



Summer
2022

Georgian

Pre-departure handbook
for international students



You've been accepted into **GEORGIAN COLLEGE**

Congratulations and welcome to Georgian College!

You are about to take an exciting journey to earn your certificate, diploma or degree. This international student handbook will help you feel like part of the Georgian community.

The Segal International Centre offers a wide range of services and programs that cover:

Health insurance, study permits and visa, Georgian services and resources to help you succeed and information about the city and surrounding communities.

With the health and safety of our students and employees are foremost in our minds, the International Centre will continue to offer all services partially this semester.

International Centre services and contact information

Immigration advising (current students only) immigrationsupport@georgiancollege.ca

International student housing assistance intlhousing@georgiancollege.ca

International student insurance intlinsurance@georgiancollege.ca

International student applications intlrecruit@georgiancollege.ca

General inquiries international@georgiancollege.ca

We plan to continue with remote delivery wherever possible this semester and only necessary, in-person, on-campus activity will be permitted. Please use this [search tool](#) to learn whether your program will be delivered remotely or through a combination of remote and in-person learning.

See below for general FAQs and the most up-to-date information around COVID-19.

Georgian College [International Centre COVID-19 FAQs](#)

Georgian College [General COVID-19 updates](#)

Georgian College [Co-op and Career Success FAQs](#)

Georgian College [Registrar's Office FAQs](#)

Georgian College [Libraries and Academic Success FAQs](#)

Georgian College [Accessibility and Wellness FAQs](#)

Government of Canada [COVID-19 updates](#)

We hope to see you soon!

The Georgian College International Centre Team

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Important DATES

For all important dates, please visit the [Georgian College website](#).

Orientation information available online starting

May 2 to 6, 2022

Available online [here](#).

Semester begins

May 9, 2022

Canadian holidays (college closed)

Victoria Day - May 23, 2022

Canada Day - July 1, 2022

Civic Holiday - August 1, 2022



Important info for students arriving in Canada for **THE SUMMER 2022 SEMESTER**

Arrival Information

All students must complete Georgian College's mandatory arrival process through the Georgian Assist app. Because Georgian has additional quarantine requirements, students must get exemption from the Georgian quarantine process as well. To determine eligibility of exemption from Georgian's quarantine process, students need to complete the required process on the Georgian Assist app.

All students and co-arriving family members must complete the mandatory quarantine commitment form on the 'Georgian Assist' app, whether you are fully vaccinated or not.

Download the 'Georgian Assist' app for more information on Georgian, your arrival and COVID-19 related information.



You must determine if you are eligible to be exempt from the federal quarantine and follow the process, including uploading your documents through the 'Georgian Assist' app. Visit the app store to make sure you have the latest version of the app.

Read the IRCC document: [COVID-19: A Guide for International Students in Canada Arriving from Abroad](#)

For more information please visit the [Georgian College quarantine resources webpage](#).

Visit [Georgian College International COVID-19 FAQ website](#) for the most up to date information.

Watch these videos!

[How to find your program delivery method - Summer 2022](#)

[Georgian Assist App & Student Commitment Form - Summer 2022](#)

[Georgian quarantine exemption process - Summer 2022](#)

[Registration FAQs - Summer 2022](#)

Email us if you have any further questions at quarantinesupport@georgiancollege.ca.

Registration INFORMATION

Register for your courses

To be eligible to register for courses, the following conditions must be met:

- you are admitted into a program (final or conditional);
- full semester fees are paid; and
- proof of your approved study permit

Note, for most summer 2022 applicants, it is strongly recommended that full semester fees are paid and study permit proof is submitted by March 31, 2022.

Upload your proof of visa status to your application in the IAS system. If an agent submitted the application on your behalf, they will also be required to complete this step.

Work permit for work-related studies

If you are in a program with a work component (co-op, field placement, field training, industry placement, practicum, clinical placement, practical experience or internship, paid or unpaid), you are required to have a co-op work permit before starting the work term. You should apply for this with your study permit.

