college also offers its own Bachelor Degree programs and has many transfer agreements with universities in Canada and around the world, allowing students to complete their diploma at Georgian before moving onto a university where an undergraduate bachelor's degree can be obtained in one or two additional years. Classes are student-centered, combining a theory-based curriculum with practical training. Students become well-rounded graduates with both knowledge and practical work experience.

Georgian College has a high-tech library, computer labs, large gym and fitness centre, sports teams, restaurant, bar, cafeteria, book and computer store. Georgian College has nearly 100 rooms in dormitories that enable students to live and study on campus.

To know more about Georgian and what's going on at campus or how you can be involved, please visit
www.georgiancollege.ca

GEORGIAN COLLEGE VIRTUAL TOUR

Want to show off Georgian College to your friends and family back home? The Georgian College Virtual Tour allows viewers to take a tour through many main areas of the college while providing great information! Visit the link below or click the button show below on the Georgian College International website.

To check out the Georgian College Virtual Tour please visit

www.georgiancollege.ca/360tour



INTERNATIONAL STAFF PROFILES

Ben Yang

Executive Director

ben.yang@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1366

Ben leads the International Education & Training department at Georgian College and directs all international recruitment, international student support and international project efforts. With firsthand experience in adapting to a new cultural and academic environment, Ben is committed to providing the most welcoming and supportive environment for international students at Georgian College.

Bea Collins

International Student Advisor

bea.collins@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1219

Bea is responsible for assisting students make the transition to Canadian and student life. Drop by the International Centre regularly to see her and to see what's happening on campus for International students.

Jenny La Forge

Manager, International Education and Training

jenny.laforge@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1841

Jenny La Forge works closely with the International Education and Training services staff to ensure that International students receive excellent service in International education. Jenny works closely with the Executive Director in co-ordinating new partnership opportunities and customized summer study tours.

Jenna Hubbert

International Student Services Officer

homestayprogram@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1342 or 1392

The International Student Services Officer provides a number of services to our international students. They can arrange to have the students picked up from the airport upon request and place students in homestays with Canadian families near Georgian College. They can assist students with questions they have regarding their Guard Me health insurance and help them make claims. All of these services are at no cost to the student as long as they fill out the required paperwork accurately and on time.

Lindsay Byers

International Marketing and Mobility Officer

Lindsay.byers@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1247

Lindsay is responsible for supporting recruitment initiatives, marketing, and the OBW (German Exchange Program). She works with all international agents and the Regional Managers to recruit students and market Georgian College.

INTERNATIONAL STAFF PROFILES

Tamara Fisher-Cullen

English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Coordinator

tamara.fisher-cullen@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1216

Tamara is the coordinator of our EAP (English for Academic Purposes) program. Please see Tamara if you have a question about the ESL and EAP program.

Patricia Manser

Office Clerk

pat.manser@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1218

Pat Manser joined the International Team in 2005. She is here to help with all inquiries to the department.

Lily Li

Regional Manager: East Asia

lily.li@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1849

Lily is responsible for coordinating our student recruitment in Asia. Please contact Lily directly if you have any questions regarding these areas.

Gabriela Facchini

Regional Manager: Latin America

Gabriela.facchini@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1810

Gabriela can help you with your application in Spanish, Italian, French or Portuguese. If you are from Latin America, Spain, Quebec or France (other French Speaking countries) or Italy and you are interested in studying at Georgian College, please contact Gabriela.

Samina Kuwajerwala

Regional Manager: South Asia, Middle East, Africa

Samina.kuwajerwala@georgiancollege.ca

Ext. 1282

Samina is responsible for recruitment and partnerships/projects for the regions of South Asia, Middle East and Africa. She is fluent in English, Hindi and Gujarati. She can guide you with applications and is also keen to explore interesting projects in her regions.

Nancy Blain

Counsellor

nancy.blain@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1229

Nancy has worked with Georgian College for over 30 years and is a counsellor in Student Services specializing in cross-cultural counselling. Nancy will assist students who have questions about their academics/program/career, give information and support regarding cross-cultural challenges and provide confidential counselling services for students dealing with personal problems.

INTERNATIONAL STAFF PROFILES

Cynthia Mutchler

Manager, Office of the Registrar

cynthia.mutchler@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 5820

Cindy Mutchler manages the admissions and registrations for international students within the Office of the Registrar. She has travelled extensively and enjoys working with international students.

Paige Gannon

International Admissions and Registration Officer

paige.gannon@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 5820

Paige has been with Georgian College since 1991. She is responsible for international admissions, registration and student records. Paige can provide program information and assist you with the college's practices and procedures.

Allison Papenhuyzen

International Information Officer

allison.papenhuyzen@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 5820

Allison joined the International team in August 2008. She is the main contact for international applicants and current international students when responding to admission and registration inquiries.

Cheryl Lightheart

International Admissions and Registration Officer

cheryl.lightheart@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 5820

Cheryl is responsible for international admissions, registration and fees. Come see her in the Office of the Registrar if you need help with admission or registration at Georgian College.

Joanne Foxton

International Co-op Consultant

Joanne.foxton@georgiancollege.ca

ext. 1042

In partnership with the Co-op & Career Services team Joanne works with students to provide them with support and resources to be successful in co-op and internship programs. She also works with employers to promote and advocate on behalf of students to secure opportunities for international students in Canada and domestic students abroad.

HOUSING & HOMESTAY

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ACCOMODATION CHOICES:

Housing

- A) HOMESTAY WITH MEALS
- B) HOMESTAY WITHOUT MEALS
- C) RENTING A ROOM PRIVATELY

Residence:

1. GEORGIAN COLLEGE STUDENT RESIDENCE (On-campus)
2. GEORGIAN GREEN STUDENT RESIDENCE (Off-campus)

HOMESTAY:

OPTION #1: Room and Food \$700/month

This option includes three meals a day. Please note students will usually prepare their own breakfast and lunch and the host will prepare the evening dinner.

OPTION #2: Room and Kitchen Facilities \$500/month

This option requires students to purchase and prepare their own meals. The host will provide access to the kitchen.

*The Homestay option gives priority to new students arriving for the first time.

NOTE:

Only some Canadian families eat a vegetarian diet. If you require a vegetarian diet you are best to choose option #2 so that you can purchase your own food and prepare your own meals.

GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES:

- Most of Canadian families have either young children or pets and do not allow smoking in the home.
- You should ask about any general rules your host has. Remember that you are a guest and you should treat their home as you treat your own.
- A good rule to follow is that when you are finished in a room, you should leave it a little cleaner than you found it.
- Students are required to pay two month's rent to the host family upon arrival.
- Students must provide at least one month's notice to the host if he/she decides to leave.
- Payment for Homestay: Payment is made directly to the homestay family. It is NOT paid with your tuition fees. You can make the payment by cash, traveler's cheque or Canadian bank cheques. You should ask the host for their preferred method of payment.
- The Bathroom: It is common to share a bathroom with others in a Canadian family. Please be considerate of the time used, take a short shower, clean up after yourself and hang towels to dry.
- House Guests: If you wish to invite a guest to your homestay, you MUST request permission from your host family in advance. Guests are NOT permitted to sleep overnight at your homestay.
- Telephone Use: Please discuss and respect the decision of your host family regarding the use of the telephone.

