GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE (GEO)
Orientation – Fall Term: 2021W

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE (GEO)

The Global Engagement Office (GEO) oversees international student advising, safety, and support, student mobility, mobility partnerships, international research, intercultural learning, and faculty-led programming for all UBC students. Including three main areas of service *International Student Advising (ISA)*, *Go Global*, and *International & Intercultural Programming*
Meet the GEO Team

Sebastian

Emilio

Matt

Dana

Saher

Danai

Quinn

Shaniya

Philipp
## HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

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<th>Social &amp; Cultural Programs &amp; Activities</th>
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<td>International Clubs &amp; Cultural Activities</td>
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### Workshops

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<th>International Career Development Program</th>
<th>Immigration/Permanent Residence Workshops</th>
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WHAT ADVISORS CAN HELP WITH

We have staff members at GEO who are Regulated Canadian International Student Advisors (RISIA) and Regulated Canadian Immigration Advisors (RCIC) and can provide immigration-related advice during your time at UBC. We help with:

• Study permits

• Temporary Residence Visas (TRV) and Inviting Friends & Family

• Co-op Work Permits

• Work eligibility

• Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) information

• Immigration-related workshops e.g. permanent residence

• Any other general immigration questions
GENERAL FACTS – TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

IF YOU PLAN TO TRAVEL TO CANADA DURING COVID-19

You’ll need to quarantine (self-isolate) for 14 days if coming from abroad.

Travelling to Canada
Before arranging any travels, you’ll need to check if you’re eligible to enter Canada, prepare certain documents, and know what to do upon arrival.

Self-isolation support
All travellers to Canada must quarantine upon arrival. UBC’s Self-isolation Program can support you in your self-isolation plans.

COVID-19 FAQ for international students
Find out how COVID-19 impacts immigration, work eligibility, and health insurance.
WORKING AUTHORIZATION IN CANADA

As a full time international student you are able to work during your time in Canada, but before doing so it is important to check in with IPS and make sure you are aware of your rights and responsibilities as outlined in IRPR 186.

- Only authorized individuals can work in Canada
- Check with an advisor FIRST before engaging in off-campus employment
- Limits to the number of hours and type of work performed.
- Look for information sessions about working in Canada throughout the term
- Exchange and VIRS students should talk to an advisor before looking for work.
IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTATION REMINDER SYSTEM

IMPORTANT:
Remember YOU are responsible for ensuring your passport, study permit, TRV or eTA and other applicable documentation remain valid.

Enter your expiry dates in the Immigration Documentation Reminder System in your SSC account.

Instructions:
1. Log into your SSC using your CWL info
2. Go to personal information and select "Immigration Documents"
3. Enter your document expiry dates or indicate "Not Applicable" where necessary

You will receive reminders 6 months, 3 months and when they expire. Do not let your documents expire.
SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER - SIN

The Social Insurance Number (SIN) is a nine-digit number that you need in order to work in Canada or to have access to government programs and benefits.

** You will need to be in-Canada with a permanent residential address to apply for a SIN

Apply for a SIN (once you have your study permit)
You can apply in any of the following ways:
3. By mail

Keep your SIN information safe. Do not share your SIN with any unauthorized individuals. Only provide your SIN if it is legally required. Do not use it as a form of identification.

*** We have posted a Social Insurance Number (SIN) Informational Resource on the International Student Guide (Working in Canada – Social Insurance Number)
OTHER REMINDERS

1. After arriving don’t carry your passport and original study permit with you.

2. Get a BCID or driver's license and use these as identification.

3. Keep documents current (valid) and in a safe place.

4. You must maintain active studies (if in Canada). Questions? - Talk to an advisor

5. If you are interested in making travel plans, talk to an advisor first.

6. Check email for messaging from UBC for updates and other important information.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admission Information</td>
<td><strong>Admission Information</strong> I consent to the release of information related to my application for admission to UBC, including but not limited to application content, application status, documentation and transcripts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Housing Information</td>
<td><strong>Student Housing Information</strong> I consent to the release of my residence fees information and my residence assignment information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Information</td>
<td><strong>Medical Information</strong> I consent to the release of information pertaining to medical documentation submitted to UBC (e.g., doctor’s notes). This excludes information held by UBC Student Health Services and UBC Counseling Services; as this information is considered especially sensitive, you will need to fill out a separate authorization for these Services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Record Information</td>
<td><strong>Academic Record Information</strong> I consent to the release of information pertaining to my UBC academic record, including but not limited to biographical details, registration, grades information, academic standing, timetable, tuition and fees, degree and enrolment confirmation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assistance &amp; Award Info</td>
<td><strong>Financial Assistance and Award Information</strong> I consent to the release of information pertaining to my financial assistance and award status, including but not limited to student loans, bursaries and scholarships and financial need. As related to this status, registration, grades, fees and admission status may also be released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document Pick-up</td>
<td><strong>Document Pick-Up</strong> I consent to the release of documents related to my application, admission, registration, academic record, and financial assistance and awards at UBC. Documents that require a payment to be submitted such as Transcripts or Replacement diplomas must be ordered prior to pick up by the student. They cannot be ordered in person by the third party.</td>
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UNDERSTANDING HEALTH CARE IN CANADA
HEALTH INSURANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

iMED
(temporary first 3 months)

PLUS

BC Medical Services Plan
(after 3 months)

STUDENTCARE

Extended health benefits
September – End of August
**IMED FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

iMED is an **interim (temporary) basic health insurance** designed to cover students while they wait for their BC Medical Service Plan (MSP) or for students in a UBC program that is only one term.