You will have received a co-op supporting letter along with your acceptance letter that you can use to apply for the co-op work permit along with the study permit.

The conditions allowing you to work off-campus attached to a study permit are NOT interchangeable with the requirement to fulfill a work placement related to your studies. You need a separate co-op work permit for completing your work term.

Register for your courses

Once you have confirmed you have an approved study permit, and paid your fees in full, you will be able to pick your courses. Please check your Banner account for your program specific registration start date.

GeorgianCollege.ca/admissions/banner-login-information

The Office of the Registrar has online resources to show you how to register for classes, change your courses (add/drop), view your account details, find your timetables, and receive an introduction to MyPath! Go to the [Register for Courses](#) page for full details.

FORMS AND PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Health and Wellness, Community Safety and Human Services programs

Many programs, particularly in Health and Wellness, Community Safety, and Human Services include placements that require immunization or criminal record checks among other possible requirements. These requirements must be met before your placement starts. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are eligible to participate. Click on the "Placement requirement forms" tab at GeorgianCollege.ca/admissions/forms to see if your program has requirements you need to meet before the term starts. If you have questions, find your program co-ordinator's contact information at GeorgianCollege.ca/full-time-programs.

Placements require TB clearance; if you have a positive TB test (either from the 1 step or the 2 step), then a chest X-ray is also required.

The college assumes no responsibility on these matters and students should be aware that we are unable to refund tuition fees in the event that access to a placement is denied.

Programs include:

Acupuncture
Acute Complex Care For Internationally Educated Nurses
Addictions: Treatment And Prevention
Bachelor Of Science In Nursing (BSCN)
Child And Youth Care
Communicative Disorders Assistant
Dental Assisting/Dental Hygiene
Denturism
Developmental Services Worker
Early Childhood Education
Esthetician
Massage Therapy
Medical Skin Care Therapies
Occupational Therapist Assistant and Physiotherapist Assistant
Personal Support Worker
Pharmacy Technician
Practical Nursing
Social Service Worker
Therapeutic Recreation

Georgian ONECARD

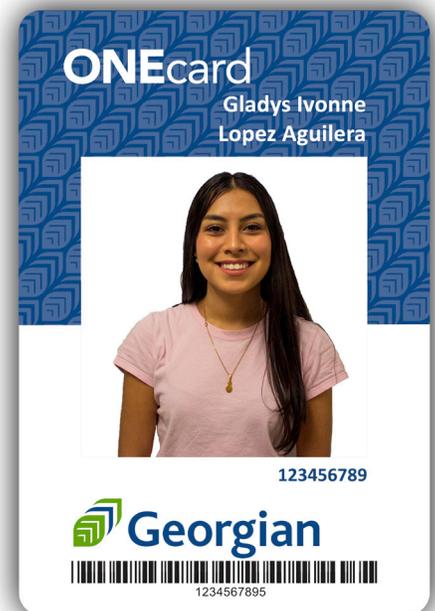
ONEcard is the official Georgian identification card.

Features extend far beyond a simple ID – it's your student card, bus pass (for Barrie students only), library card, athletic centre card, and a convenient payment for select vendors on-campus and off-campus – all in one!

- Your student card is your ONEcard.
- Use ONEcard at participating locations to purchase food and beverages and make purchases at Georgian Stores.
- Students or supporters can add funds and track spending 24/7 from anywhere around the world.
- No transaction or monthly fees.
- If a card is lost or stolen, students can deactivate their card at any time to protect their balance.
- ONEcard offers the opportunity to help students plan and budgeting and keeps track of all their spending from textbooks and coffee, to lunches and snacks.
- Avoid carrying bulky cash and coins, and leave your credit cards at home – just swipe and go!
- Add additional money to your account as you go – online or at most major banks.
- Submit your own ONEcard photo
- For eligible students, the universal bus pass will activate 24 hours after you receive your ONEcard. This allows you unlimited use of the Barrie City Transit while you are a full-time student (Barrie Campus students only).