For more information, contact homestayprogram@georgiancollege.ca or ext. 1392

GEORGIAN COLLEGE STUDENT RESIDENCE:

Georgian Residence is the on campus student's residence and offers 525 beds. Visit the website for complete details and apply online at www.georgiancollege.ca/residence

Phone: (705) 730-5600

Fax: (705) 730-5558

E-mail: housing@georgiancollege.ca

GEORGIAN GREEN STUDENT RESIDENCE:

Privately owned residence is located across the road from the college. It is not affiliated with Georgian College and is instead managed by a private realty company. Georgian Green offers 6 bedroom suites with 2 complete bathrooms and a full kitchen. Students must provide their own linen, dishes, pots, pans and cutlery. Students are required to sign a lease and pay first and last month's rent on or before their arrival. You can find more about Georgian Green at www.studentrez.com

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING:

If you prefer finding accommodations on your own, visit the Off-campus Housing website under the international Services page for resources and housing links <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/residence/off-campus-housing> .

please note that Georgian College has not verified and is not otherwise responsible for the accuracy of the information listed or for any liability of any kind relating to or arising out of the information or any use of the information.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Georgian College has comprehensive policies and procedures in place to ensure that all rights and responsibilities of students, staff and faculty are respected. These policies and procedures are discussed at all orientation sessions and reinforced during the academic year. There are severe academic consequences for academic dishonesty and misconduct (plagiarism, cheating...) and formal systems in place to calculate semester-weighted averages that are used to determine student program promotional status. Should you require further information please schedule an appointment with the International Student Counselor - you can do so by booking an appointment at the Student Success office. For more information about the academic policies, please visit: <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/policies-procedures>

PLAGIARISM:

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic work. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified and properly cited in the text or as noted in *Cites and Sources*, Georgian College's guide to the APA style of documentation.

- Acknowledgement of sources is required when material from another source, stored in print, electronic or other medium, is quoted, paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part. Faculty members have the right to submit a student's work for electronic detection of plagiarism or to require that the student submits his or her own work for detection of same.
- Students should be aware that plagiarism of any part of a work is academic misconduct; there is no partial culpability or penalty.
- Plagiarism can be subtle, so it should be discussed with the instructor.
- A recommended source for more information about plagiarism and how to avoid it, can be viewed at: <http://cai.ucdavis.edu/plagiarism.html>

CHEATING:

Cheating is the use of inappropriate, restricted or unacknowledged materials, information or aids in any academic work. The use of books, notes, calculators and conversation with others is restricted or forbidden in many instances of academic work and their use constitutes cheating.

- Students may not request others (including commercial or free term-paper organizations) to conduct research or prepare any work for them.
- Students may not submit identical work, or portions thereof, for credit or honors more than once without prior approval.

PENALTIES FOR ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

If a student commits an academic misconduct, the penalties are severe and potentially ruinous to an individual's academic career. An academic misconduct may lead to a student losing a course credit (which may postpone graduation), or the student may even be expelled.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of Awards and Scholarships are available to Georgian International students. They have different eligibility requirements. Please refer to the full-time Post-Secondary Calendar or contact the Awards Office located at each campus.

- Bruce Hill International Awards – 2 awards valued at \$500 each (#50483)
- EAP Graduate Award - 7 awards valued at \$1000 each(#50761)
- International Education & Training Entrance Scholarships – 10 awards valued at \$500 each (#50762)
- International Student Services Award – 1 award valued at \$500 (#50799)

To search for awards please click on the following link: www.georgiancollege.ca/awards/ . You will then need to click on **international student** from the list next to **Awards to open**. To view open awards (awards open to all programs) check the box marked **YES** next to **Show Awards Open to all Programs**. Please note that you cannot search for the open awards and awards specific by program in the same search – you must do two separate searches.

Note: awards that are by **faculty nomination** are posted on this website. As a student, you cannot apply for these awards but you are encouraged to approach your program coordinator to request that they nominate you for the award (as long as you meet the criteria). Please know that the nomination process is handled by the Awards Office with the program coordinators. How do you know if an award is by faculty nomination? You will see this information next to **Application Method** when reviewing the awards from your search results.

Please note for level of study:

- **Entrance** is your first year of study,
- **Undergraduate** is your second or third year of study, and
- **Graduate** is when you have completed your program and are graduating (for graduate awards you are eligible for any award deadlines up to the date of your convocation ceremony)

It is important to search for awards periodically through the year as the terms of reference are often updated and new scholarships are added. You must submit your completed applications, with all required supporting documents, to the office of Development and Alumni Relations, by the application deadline. If the office is not open you can leave your applications in the drop box outside the office and the applications will be stamped with the appropriate date. The awards office is located in room E200.

HEALTH INSURANCE

WHAT IS HEALTH INSURANCE?

Travel Healthcare Insurance Solutions Inc. operates as **guard.me®** International Health Insurance. Guard.me® is a comprehensive health insurance product for **international students** who are studying in Canada and outside of Canada, as well as teachers and participants in exchange and co-op programs. In addition to guard.me®, the Students Administrative Council (SAC) provides additional insurance benefits to all Georgian College students (see below for more information).

WHY YOU NEED IT

The insurance covers all **ACCIDENTS** and **EMERGENCIES** for you at no cost. This means, 100% coverage for most health issues you may have while studying here in Canada (E.g. Broken Bones, Fever, Headaches, Toothache, Back Pain, Cough and Cold, Infections, Cuts and scrapes, Skin rash....and much more!)

GUARD.ME® COVERS:

- **Hospital:** 100% of eligible charges; semi-private room; private room where medically required.
- **Dental - Accidental Injury:** 100% of eligible charges up to \$4000 for emergency dental treatment as the result of an injury caused by an accidental blow to the mouth.
- **Prescription Drugs:** If the doctor prescribes medication (pills, medicine, anything to help you feel better) you are 100% covered for those expenses to a maximum 30-day supply.
- **Paramedical Services:** 100% of eligible charges up to \$500 for chiropractor, naturopath, acupuncturist, chiroprapist, or podiatrist.
- **Out of Canada Coverage:** All eligible charges anywhere in the world EXCEPT– no coverage in Home Country; Coverage in USA limited to 30 days.

SAC STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERS:

- **Vision:** 1 exam and \$120 towards glasses in a 24 month period.
- **Dental:** \$500 maximum coverage during each policy year.
- **Paramedical:** 80% up to \$300 each policy year.
- **Medication:** maximum \$5,000 per policy year, 90% for most medication under the Ontario Formulary
- **Orthopedic:** 80% to a maximum of \$200

For detailed information please visit mystudentplan.ca and select Georgian College or visit the SAC office for additional details. Contact for SAC insurance through Gallivan & Associates Student Networks is Graham Bull, Student Services Co-ordinator. He has an office in B119. Students can go there starting in September for help inquiries re SAC Health Insurance.

HOW TO APPLY FOR IT AND USE IT

You have already paid for your insurance in your International student tuition fees. As long as you are registered on Banner each semester, you will automatically receive a health insurance card—remember to pick up your new insurance card at the beginning of each semester from the front desk of the International Centre. If you are sick with an illness and need medical care, all you need is your insurance card and you can receive help from a doctor.

Please keep your receipts for eligible expenses incurred from health care for submission to the insurance carrier. Students will be reimbursed for eligible expenses through a claim form or online at www.guard.me. Visit the International Centre for more information on how to submit a claim.

WHERE TO GO

FIRST AID:

Only emergency first aid is available on campus. If necessary, arrangements will be made for transportation to the nearest hospital (**RVH**). At the Barrie Campus, please contact extension 1239 (Physical Resources).

NURSE PRACTITIONER:

Located at 234 Cook Street; by appointment only. Visit the Student Success office (B110) to make an appointment. The nurse practitioner can diagnose, prescribe some medications and order some medical tests.