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<th>How to Apply</th>
<th>Automatic when they register for classes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>$225 (3 months) or $315 (one-term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administred by</td>
<td>David Cummings Insurance Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:imed@david-cummings.com">imed@david-cummings.com</a></td>
</tr>
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**Coverage**

- medical services for sickness or injury
- Doctor visits
- Hospital visits
- Diagnostic, x-ray, and laboratory services
- Ambulance services
- Maternity coverage
- *Pre-existing conditions*  
- Special requirements apply
BC MSP is the government funded health plan coverage for basic (primary) health services. All eligible BC residents are required by law to enroll.

How to Apply
Apply when they arrive in British Columbia

Fees
$75 (study permit holders)
Students pay by themselves

Administrated by
Province of British Columbia
Health Insurance BC

Coverage
* Doctor visits
* Hospital visits
* Diagnostic tests (x-rays, CT scans, blood work)
Student Care – Extended Health Insurance

**Student Care** is an **extended health insurance** designed to provide **UBC** students with extra coverage while they are enrolled.

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<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>$286.62 (Sep.1 to Aug. 31)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$143.31 (Jan. 1 to Aug. 31)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrated by</td>
<td>UBCO Student Union (UNC 133)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@suo.ca">office@suo.ca</a></td>
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**Coverage**

* Vision care
* Dental care
* Counselling
* Vaccines
* Up to 80% off prescription drug costs
* **Travel health coverage**
  * Outside of home country
HAVE THESE QUESTIONS?

- How do I use the iMED card?
- How do I submit an iMED Claim?
- How do I apply for MSP?
- How do I change my MSP account?
- How do I pay MSP bills?
- How do I see the doctor?
- How do I enroll my family members for health insurance?

Please contact GEO: geo.ubco@ubc.ca
GO GLOBAL
What is it?
Go on exchange to study around the world

When can I go?
Third Year is recommended (Apply in 2nd year)
Summer options exist anytime in your degree

How long are most exchanges?
One term, Full Year, or a portion of Summer

Requirements?
Full-Time Status & 70% avg in year before you go

Will it delay my graduation?
We work with you to avoid this!

Sign up for a Q&A session at:
students.ok.ubc.ca/global
GLOBAL SEMINARS

What is it?
Faculty-led courses abroad

When can I go?
Anytime following Year 1

How long are most exchanges?
3-6 weeks in length, mostly in the summer

Requirements?
Full-Time Status & 70% avg in year before you go (although there is flexibility with GPA)

Will it delay my graduation?
Nope!
INTERCULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (IDP)
EXAMPLE OF PROGRAM COMPONENTS

ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOPS

- Intercultural 101/102/200
- Intercultural Conflict Resolution
- Cultural identity and anti-racism
- Cross-cultural communication and interpersonal skills

Practical Experience

- Create your own IDP workshop or discussion
- Applying cross-cultural communication skills in your academic and personal work

Participate in IDP community:

The IDP is a great way to connect with other students who are advocating for social change and working towards an intercultural campus community.
BENEFITS OF THE IDP

- Broaden your social networks and gain a diverse community of support
- Gain a deeper understanding on societal issues, both on a global and local scale
- Learn and be exposed to different cultures and realities
- Gain interpersonal and intercultural skills
- Navigate the nuances of intercultural relationships, professional and personal.
INTERCULTURAL CAREER PROGRAMMING

• Specialized career-related programs for international students and students of colour

• Intercultural Career Development Week

• EMERGE Career Week for students of colour (BPOC)

• Find out more about navigating the Canadian work place
EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR
OTHER COLLABORATIONS

• Multi-Cultural Art Gala
• Desi Dhamaka
• Latin American Student Organization events (ex. Latin American Panel)
• African-Caribbean Culture Week
• Dia de los Muertos
• Nowruz
• Eid / Ramadan Programming
• Diwali
• Harmony (Art & Food festival)
• Holi
• Indian Culture and Dance Club events
• South Asian Student Association events
• Persian Student Association events

Anything else! We are open to help you create new initiatives on campus.
Advisors are here to support you through **drop-in appointments**, **pre-booked appointments**, and **e-advising**

Not sure where to start? E-mail geo.ubco@ubc.ca—we are here to help! Our staff can also connect students with additional campus and community resources throughout their time at UBC.

For **Go Global** inquiries, please e-mail goglobal.okanagan@ubc.ca

**Website:** [https://students.ok.ubc.ca/international-students/](https://students.ok.ubc.ca/international-students/)

**Room:** UNC 277
Thank you