Your ONEcard has a flex dollar account which operates on a declining balance system. Every time a purchase is made, the amount is subtracted from your balance, which you can easily track.

For more information on ONEcard, please visit the [Georgian College website](#).



Your options for **HOUSING**

Housing fills up extremely fast, so we recommend you [start looking for a place to live](#) and apply right away.

1 Homestay

Homestay provides a safe, caring and interactive family environment for international students to improve language skills and cultural awareness. Homestay families provide necessary household items such as linens and towels. Bedrooms are furnished with a bed/bedding, desk or table, lamp, dresser and closet.

To participate in the Homestay program, students are expected to stay for two months or more in their Homestay. Students must pay first and last month's rent to the host family on the day of their arrival (see the Homestay application form for details). You must submit your Homestay application at least two weeks before you plan on arriving.

To apply for the homestay program, contact Canada Homestay Network. There is a \$250 application fee.

canadahomestaynetwork.ca/georgian-college
simcoeinfo@canadahomestaynetwork.ca

With meals

The family is responsible for providing a variety of nutritional, well-balanced meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) every day – including weekends. Students are responsible for snacks or specialty items.

Without meals

Students share the kitchen with the Homestay family, but students buy and prepare their meals, and clean up after themselves. The Homestay family helps students become familiar with the kitchen, explaining use of equipment and where to store food supplies.



2 On-campus residence

On-campus residences are offered at the Barrie, Orillia and Owen Sound campuses.

Enjoy the convenience of being steps away from campus and the opportunity to fully integrate into Canadian student culture, take part in residence life programs, and make lifelong friendships with fellow residents.

GeorgianCollege.ca/residence

3 Off-campus residences

Places4Students.com allows you to search local rental property listings. In addition, there are private residences nearby. In Barrie, some options include Foundry Georgian, Georgian Green, London Property Corp., and School House Barrie; in Orillia, there is Hilda House; and in Owen Sound there is Owen Sound Student Residence. Georgian doesn't inspect off-campus housing, so use due diligence when looking for accommodation. Georgian Green Student Residence apartments are located across the street from the Barrie Campus. These four-storey residential buildings house 257 students and have been specifically designed to meet the needs of students attending Georgian College. Students will be required to sign an eight to 12-month lease and provide their own linen, food, cutlery and dishes. For more information, please visit studentrez.com/georgian-green.



4 Find your own place

If you prefer to find your own accommodations, visit our off-campus housing resources page at Georgiancollege.ca/international/student-life/housing/#off-campus-housing. Be prepared to share a house/room with other students, purchase and prepare your own meals, pay your own bills, and live with other college students. The cost of room rentals is generally between \$650 and \$800 per month (meals not included) for a private room in a shared house or apartment with other students. Make sure to budget an extra \$100 to \$150 for utilities.

Please note that Georgian College has not verified and is not 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.

For housing assistance please contact our International Housing Co-ordinator, who will provide information about housing and how to find a home.

intlhousing@georgiancollege.ca
705.728.1968, ext. 1392

How do I pay for housing and living expenses?

It is important that you bring money with you when you arrive to pay for housing and immediate living expenses such as a phone, books and food. We suggest you bring traveler's cheques, since bank drafts can have holds placed on them for one month and you cannot access the money until the hold is removed.

You pay for your tuition and housing separately. Tuition is paid to Georgian College. Housing is paid directly to the Homestay company, the residence, or your landlord.