<http://www.georgiancollege.ca/student-success/health-services/grove-park-wellness-centre/>

TELEHEALTH ONTARIO:

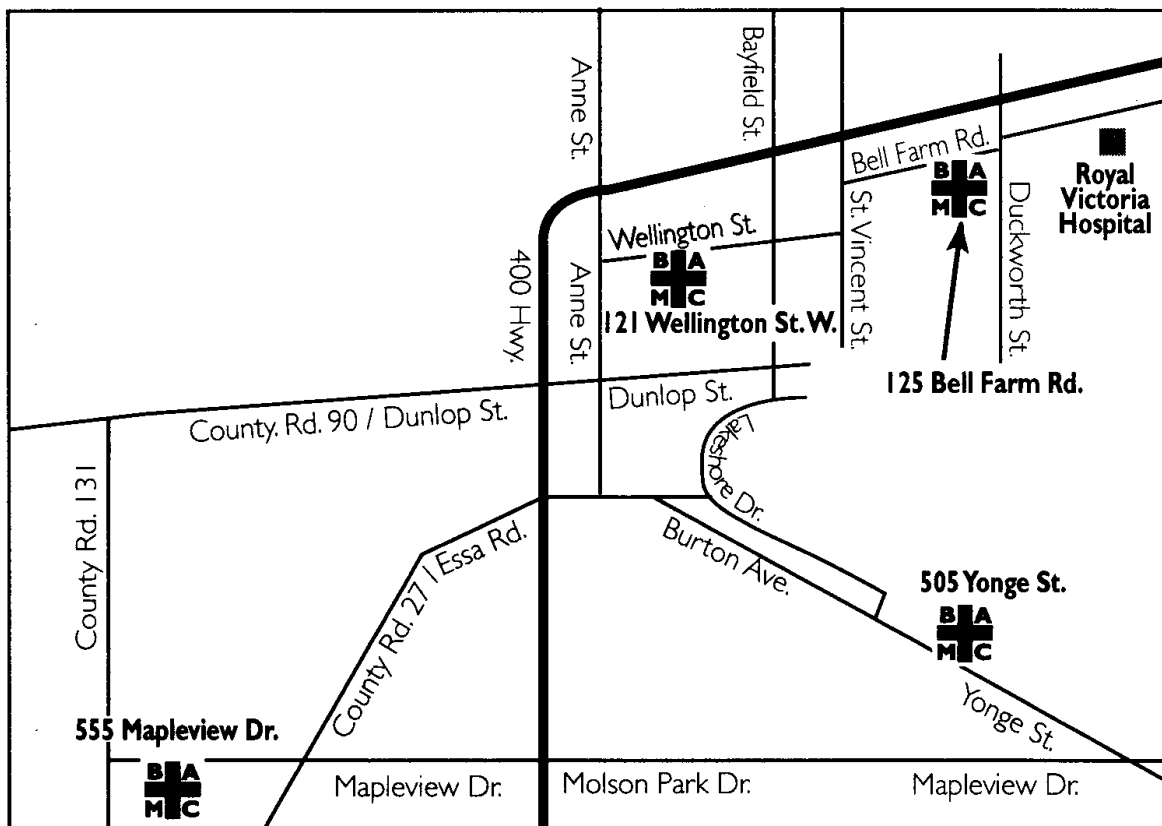
Telehealth Ontario is a free, confidential telephone service you can call to get health advice or general health information from a Registered Nurse. A phone call to Telehealth Ontario can help you decide your best first step, whether that be self-care, visiting a clinic or going to a hospital emergency room. Telehealth Ontario services are provided in both English and French and there are translation services available in other languages. You can reach Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/telehealth/>

BARRIE MEDICAL CLINICS

*hours of operation may change so calling before you go in is recommended

HOURS OF OPERATION	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
121 Wellington St. W.	8 AM – 10 PM				8 AM – 9 PM	10 AM – 4 PM	
505 Yonge St.	8 AM – 10 PM				8 AM – 9 PM	10 AM – 4 PM	
125 Bell Farm Rd.	6 PM - 9 PM		2 PM – 10 PM	6 PM – 9 PM	6 PM – 9 PM	10 AM – 4 PM	
555 Essa Road	1 PM – 8 PM				1 PM – 6 PM	10 AM – 4 PM	
480 Huronia Road	8:30 AM – 8 PM					9am-2pm	X
210 Memorial Av (Orillia)After Hours Clinic	6:15pm-9:30pm				Closed Friday	10am-1pm	X



STUDY, WORK PERMITS AND VISA

If you decide to change any of the terms and conditions of your stay (for example change of program/institution, extensions of study and work permits), you must complete the appropriate application and send the applicable fee to the Processing Centre in Vegreville, Alberta. It is very important to meet with Bea Collins in the International Centre for academic advising at least four months before such a change to your immigration documents is required. **Processing times for immigration applications can be lengthy and you should leave ample time for processing.**

Detailed information about immigration and applications can be found on the Citizenship and Immigration Canada website: www.cic.gc.ca

Please contact your co-op consultant in your subject area for all matters relating to co-op work terms or your international co-op consultant. Please contact Bea Collins in the International Centre for all matters relating to lost or stolen passports, work permits, student permits, and graduate work permits.

You are responsible for maintaining your immigration status by following these procedures:

1. Keep a copy of your passport and student permits information in your personal file located in the International Centre.
2. Keep your passport and student permits valid at all times.
3. Keep your passport and student permits in a secure place and do not give these to anyone for any reason.
4. Maintain full-time enrolment in your College program. International students are not permitted to be part-time students in Canadian post-secondary institutions.
5. Do not work without proper permits. If caught, you may lose your immigration status. All students in Co-operative Education Programs must meet with their Co-op Consultant to discuss their individual work requirements. **A work permit is required from Immigration Canada before the student may begin employment.** Meet with Bea Collins in the International Centre the semester before you are scheduled to go on co-op to apply for the work permit. All International Students at Georgian College are permitted to accept part-time employment on-campus at Georgian College or work 20 hrs per week off-campus with a proper work permit and may also be authorized to work in Canada for one or two years after graduation from their program. Please ask at The International Centre for more details about these employment opportunities and any volunteer opportunities that you may be eligible for.

We are here to help but please remember you are responsible for your immigration status.

APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER (SIN)

BARRIE

Human Resource & Skills Development Canada
48 Owen Street
Barrie, Ontario, Canada
Office Hours: 8:30 AM – 4:00PM

ORILLIA

Human Resource & Skills Development Canada
50 Andrew Street South
Orillia, Ontario, Canada
Office Hours: 8:30 AM – 4:00PM

Toll free number – 1-800-206-7218

Website: www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/sc/sin/index.shtml

A SIN Number is a nine digit number that is required for every worker in Canada and it may be used for identification purposed as well. If you plan to work while in Canada either on-campus or off campus on co-op, you must have a Social Insurance Number. Applications are available in the Human Resource & Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) office or you can download it from the internet. This service is free of cost.

When you apply, make sure to bring your passport, Study permit and work permit. If you are working on campus and do not have a work permit you can use a letter from your employer as a contract of employment. The contract must:

- Contain the duration of employment, the start date and the end date (the end day cannot be beyond the expiry date indicated on your Visitor Record)
- State the job offered and the fact that you have accepted this offer
- Clearly identify the company with the employer's name and telephone number(e.g. company letter head)
- Should be signed by both you and your employer

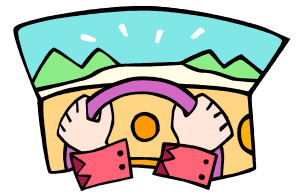
Note: It usually takes 3-4 weeks to get a SIN Card and until you have this number, an employer cannot pay you. The Employment Insurance Act requires a person to apply for a Social Insurance Number and to produce the card to the employer with three (3) days after having received it. However, the legislation does not prevent persons from working prior to being issued a Social Insurance Number or card. As long as you have a valid work permit you can begin work without the card but they should provide you with a letter stating this along with the date you are to start working. If you bring the letter to the HRDC centre they will process the SIN application within 48 hours. Most employers will follow HRSDC requirements allowing you to start work as long as you produce the card within 3 days of receiving it.

SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBERS & EXPIRY DATES

Social Insurance Numbers (SIN) Beginning with a "9" will have an expiry date. SIN's that begin with a "9" are issued to individuals who are neither Canadian citizens nor permanent residents and who need a SIN for employment purposes or for other authorized uses. SIN's starting with a "9" will be valid until the end of the person's authorized stay in Canada, as determined by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (to a maximum of five years). In most cases, the individual affected will need a Work Permit or a study permit with a contract of employment.

Existing 900- series SIN holder without an expiry date have one year to reapply for a new card if a SIN is still required. You will keep the same number but you will receive a new card with an expiry date. To reapply you will have to complete a SIN application and provide valid proof of identification, such as a new study permit or work permit. If you do not reapply within the one year your SIN will be deactivated.

If you have any questions or require further information or assistance with this process, please do not hesitate to contact Bea Collins, International Student Advisor, bea.collins@georgiancollege.ca Phone: 705-728-1968 ext. 1219



DRIVER'S LICENSE

THERE ARE TWO MAIN WAYS TO GET A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN ONTARIO

1) If you have a license from: Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Isle of Man, Japan, Korea, Switzerland or the USA there is a reciprocal exchange program with Ontario.

