



Canadian Bureau for
International Education
Bureau canadien de
l'éducation internationale

CBIE RESPONSE TO COVID-19

To all international students who are currently part of CBIE-administered scholarship programs:

Your health and well-being is our primary concern during this global health crisis.

CBIE is actively monitoring the evolving global COVID-19 pandemic situation and is in direct communication with relevant government departments (national, provincial and local). CBIE is also working directly with Canadian educational institutions regarding the terms and status of your scholarships in light of the coronavirus situation.

Far from home and family, and situated within institutional settings that are changing by the hour, you no doubt have a host of concerns. Recognizing that information circulating online may be confusing and conflicting, we wanted to provide you with the official Canadian sources of up-to-date information and resource links to address some of your primary concerns.

How do you best address immediate concerns respecting your health and well-being?

Canada's [Public Health Agency \(PHAC\)](#) is the source of national level public health information.

At this time, PHAC has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as **LOW** for the general population in Canada but this could change rapidly. There is an increased risk of more severe outcomes for individuals:

- aged 65 and over;
- with compromised immune systems; and
- with underlying medical conditions.

PHAC's site provides valuable information on [prevention and preparedness](#), as well as information on how to identify [symptoms](#) of the virus.

More specifically, how do you navigate this health crisis within your specific city and/or province?

In addition to the PHAC resources cited above, we encourage you to follow the directives of provincial and municipal/local government authorities as the COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving and varying significantly across the country.

Province/Territory
Alberta
British Columbia
Manitoba
New Brunswick
Newfoundland and Labrador
Northwest Territories
Nova Scotia
Nunavut
Ontario
Prince Edward Island
Quebec
Saskatchewan
Yukon

What should you do if you start to have symptoms of COVID-19?

If you start to develop [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, please isolate yourself from others as quickly as possible. Immediately call a health care professional or the public

health authority in the province or territory where you are located (consult the contact list below).

Once in contact with health authorities, you will be asked to describe your symptoms and travel history. Health care professionals will provide you with advice on what you should do.

Public Health Authorities	
Province/Territory	Contact Number
Alberta	811
British Columbia	811
Manitoba	1-888-315-9257
New Brunswick	811
Newfoundland and Labrador	811 or 1-888-709-2929
Northwest Territories	911
Nova Scotia	811
Nunavut	1-867-975-5772
Ontario	1-866-797-0000
Prince Edward Island	811
Quebec	1-877-644-4545
Saskatchewan	811
Yukon	811

If you are presently in your home country (for either academic or personal reasons) and scheduled/plan to return to Canada to continue your studies, what should you do?

The Government of Canada is warning against all international travel and is limiting inbound flights as part of a series of measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Canada. Any students that are presently not in Canada **should not** make plans to return to Canada at the moment to continue their studies.

CBIE understands this situation is evolving quickly and will provide regular updates to this direction. If this is your situation, we recommend that you be in contact with your scholarship program manager at CBIE.

What should you do if COVID-19 directly affects your study plan and you are not able to complete your studies within the current timeframe of your study permit?

CBIE has been informed that Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is providing special measures to support international students presently studying in Canada who may need extensions to their study permits. Details will be available shortly.

Should you have additional questions about CBIE's response to COVID-19 in support of CBIE-administered scholarship programs, please be in direct contact with the Program Managers of your specific scholarship program.

CBIE continues to monitor the situation and remains dedicated to your concerns and safety. CBIE will provide e-mail updates with new information as it emerges.

Each of you remains at the forefront of our thoughts and we are committed to supporting you to the best of our ability during this time of global uncertainty. We shall remain in close communication with you, and in the meantime, we hope that each of you remain safe and well within your respective Canadian communities.

Larissa Bezo
President and CEO
Canadian Bureau for International Education