Bring proof of **IMMUNIZATION RECORDS**

We recommend all students bring a current immunization record

In case you get sick while in Canada, it is highly recommended that you bring an updated immunization record signed by a doctor and officially translated into English. Immunization records must mention the following:

- generic type of the vaccine (e.g. Diphtheria); not just a product or a brand name of the vaccine – if possible, include dosage details and manufacturing lot number of vaccine
- date when the vaccine was taken, including day, month and year
- full name of the doctor who administered the vaccine – MUST also include any license or registration number of the doctor
- complete address of the doctor's clinic and contact details (address of the clinic or hospital, landline phone number and/or cell phone number)

It is OK if you have separate vaccination records from different doctors. Bring all records of every vaccine you have taken. Records for vaccines listed below are highly recommended. Check with your doctor if you need to update any vaccine or take a booster:

- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- Polio
- Hepatitis B
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (known by its abbreviation of MMR)
- Varicella (for Chicken Pox)
- any other vaccine you may have (e.g. BCG, Yellow Fever, Smallpox, etc.)

Time to **START PACKING**

Things to consider before you pack:

- verify your luggage restrictions with your airline
- check which items Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) does not permit through Customs, such as firearms, pets, plants, fresh fruits and vegetables, meat and meat products
- do not pack any money or valuable items in your checked luggage
- pack two sets of clothing in your hand luggage in case your flight is delayed or if your luggage gets lost in transit.
- don't forget to pack your laptop and phone adapters and voltage converters

In Canada the power plugs and sockets are type A and B (see below). The standard voltage is 120 V and the standard frequency is 60 Hz. If you are bringing any electronics with you, you probably need a voltage converter (or your electronics will break), so you should consider a combined power plug adapter/voltage converter.



TYPE A



TYPE B

Documents to bring

You will need to bring the following documents into Canada with you, but DO NOT keep them in your checked luggage as you travel.

- photo identification
- official academic transcripts and degree certificates
- English language test scores
- international driver's licence or driver's licence from your home country
- driving history (if you plan to buy a car in Canada)
- immunization records (see page 14 for details)
- visa/study permit approval letter
- passport
- Georgian College acceptance letter
- addresses and contact info for accommodations in Canada

NOTE: All documents in your native language should be translated into English.



What to bring during COVID-19?

1. Masks
2. Gloves
3. Vaccination records
4. ArriveCAN documents
5. Small sanitizers
6. Travel credit card
7. Tooth brush
8. Some protein bars in checked in luggage

What kind of clothes should I bring?

Bring whatever clothing you like in the style you are used to wearing – there is no dress code at Georgian College. Students usually dress casually in comfortable and practical clothes. You may want to bring a formal outfit for interviews. The weather in Canada varies from season to season. Although classrooms are heated in the winter and air-conditioned in the summer, we recommend you bring different types of clothing to suit the changing climate.

- light-weight clothing is best for spring and summer
- sweaters and light waterproof jackets are useful for cool and rainy days in the spring and fall
- heavy jackets, scarves, gloves, hats and waterproof boots are essential for winter

What should I wear in the winter?