This means if you have **at least two years of experience** during the last three years you can get a full license without taking a written or road test. However, you must pass a vision test and show proof of your license and driving experience.

If you have **less than two years' experience** during the last three years you must gain more experience in Canada first before taking a G2 license road test.

If your license is not in English or French it must be accompanied by a written translation from a qualified translator.

Licenses from Japan must be accompanied by a Certificate from the Japanese Consulate.

Licenses from Korea must be accompanied by a Letter of Confirmation from the Korean Consulate or Korean Transport Authority.

For all questions and issues please contact us at the International Centre or refer to the website.

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/>

2) If you are not from one of the countries listed above you must follow the Out of Country driver's application process and meet the following requirements:

- Declare driving experience on driver's license form
- Present a valid foreign driver's license (accompanied by a written translation from a qualified translator if not in French or English)
- Present proof of driving experience from home country agency or Embassy or consulate if they want to get credit for their experience (this can greatly speed up the process)
- pass a vision test
- pass a written test about Ontario's rules and laws
- pay all fees
- provide acceptable proof of identity

Providing all of these conditions are met the applicant will be granted a driving level based on their experience level and completion of a road test.

Website for out of Country Drivers: <http://www.drivetest.ca/en/licencing/pages/out-of-country-drivers.aspx>

LEARNING SUPPORT

Write On! Centre (Barrie, Orillia, Owen Sound, Orangeville)

- Drop in or book a 30 minute appointment
- Get help with essay writing, thesis development ,APA, or MLA
- Learn how to proofread
- Bring your assignment in progress and class materials

Math Help Centre (Barrie, Owen Sound)

- Drop in for help with your math courses
- Get help with calculators, formulas, word problems and more!
- Bring your assignment in progress and class materials

Knowledge Hubs (Barrie, Orillia, Owen Sound, Midland and Orangeville)

- Drop in for help in Business, Engineering, and Liberal Arts courses
- Bring your assignment in progress and class materials

One-to-One Tutors (Barrie, Orillia, Owen Sound)

- For information about one-on-one tutoring in a specific course, make an appointment with the Peer Services Advisor

Learning Strategies (Barrie, Orillia, Owen Sound)

- Learn how to improve your grades. Meet with Learning Strategist one-to-one
- Help with time and task management, test-taking, study skills, math or writing

Computer Help Centre

- For help with Microsoft Office programs book an appointment with a co-op student at Click On (the desk in the middle of the Library Commons)

Research Help Centre

- For help with research skills, including our online databases, finding source material and help with catalogues, visit the library staff at the centre desk in the Library Commons
- Instant message for research help. Click on "Ask Us!" on <http://library.georgianc.on.ca>

Check schedules and locations for your campus at http://libguides.georgianc.on.ca/learning_centres



SUMMER HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 7:30am-8pm

Fri: 7:30am- 5pm

Sat: 10am- 5pm

Sun: Closed

FALL & WINTER HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 7:30am- 11pm

Fri: 7:30am-7pm

Sat: 10am-5pm

Sun: 1pm-8pm

CAMPUS SERVICES

CAREER AND STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE (B110)

- Counseling
 - International Student Counselor: Appointments are preferred and may be scheduled at the Career Centre Reception Desk. The counselor can assist with career, academic and personal counseling.
- Disability Services
- Career Services
- Co-op/Internship & Career Services
- Testing Services
- Learning Strategists
 - Learning how to learn! Not happy with your grades? Learning Strategists can help!

For more information, visit: <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/student-services/career-student-success/>

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE (B115)

THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

The Office of the Registrar is responsible for admissions, fees, registration, student records, timetabling, student financial programs and certification for graduation purposes. Students who require information about programs, fees, refunds, program transfers, requests for prior learning assessment recognition as well as Second Career opportunities, exemptions or advanced standing, program or course withdrawals, transcripts, grade information, convocation requirements or online services should contact the Office of the Registrar: (705) 728-1968 x 5820; fax: (705) 722-5118; or email: reginternational@georgiancollege.ca. The Office of the Registrar is located on the main floor of the Administrative Centre or C Building at the Barrie Campus.

MEDIA SERVICES

- Provides the equipment and the expertise to make your presentations sparkle
- Audio-visual equipment including 35mm cameras and camcorders (available for assignments)
- Laptops and multi-media projectors are available to borrow
- Located on the 1st floor of K building, right beside the Library Commons

BOOKS, SUPPLIES AND PRINTING SERVICES

- Bear Essentials <http://www.georgianstores.com/georgian/default.asp>
 - All of the textbooks and most of the supplies you will require for your program;
 - Phone cards, city bus tickets, clothing, notebooks, Locker tags and locks
- Bear Essentials - Technology <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/bitsandbytes/>
 - Purchase computer-related equipment such as ipads, monitors, printers, and jump drives
 - Repair your laptop or update programs
- Grenville Printing (located in E Building, Room E010)
 - Offers a variety of printing and photocopying services
 - Cards for photocopying may be purchased at the Library Commons

CAMPUS FOOD SERVICES

- College Court (Main Cafeteria): 2nd Floor, C Building
- Tim Horton's: 2nd Floor, C Building & 1st Floor, M Building
- Subway: 2nd floor, C Building
- First Class Café: 2nd Floor, J Building
- The Last Class Bar & Grill: 1st Floor, J Building
- Georgian Dining Room (reservations preferred): 1st Floor, E Building
- Bun on the Run: E109, 1st floor, E Building
<http://www.dineoncampus.ca/georgian/>

ATHLETICS CENTRE

- Offers comprehensive free weight area
- Cardiovascular training area with treadmills, stationary bikes, elliptical trainers and more
- Get a membership for only \$35 per semester.

- All classes in the gym are free with a membership (yoga classes, spin class, athletic drills, and more)
- Use of the gymnasium, ping pong table and running track is included in your tuition

For more information, visit <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/barrie-athletics>

STUDENT ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (SAC)

- Students elected to represent ALL students within Georgian
- Organize fun events, concerts, and trips for the students
- Offer services like health insurance, grad portraits, and March break trip programs
- Offer a variety of employment and volunteer opportunities for students

<http://www.georgiancollege.ca/sac/>

THE CITY OF BARRIE: THINGS TO DO

Whether you are looking for new friends, something fun to do or a way to become part of the community Barrie has a lot to offer. Here at the International Centre we have put together some of our favourite places to visit, groups, clubs, and services in the community for you to try out.

STAYING ACTIVE

Barrie Rugby Football Club: The Barrie Rugby Football Club is a great way to be part of a fast and physical sport in Barrie. It offers competitive men's and women's teams for all age groups and is a great way to stay fit and competitive along with making many new friends. For more information, go to

<http://www.barrierugbyclub.com/>.

Barrie Soccer Club: Interested in staying active this summer? The Barrie Soccer Club offers men's and women's soccer leagues beginning in May. To learn more: <http://www.barriesoccer.com/>

Barrie Cricket League: The cricket league is played on Maitland Park in Barrie and invites guest teams to play matches from across Canada. League champions of 2011 were Vella XI and the runner up team was the Simcoe Tigers.

Many of the valuable players of the league are from Georgian College. New immigrants and international students add talent to the cricket teams of the league. Barrie Cricket League has given a platform to many cricket enthusiasts across Barrie and Simcoe County region to learn and improve their cricket skills and have encouraged players to take cricket as a career. For information, go to <http://barriecricketleague.ca/> or contact Arjun Batra at arjun.batra@live.ca OR 1-705-716-2021

Barrie Yacht Club: The Barrie Yacht Club offers an eight lesson sailing school for adults during the summer months of July and August. You can learn to sail in small dinghies and spend your last lesson taking out a larger keeled boat. Go to <http://www.byc.on.ca/> to learn more.

Studio Bliss Yoga: Studio Bliss Yoga offers a range of high quality Yoga classes in a beautiful downtown studio overlooking Lake Simcoe. The classes are good for people of all levels and are very welcoming to new students. To learn about fees, schedules and other inquiries, visit <http://www.anngreenyoga.com/>.