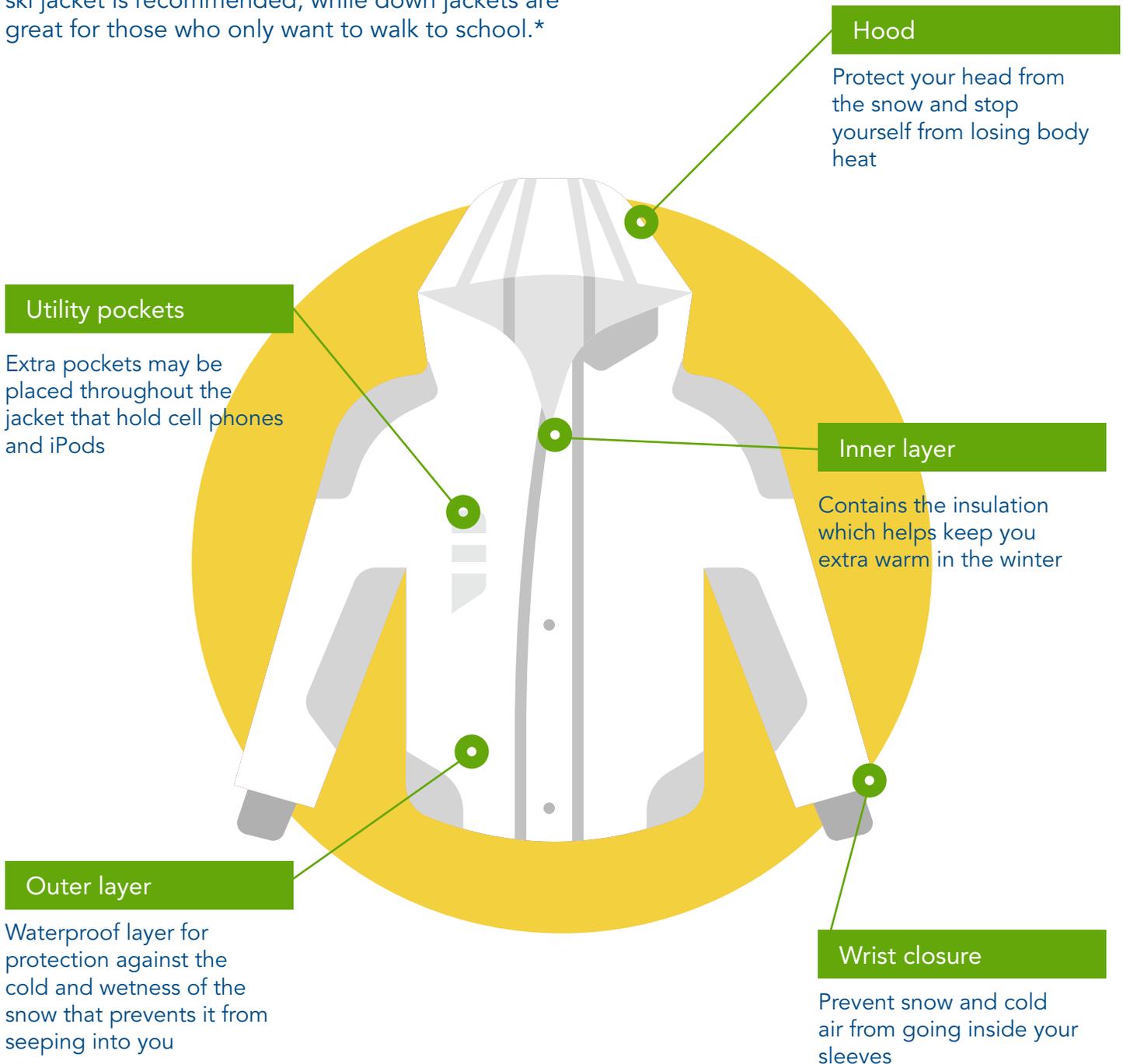
If you are coming to Canada from a warm climate, especially if you are arriving in the winter (December to March), be sure to bring warm clothing. You may find it less expensive to purchase additional winter clothing in Canada. Most students dress in layers as it may be cold outside, but warmer inside, including in your home, the college and stores.

Can I buy everything when I get there?

Yes! We recommend you buy bulkier or heavier items once you have arrived, especially if you have a luggage allowance. Everything you may need is available locally in each campus community.

Selecting a winter jacket

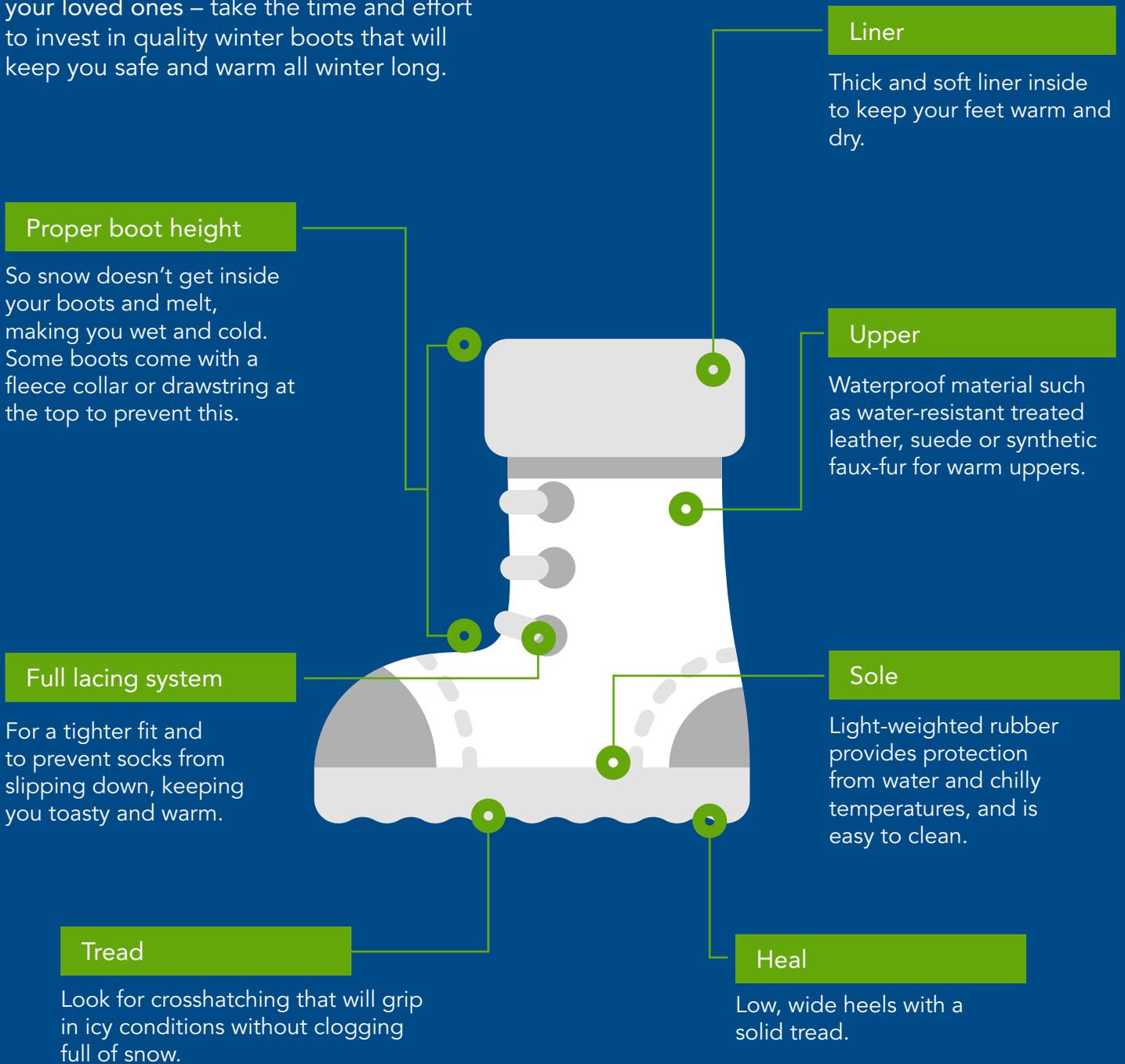
According to how active you are in the winter time, you may need a different type of winter jacket. If you are a more active person in the winter then a ski jacket is recommended, while down jackets are great for those who only want to walk to school.*



**Not sure what you are looking for? Ask a sales associate at the store you are in. They are there to help you.*

Looking for winter boots

Your safety in winter conditions is an investment in the health and well-being of you and your loved ones – take the time and effort to invest in quality winter boots that will keep you safe and warm all winter long.



*This winter, stay safe on driveways, parking lots, and walkways.
Protect yourself from slips and falls by wearing sturdy footwear made for Canadian winters.*

Additional INFORMATION

Drinking water

Ontario has set up an award-winning drinking water safety net to ensure water quality.

Protecting water at its source is a crucial first step in Ontario's approach to delivering safe drinking water. When you turn on your tap, you can be confident that your drinking water is among the best protected in the world. This means you can feel free to drink water from the tap in your home or anywhere else in Canada.