Cycling in Barrie: Barrie and the surrounding areas have great biking opportunities ranging from easy riding to challenging single track, cross country and downhill.

Golfing in the Barrie Area: There are many golf courses and driving ranges in and around Barrie. However one of the best options in terms of being close to the college, offering reasonable rates and a good quality course is Landings of Willow Creek Golf Course.

Hiking and Walking in the Barrie Area: Barrie is located in the middle of a beautiful region of Ontario. There are many great walking and hiking trails around that offer a free way to explore, get some exercise and see some beautiful sites.



Beaches and Picnics: For a relaxing day at the beach, head down to Barrie's waterfront and enjoy yourself, for more information about beach and picnic areas, visit

http://www.tourismbarrie.com/things_to_do/Beaches_and_Picnics.aspx

LOCAL CULTURE

Barrie has three options for seeing independent and non-Hollywood films. Most can be viewed at the **Uptown Theatre** or the **Mady Centre for the Performing Arts**.

Screen One Film Series

The Screen One film series shows unique, interesting and artistic films throughout the year on the first Wednesday of every month.

Barrie Film Festival

In the fall of every year there is an annual film festival held in Barrie which has twenty films from Canada and around the globe. In addition to the films, there is a directors' brunch and a short film competition.

Reel Stories: Every February there is a film festival based on documentaries and non-fiction films.

"Discover extraordinary stories from this thought-provoking weekend of fact-based films. Includes documentaries and films inspired by true events and persons." Every February there is a film festival based on documentaries and non-fiction films.

MacLaren Art Centre: The MacLaren Art Centre has a number of permanent and rotating exhibitions which demonstrate local and international talent. If you're feeling creative the MacLaren Art Centre offers a FREE

program called TGIF on Fridays which allows youth up to 24 years old to be creative and have fun meeting new people.

Mady Centre for the Performing Arts: Barrie's new Mady Centre for the Performing Arts is a world class facility conveniently located in Barrie's downtown and is managed by the Department of Culture. It is host to a variety of musical performances, plays, and special events.

ADVENTURE

If you are looking for a rush of adrenaline the Barrie area has many challenging and exciting opportunities. We have listed some of our favourites below.

Barrie Paintball: Paintball is an adrenaline pumping sport but should not be attempted by those faint of heart

Blue Mountain: [Blue Mountain Resort](#) in Collingwood offers the biggest and best hills for skiing and snowboarding in Ontario. Located about an hour away the resort also has a great [village](#) to wander around and an [outdoor spa](#) nearby.

Horseshoe Adventure Park: The Horseshoe Adventure Park has a number of exciting attractions that can be accessed with an all day pass. The attractions include:

Climbing Wall: Rock climbing is a challenging and exciting activity. The 32 foot tower at Horseshoe is a great place to get started!

"OGO"ing: Roll down a hill in a giant inflatable ball! Jump in a 9 foot wide ball and hold on. This activity can be done solo or with friends.

Zip Flyer: Soar down the hill on a giant zip line. The trip travels an astounding 2,075 feet (670m)

Scenic Caves Nature Adventures: The scenic caves near Blue Mountain offer a great chance to explore a beautiful forest, an exciting suspension bridge over top of the trees and of course the mysterious caves themselves.



Treetop Trekking at Horseshoe: Want to suit up and walk through the forest's canopy? Treetop trekking is a challenging adventure combining strength, flexibility and courage. It is a combination of a high ropes course and zip lines which will having you flying from tree to tree.

Yamaha Riding Adventures: If you want to get out on an ATV, dirt bike, or snowmobile close to Barrie this is the place for you. Yamaha Riding adventure has highly skilled trainers that will get you moving quickly and take you on a thrilling ride through the forests and hills of the area.

ENTERTAINMENT

Barrie Colts Hockey: The Barrie Colts play in Ontario Hockey League; one of the world's premier junior leagues. Come watch future professionals play live at the Barrie Molson centre from September to March. Tickets are between \$15 and \$25. To learn more about the Barrie Colts or to purchase tickets, visit www.barriecolts.com/main/index



Yuk Yuk's: Yuk Yuk's is located in the heart of downtown Barrie and offers stand-up comedy shows throughout the year. They always have fresh acts and is a great place to go for laughs.

Movie Theatres: For movie listings, times, and locations in Barrie Google "Movie Theatres in Barrie". The closest theatre to Georgian College is in the Bayfield Mall. In Barrie, you can see a movie for half-price on Tuesdays!

- **Bayfield 7 Cinemas**
705-726-3456
320 Bayfield St.
Barrie, ON
<http://www.goldentheatres.com/bayfield/new/>
- **Galaxy Cinemas @ Barrie**
705-728-1171
72 Commerce Park Drive
<http://www.cineplex.com/Theatres/TheatreDetails/Galaxy-Cinemas-Barrie.aspx>
- **Barrie Triple Drive In**
705-487-2212
Highway 11 North
Barrie, ON
<http://www.sunsetbarrie.com/>
- **Barrie Uptown Theatre**
705-728-3440
55 Dunlop St W.
Barrie, ON
<http://www.barrieuptowntheater.ca/>

SHOPPING LOCATIONS

- **Downtown Barrie:** a walk along the streets of our heritage downtown is time well spent. Downtown Barrie allows you to relax and enjoy your shopping experience.

Shopping Centres:

- Georgian Mall: 509 Bayfield St. (Most popular mall in Barrie) <http://riocangeorgianmall.com/>
- Bayfield Mall: 320 Bayfield St. <http://bayfieldmall.ca/>
- Kozlov Centre: 400 Bayfield St. <http://www.kozlovcentre.com/>
- Wal-Mart: 450 Bayfield Store, 35 Mapleview Drive West (Lowest prices) <http://www.walmart.ca/en>

- **Shopping Tips:**

- Shopping for Winter clothes, boots or gloves, Wal-Mart has the most reasonable price
- Georgian Mall has a greater variety of choices and more brand name merchandise
- Monday to Friday malls open from 9am to 9pm; Saturday and Sunday most malls open at 11am and close at 5pm.
- Most stores accept debit, visa cards but personal cheques are not common.
- The greatest discounts are offered during Boxing Week, it is the week during Christmas.

For more information about things to do in Barrie, visit [http://www.tourismbarrie.com/things to do.aspx](http://www.tourismbarrie.com/things_to_do.aspx)

THE CITY OF BARRIE: TRANSPORTATION

Barrie Transit: Barrie Transit offers buses that travel throughout the city of Barrie. Located on Maple Street, buses depart from the main bus terminal every 15-30 minutes (depending on the route). Monthly passes are available and allow unlimited use during the month in which they are valid. Discounted semester long passes are available to students with a valid student ID. Bus passes can be purchased at the Barrie Terminal or the Georgian College Book Store. For bus schedules, maps, and fares please go to <http://www.barrie.ca/LIVING/GETTING%20AROUND/>.

GO Transit: For those looking to travel outside of Barrie, GO Transit offers both train and bus options. GO Trains and GO Buses serve an area stretching from Hamilton and Waterloo in the west to Newcastle and Peterborough in the east, and from Orangeville, Barrie, and Beaverton in the north to Niagara Falls in the south. During peak rush-hour periods, train service is available at all stations, including Barrie. For schedules, fare rates, and maps please go to www.gotransit.com.

Greyhound: Greyhound Canada is the largest provider of intercity bus transportation in Canada and provides regular services to Toronto from Barrie. They offer discounts for students who provide valid student identification. For more information please visit www.greyhound.ca.

The City of Barrie: WHERE TO EAT

GROCERY STORES

- Robert's No Frills: 319 Blake Street
- Joe's No Frills: 165 Wellington St. W
- Price Chopper: 320 Bayfield St.
- Sobeys: 409 Bayfield St, 37 Mapleview Drive
- Zehr's Markets: 472 Bayfield St, 620 Yonge St.
- Food Basics: 555 Essa Rd.
- Zehr's Market: 201 Cundles Rd E
- South Asia Food Market: 279 Younge Street
- Roti jerk Caribbean restaurant and ethnic grocery: 69A Dunlop St West



WEEKLY GROCERY BUDGET

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| ▪ Milk: \$3-5 | ▪ Bread: \$2-5 |
| ▪ Juice: \$3-5 | ▪ Coffee/Tea: \$2-5 |
| ▪ Meat: \$5-20 | ▪ Snacks: \$0-Unlimited |
| ▪ Vegetables: \$5-10 | ▪ Eggs: \$2-4 |
| ▪ Fruits: \$3-5 | ▪ Toiletries, etc.: \$5-10 |

Total expenses for weekly grocery per person: \$35-80 or more per week. The total expenses for weekly grocery may vary from person to person and season to season.