Mobile phones

You can bring your mobile phone to Canada and purchase a sim card here. There are several different mobile phone providers all over town (and even at the airport) where you can get a sim card and, if you need it, a cell phone. Some of the more well known companies include Rogers, Bell, Telus, Fido and Virgin Mobile.

If you are planning to bring your current mobile phone with you, you will want to make sure it will work with the Canadian mobile phone networks. To check if it will work here follow these steps:

1. Visit <https://willmyphonework.net>
2. Select your phone brand and model
3. Under country select 'Canada'
4. Under carriers you can check any of the big carriers (Rogers, Bell, Telus, Fido and Virgin Mobile)
5. Click 'Search'

Underneath it will show you which networks your phone may work with.

Canada is well known for having free Wi-Fi in many stores and businesses including all Georgian College campuses. Wherever there is free Wi-Fi you can use the data features on your smartphone for free without using data (as long as you are connected to the Wi-Fi). There are many restaurants, coffee shops and other stores that also offer free Wi-Fi. Some landlords also include Wi-Fi in the rental fees.

Budgeting for students

Learning how to budget your money each month so you have enough to live on is important for any student. Georgian offers a few tips on how to get started: [GeorgianCollege.ca/finance-and-fees/budgeting-tips-tricks](https://www.georgiancollege.ca/finance-and-fees/budgeting-tips-tricks)
To search for awards and scholarships please visit [GeorgianCollege.ca/awards](https://www.georgiancollege.ca/awards).

Learn about Canadian money

You don't need Canadian cash on-hand but it might be helpful in case you have problems with your bank cards. Learn about Canadian money here: [cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/after-money.asp](https://www.cic.gc.ca/english/newcomers/after-money.asp)

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](https://mystudentplan.ca)

guard.me[®]
International Insurance
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
Prescription drugs
X-rays and lab testing
Physician/surgeon
Psychiatric hospitalization
Psychotherapy
Eye exams
Paramedic services
Physiotherapy/speech therapy
Private nursing
Ambulance
Dental - accidental injury and emergency
Accessibility
Immunization
Maternity
Air evacuation/return home
Trauma counselling

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

Your coverage starts on September 1, 2021

If you arrive before the insurance start date we suggest you purchase additional coverage.

For details visit
guard.me/georgian

GCSA
GEORGIAN COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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.

Your coverage starts on September 1, 2021

For details visit
mystudentplan.ca/georgian

Campus ADDRESSES

Barrie

One Georgian Dr., Barrie ON L4M 3X9
inquire@georgiancollege.ca

Midland

649 Prospect Blvd., Midland ON L4R 4K6
midland@georgiancollege.ca

Muskoka

111 Wellington St., Bracebridge ON P1L 1E2
muskoka@georgiancollege.ca

Orangeville

22 Centennial Rd., Orangeville ON L9W 1P8
orangeville@georgiancollege.ca

Orillia

825 Memorial Ave., Orillia ON L3V 6S2
orillia@georgiancollege.ca

Owen Sound

1450 8th St. E., Owen Sound ON N4K 5R4
owensound.inquire@georgiancollege.ca

South Georgian Bay

499 Raglan St., Collingwood ON L9Y 3Z1
southgeorgianbay@georgiancollege.ca



BARRIE



ORANGEVILLE



ORILLIA



OWEN SOUND



SOUTH GEORGIAN BAY



Questions or concerns?

international@georgiancollege.ca

Stay up-to-date online

The easiest way to stay up-to-date 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.

 facebook.com/ICGeorgian

 twitter.com/ICGeorgian

 instagram.com/ICGeorgian

Connect with your future classmates

Join the facebook group 'Georgian College International Centre Student Connection' to connect with current and future students! facebook.com/groups/ICGeorgian

Download our app

Download the new 'Georgian Assist' app for more information on Georgian and your arrival.