PLACES TO EAT

BARS, PUBS, AND GRILLS:

- Queen's Club: 94 Dunlop Street E.
- Roosters Bar & Grill: 477 Grove St. E.
- Styx Sports Grill: 137 Dunlop St. E.
- Moxie's Classic Grill: 509 Bayfield Street
- Com Pho Asia: 221 Cundles Rd E

CASUAL DINING:

- Aji Sai Japanese Restaurant: 359 Bayfield St.
- Furusato Japanese Restaurant: 10 Fairview Rd.
- Mandarin Chinese Buffet Restaurant: 28 Fairview Rd.
- Spice Indian Cuisine: 16 Dunlop Street East
- Sakura (Korean Food) inside Kozlov Centre
- The Dragon Restaurant: 70 Essa Rd.
- Tara Indian Cuisine: 128 Dunlop St. E.
- Green Mango Tree—Thai Fusion: 75 Barrie View Dr.
- Pizza People: 353 Duckworth St
- Vege King: 24 Dunlop St west

SPECIALTY TAKE-OUT:

Italian Bakery & Deli: (705)733-3373
Chaopaya Thai Restaurant: (705)733-9918

Mandarin Chinese Buffet Restaurant: (705)727-1000
Mucho Burrito Mexican Restaurant (705) 503-6824

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACTIVITIES & FACEBOOK GROUP

TRIPS

The International Centre runs frequent trips every week for International Students. Trips are based on the student's interests and provide great opportunities to experience Canadian culture and make new friends. Trip information will always be provided through emails or at the front desk. Keep your eye out for trip posters as these include the price of the trip, the date of the trip and departure and arrival times. To participate on trips, please sign up in the International Centre by the Thursday prior to the trip. It is best to sign up early because spaces fill up quick!

FACEBOOK

Join us by 'Liking' the **Georgian College International Centre** Facebook page. Connect with other International Students and receive updates on International trips and activities. On the International Centre Facebook page you will find photos, videos, discussions, activity calendars, etc.



TWITTER

Students can also stay up to date on important information, upcoming events and activities through twitter. Follow **@GCISABarrie** today to stay current with the Georgian College International Centre.

BANKING IN BARRIE

BMO (BANK OF MONTREAL)

353 Duckworth St. (705) 734-7921

6 Fred Grant (705) 734-7900

483 Bayfield St. (705) 734-7930

[HTTP://WWW.BMO.COM/HOME](http://www.bmo.com/home)

CIBC (CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE)

33 Mapleview Dr. W. (705) 721-0966

50 Dunlop St. E. (705) 721-1001

46 Dunlop St. E. (705) 728-2459

363 Bayfield St. (705) 737-2411

[HTTPS://WWW.CIBC.COM/CA/PERSONAL.HTML](https://www.cibc.com/ca/personal.html)

RBC (ROYAL BANK OF CANADA)

128 Wellington St. W. (705) 725-7800

99 Mapleview Dr. W. (705) 725-7830

53 Bayfield St. (705) 734-4400

649 Yonge St. (705) 792-1990

405 Bayfield St. (705) 728-0999

<http://www.rbcroyalbank.com/personal.html>

SCOTIABANK

44 Collier Street (705) 726-0217

19 Mapleview Drive West (705) 725-2670

190 Minet's Point Road (705) 725-7320

[HTTP://WWW.SCOTIABANK.COM/CA/EN/0,,2,00.HTML](http://www.scotiabank.com/ca/en/0,,2,00.html)

TD BANK FINANCIAL GROUP

33 Collier Street (705) 721-6001

320 Yonge Street (705) 722-5010

60 Mapleview Drive West (705) 734-2287

534 Bayfield St (705) 721-6005

201 Cundles Rd. E. (705) 728-7878

[HTTP://WWW.TD.COM/ABOUT-TDBFG/OUR-BUSINESS/INDEX.JSP](http://www.td.com/about-tdbfg/our-business/index.jsp)

CANADIAN CURRENCY

TYPICAL CANADIAN CURRENCY



TRANSFERRING FUNDS

- From your own country to Canada: go to your bank in Canada, ask for your bank address, your account number and transit number.
- Make sure what kind of currency (U.S dollar, Canadian dollar or your own country dollar) your parents will send you, (if it is not Canadian dollar, the bank will charge you for money exchange fee)
- If you have two different accounts (e.g. one is Canadian dollar account and the other is U.S dollar account) make sure you tell the right account to your parents or the bank might automatically transfer your money to the account with the same currency.
- Check the currency exchange rates: <http://www.x-rates.com/>
- Always keep in touch with your bank and remember to check your account when the transfer arrives, any questions, call your bank!

ATM MACHINES IN GEORGIAN COLLEGE

- Georgian Residence
 - In front of Registrar's Office – C building
 - In Georgian Cafeteria (College Court) – C building
 - Beside the SAC Office, in front of the TLC – A building
- 'Continental Currency Exchange' located in Georgian Mall is an exchange service in Barrie that can do the following: foreign currency exchange, international payments, drafts and remittances, international and domestic wires and cables, cash foreign cheques and money orders.

CANADIAN TAX SYSTEM

Sales Taxes

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

INCOME TAX

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS INCOME TAX

You must file an income tax return if:

- You have income and owe taxes
- You want to claim a refund
- You want to apply for the HST(and other tax credits)
- If you have no income then you are not required to complete tax forms but you may be eligible for the HST Credit and Provincial Tax Credits. To receive this refund, you must file a tax return.

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

To find more:

Call International Tax Services at 1-800-267-5177

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency website: <http://www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/>

You can file your tax return at H&R Block at a special student rate. For more information visit <http://www.hrblock.ca> or one of the locations below:

H&R BLOCK LOCATIONS

28 Dunlop St. W.	(705) 733-4059
320 Bayfield St. (Bayfield Mall)	(705) 721-9353
400 Bayfield St.	(705) 733-6156
75 Cedar Pointe Dr.	(705) 726-3822
509 Bayfield St., Unit J015B (Georgian Mall)	(705) 730-0863
521 Bayfield St.	(705) 727-1131
450 Bayfield Street N. (WalMart)	(705) 719-7421
636 Yonge St.	(705) 730-6636
516 Bryne Dr. Unit B	(705) 726-7349

GEORGIAN COLLEGE TAX CLINIC

The Georgian Tax Clinic, in partnership with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), will provide free income tax preparation services to students at the **Barrie Campus** this spring. The clinic will be staffed by student volunteers from the Georgian and Laurentian@Georgian Accounting programs. Volunteers use CRA software and provide professional and confidential services under the supervision of School of Business faculty. Returns are filed electronically.

The tax clinic is in a new and expanded space this year in the Hospitality and Tourism Building. It will run for a two-week period, which will be advertised in the new year.

CELL PHONES

If you are interested in using a cell phone while you are in Canada there are a few things to consider. First, it is important that you decide if you are interested in prepaid or postpaid billing:

PAY AS YOU GO (PREPAID)	
ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No credit check required▪ No deposit required▪ No hidden fees▪ No termination fee if you decide not to use your phone again▪ No service fee▪ Always in control of call costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Calls and SMS Text will be more expensive per minute than using a bill phone▪ You could run out of credit at a crucial time that you need to make a call▪ Your account credit may expire if not used within a certain time▪ Phones can be more expensive; limited selection▪ You cannot accept collect calls

CONTRACT (POSTPAID)	
ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Free phones when you sign a contract▪ Lower rates per minute and per text message▪ You do not need to worry about buying phone cards and your phone services are always intact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Requires a credit check▪ Easy to overspend▪ Fee for breaking the contract (Usually over \$250)

Second, research the cell phone providers available and decide which company offers the best rates for you. Some of the popular cell phone companies in Canada are:

- Bell
- Rogers
- Telus
- Fido
- Virgin
- Koodo

TIPS FOR CELL PHONE BUYERS:

- Department and electronic stores like Walmart and Futureshop sell very inexpensive prepaid phones; otherwise you can pay hundreds of dollars on a phone if you choose to purchase the phone outside of a contract.
- If you choose prepaid billing, check to see if your cell phone provider offers add-ons like unlimited text messaging or unlimited nights and weekends for a daily or monthly fee.

YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY

PERSONAL SAFETY:

- If you must walk at night, travel with a companion on well-lit, frequently travelled streets
- Do not respond to any unwanted attention or behavior (e.g. people screaming at you when passing by in a car)
- Do not remain in a situation where you feel uncomfortable and always be aware of your surroundings (But not too sensitive)
- Do not carry large amounts of cash
- If you require police/medical/fire assistance, dial 911
- Always lock your room, apartment, or home when leaving; always lock yourself in at night and be very careful about opening your door to strangers
- It is very common for a salesperson to visit your neighbourhoods asking to enter your house for a promotion, if you do not wish to receive any demonstration about their products, saying “No, thank you” is totally acceptable
- Many charitable organizations also send people door to door to collect donations and funds. You don’t have to respond to them if you are not willing to. If you feel threatened or pushed by them, talk to International Centre staff or call 911 if necessary
- When receiving a long distance call in your residence, remember it might be a business trying to sell products to you, just hang up or tell them politely that you are not interested and never will be, tell them not to call again
- It is illegal in Canada to drive or travel without wearing a seat belt. Please ensure that all passengers are “BUCKLED UP”

WATER SAFETY:

In Canada, we enjoy participating in lots of water activities like boating, swimming and playing water sports. Whatever activities you decide to participate in when you’re in or around the water, it is important to put safety first. Tips to avoid water-related injuries:

- Never swim alone! Even the most experienced swimmers should swim with a friend or family member
- Practice caution when diving. If you see a sign that says “No Diving” or “Shallow Water” respect the signs and do not dive in that area. If you are not careful when diving, it can result in serious injuries or death
- Be careful at the beach or when swimming in lakes that the land can drop off suddenly and the water can become over your head with no warning
- Avoid the water if you have an open wound or an infection
- Ensure there is a life guard or emergency equipment (including a first aid kit and a phone) in the immediate pool area
- When boating, ensure everyone in the boat has their lifejacket on and fastened
- Don’t consume alcohol before or during swimming or boating activities
- Be cautious about swimming in currents, and know what to do if you get into trouble
- Be proactive! Get trained through swimming and water safety lessons; get your Pleasure Craft Operator Card if you operate a boat; know how to respond in an emergency by taking first aid lessons
- If you are ever faced with an emergency situation, call 911 immediately
- You can sign up for swimming lessons at the East Bayfield Centre in Barrie or Allandale Recreational Centre.

LEGAL ISSUES

Signature: Be aware of signing your name on any contract, or a bill of sale

- Under no circumstances should you sign any paper unless you completely understand every word and what your obligations may be
- 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 sell or use restricted drugs (cocaine, heroin...)
- Possession of these drugs is illegal and any involvement could result in charges laid with a possible jail sentence

Alcohol: In Ontario, one must be 19 years of age to legally consume or purchase liquor

- It is against the law to consume alcohol or carry it in an unsealed container in a public place (including parks and vehicles), provide alcohol to anyone under the age of 19 is strictly forbidden
- College students tend to attend the local bars and will be asked for appropriate identification (passport, driver license, birth certificate, etc.) that must contain a photo
- Driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol or drugs is against the law and will result in a loss of driver's license, fines starting at \$500, and possible time in jail.

Cigarettes: Identification providing age of majority (19 years) is also required for the purchase of cigarettes

- Smoking areas in Georgian College: The Smoke-Free Ontario Act applies to all campuses of Georgian College. The College is responsible under this legislation to ensure compliance with the smoking regulations under the Act. The intent of the Act is to provide a near complete ban on smoking in any enclosed spaces. The College has clearly posted signage to indicate where smoking is or is not allowed. Please contact HR Department for further information.

Gambling: Identification providing age of majority is also required for the act of gambling

- In Canada, one must be 18 years of age to gamble through store bought scratch or lottery tickets. All stores will ask for proof of age by photo identification before the sale is made.
- In order to enter any Casino institution, one must be 19 years of age or older. Before entering a Casino, proof of age must be made (passport, driver license, birth certificate, etc.) Students under the age of 21 must show a second piece of identification (credit card, student card or other identification) with your name confirming your identity.
- Gambling can be fun in moderation. Problem gambling is gambling that is done excessively and negatively affects other areas of a person's life, such as their physical or mental health, school or work performance, finances, and/or interpersonal relationships. Stay within your limits.

Shop Lifting: Stealing/taking something that does not belong to you is a crime. It could be from a retail store (clothing, grocery store or restaurant) or from someone else's personal property.

- Shoplifting is one of the most common crimes that police catch young adults doing.
- Taking anything that does not belong to you without permission or paying for it is considered theft and is punishable by law. The consequences for theft done by an international student are serious.
- In grocery stores in Canada we must pay for our food before we start to eat it.

ADJUSTING TO CANADIAN CULTURE AND CULTURE SHOCK

International students come from cultures different from the multicultural environment experienced in Canada. Sometimes the transition to a new culture can be difficult and it takes time for students to adjust and feel comfortable in their host culture. Most international students report having difficulty adjusting to the following:

- **Food:** Try to avoid too many “fast foods” and prepare meals similar to what you ate at home. Remember, many Canadian meals use little or no heavily scented spices. Ask fellow students about places to eat or how they manage to find ingredients and cook meals in Canada.
- **Cultural Values and Misunderstanding:** North Americans value their freedom, honesty and integrity, and the ability to manage their own lives. Individuals are expected to make their own decisions and accomplish their own goals. Families and friends are important, but individuals are encouraged to first consider their own needs, desires, and values. In North American culture, most people are not comfortable being obligated to or dependent on others.
- **Time Management:** Being prompt or “on time” is expected in academic, work and social settings. This is especially important when attending an appointment with a doctor or dentist (a fee will be charged if you miss the appointment).
- **Verbal and Non-Verbal Communications:** **Everything we know about how to communicate verbally and non-verbally is shared through our culture. Your rules about communication behavior may be different so it is important to attend all orientation sessions and meet with the international counsellor to understand how these differences impact your ability to communicate and be understood in this culture. A simple gesture in one culture may have a very negative meaning in another. If English is your Second Language, it is important to speak “English Only” when on campus. This will help you with pronunciation and understanding North American vocabulary. It is important to learn as much as you can about communication in Canada to avoid misunderstanding and uncomfortable situations.**
- **Asking questions:** **When in doubt about anything, please refer to a campus or community resource. It is very important to avoid problems and misunderstanding by asking questions when you don’t understand. If you don’t ask, people will assume you understand.**

BEHAVIOUR IN PUBLIC AND IN THE CLASSROOM

Many North American values are demonstrated and expected in the classroom. The following list may prove useful in assisting you adjust to the college setting:

- Actively participate (you are expected to join in discussion and offer your perspective)
- Be punctual (it is important to contact faculty or staff when you are late or absent)
- Complete all assignments/tests/exams/quizzes (you will lose marks if you don’t)
- Be respectful of all college and community property
- Direct and straightforward communication is acceptable and expected
- Be familiar with College Policy and Procedure regarding Student Behavior

Every international student experiences culture change in a different way. It is normal for students to suffer from some culture shock but if, after a few weeks, you or your friends are not sleeping well, feeling isolated and alone, sad or sick and not eating properly, a meeting with the international counsellor should be arranged as soon as possible. Should the stress of Canadian culture and being away from home prevent you from functioning normally in your daily life, please share this information with your host family, peers, college faculty or staff and they can help you arrange a counseling appointment.

Georgian College wants your experience in Canada to be happy and rewarding. We want you to be successful and expect you to access our many support services on campus.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: 911

NON-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (IN BARRIE): (705) 725-7025

WALK-IN CLINICS & HOSPITAL

Royal Victoria Hospital	(705) 728-9802
125 Bell Farm Rd.	(705) 739-1544
353 Duckworth St.	(705) 730-8812
121 Wellington St. W.	(705) 726-1544
505 Yonge St. (Painswick Location)	(705) 726-1544
555 Maplevue Dr.	(705) 739-8812
Painswick Medical Clinic	(705) 722-0516

<http://www.simcoe.com/community-static/2075727-simcoe-county-walk-in-clinics/>

GENERAL NUMBERS

Bell Canada	(705) 310-2355
Public Utilities	(705) 722-7222
Local Bus Terminal	(705) 739-1500
Barrie Taxi	(705) 721-7777
Simcoe Taxi	(705) 722-0000

RESIDENCE & GEORGIAN COLLEGE

Georgian Green Student Residence (705) 739-0388 + Ext

Georgian College (705) 728-1968 + Ext

International Centre Ext 1218

Security Ext 5100

[HTTP://WWW.GEORGIANCOLLEGE.CA/RESIDENCE/](http://www.georgiancollege.ca/residence/)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Q: Are students or visitors allowed to work in Canada?

A: Students and visitors are only allowed to work in Canada if they have special permit papers in their passport. The exception is that students are allowed to work at the campus they are attending (must have full-time status in post-secondary). All students must complete 6 months of studies in good academic standing before permits for off-campus is applied for. For detailed information, please visit: www.cic.gc.ca or meet Bea Collins at the International Centre.

Q: Can international students be part-time students?

A: Immigration Canada is very strict about their policy regarding full-time status. All international students must be in full-time attendance (the exception is a graduating semester—one time only).

Q: When are the holidays that Georgian College will be closed?

A: Georgian College is open most weekdays during the year (except the Christmas break)

National holidays occur on the first Monday of July, August and September

Thanksgiving is celebrated in early October

Christmas is celebrated December 25th

Boxing Day is December 26th

January 1st (New Years Day) is a holiday as well

Christian Good Friday and Easter Sunday are in April

The third Monday in May is a celebration of the Queen's birthday

You can see the College's schedule with this link: <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/important-dates>

Q: Is it okay if registration fees are late?

A: No! All students must pay their fees before registration can take place. Immigration Canada will not process documents or consider you "officially registered" until all fees are paid. If you are late for your payments, you will get an extra late fee between \$50--\$100 and you might have fewer selections when it comes to choosing courses.

Q: Should students attend co-operative education courses?

A: Yes. It is very important to attend all co-operative education courses. These courses are especially important for international students because co-operative education courses teach you everything that could happen in your co-op and how you can deal with difficult work situations. For detailed information, please visit the international students' co-op consultant Joanne Foxton in Student Success (room B110).

Q: Are there any activities for international students?

A: The International Centre always plans monthly events and trips to places of particular interest to the international students. For more information, please visit www.facebook.com/GeorgianCollegeInternationalCentre and 'Like' the Georgian College International Centre page or come to the International Centre to view the monthly events calendar.

Q: Do quizzes and quick tests count towards final grades?

A: Yes. Most faculty factor all assignments and evaluations towards final grades.

Q: Who do we contact if we want to make some changes to our program of study?

A: It is very important to meet with the International Student Counsellor Nancy Blain before you make any changes to your program. There may be Immigration Canada implications that must be considered and sometimes when students go out of program sequence they have a difficult time registering for required courses.

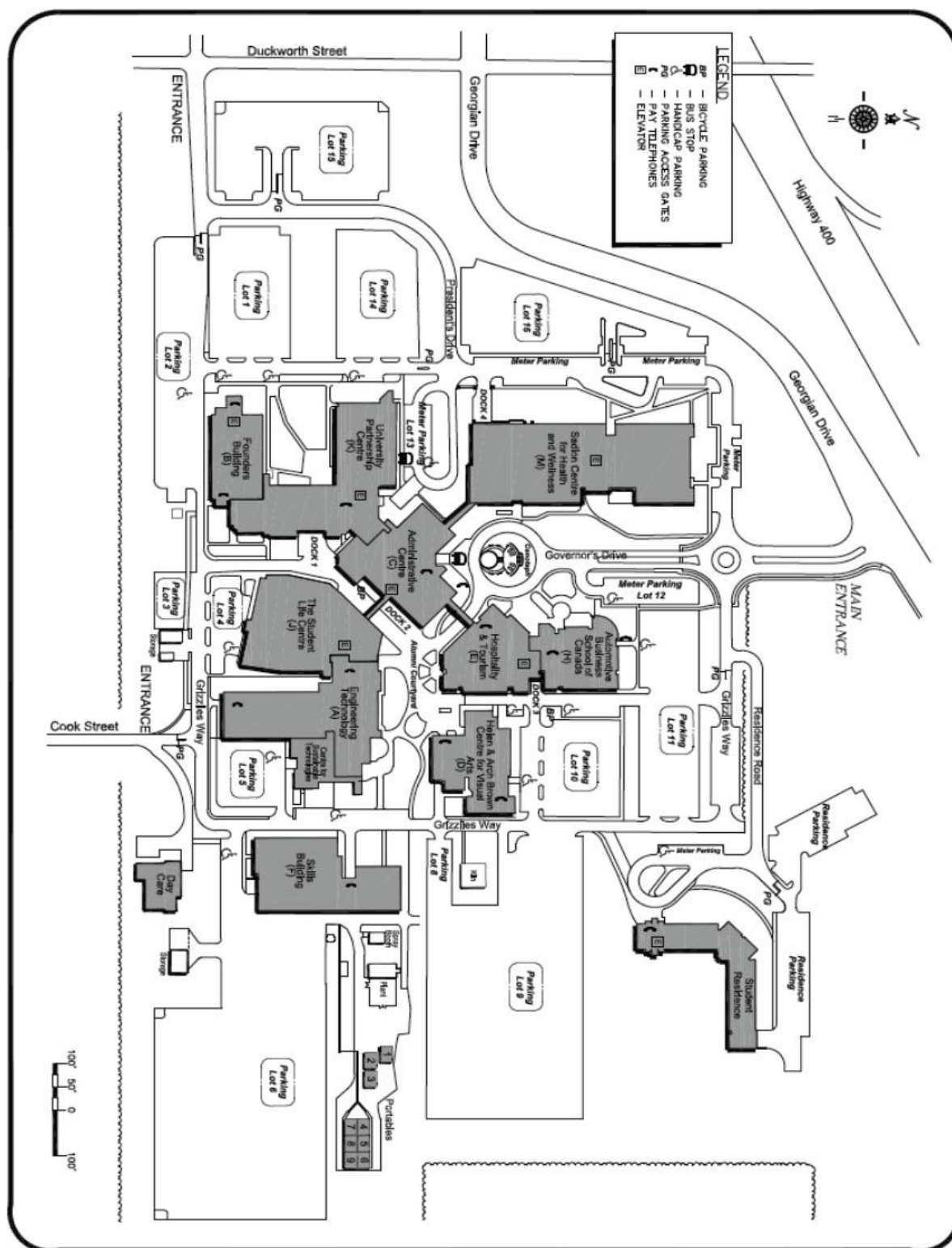
SADLON CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS INFORMATION

The largest academic expansion in Georgian College history, the Sadlon Centre for Health and Wellness is a 172,000-square-foot facility at the Barrie Campus. All teaching and learning in the classrooms, labs and clinics support inter-professional education, allowing students from a variety of health programs to work together on client care.

A state-of-the-art facility, the Sadlon Centre for Health and Wellness features community health clinics such as speech, language and hearing services, oral health, massage therapy, vision, esthetics and a Nurse Practitioner-Led clinic. It is in these clinics where students have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, while much-needed health care support is provided for the community.

The Centre for Health and Wellness is a \$65-million project funded by federal and provincial contributions from the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, as well as municipal, corporate and individual donors to Georgian College's Power of Education campaign.

MAP OF GEORIAN COLLEGE – BARRIE CAMPUS



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