



Returning to Campus #1

A Guide to International Travel for Fall 2021

Compiled by the UTSU President's Team

Last updated August 17, 2021. Information on this document is subject to change as federal, provincial, and university regulations change. Please reference the linked official sources to confirm all information.

Please contact leila.tjiang@utsu.ca or president@utsu.ca with questions.

Note: These regulations only apply to air travel. For more information on driving across the Canadian border, see the driving checklist on this [page](#).



The original version of this document conveys information about regulations that have since changed.

A July 19, 2021 [press release](#) from the Canadian Government indicated that substantial changes would be made to international travel into Canada in the coming months. Key changes include:

- **On August 9th:**
 - **The 3-day hotel stopover requirement will end for all travellers**
 - **5 additional airports will be opened for international entry**
 - **Fully vaccinated travellers will only be required to take an arrival, or day 1, COVID-19 test if randomly selected. Arrival testing requirements remain the same for unvaccinated travellers.**
- **On September 7th, if the epidemiological situation continues to improve in Canada, the border will be opened to all fully vaccinated travellers**

Please read the press release for more details surrounding these changes.

The remainder of this guide has been updated to reflect these changes. Changes are highlighted in yellow.

As of August 17, 2021, new information regarding travel from India to Canada was added to this guide. These regulations are not new, this guide is simply being updated.

The remainder of this guide has been updated to reflect these updates. Changes are highlighted in green.



DETERMINE WHAT REGULATIONS APPLY TO YOU:

Can I enter Canada?

1. **Are you a Canadian citizen or permanent resident?**
 - a. **Yes** > Yes, you are able to enter Canada
 - b. **No** > Proceed to question 2
2. **Do you have a valid study permit or letter of introduction, or are you entering the country on or after September 7th?**
 - a. **Yes** > Yes, you are [able](#) to enter Canada.
 - b. **No** > You should [apply](#) for a study permit immediately

If you are travelling from India, go [here](#) before reading the rest of this guide.

You can also use [this form](#) to determine if you are eligible to enter Canada.

What do I need to enter the country?

- **All travellers will need to adhere to the following in order to enter Canada:**
 - a. Take a pre-departure COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours before the scheduled departure of your flight leg into Canada (NOT prior connecting flights)
 - b. Present a quarantine plan, including booking a 3-day hotel stay if applicable
 - c. Take an arrival, or day 1, COVID-19 test, if applicable or selected. Register in advance [here](#).
 - d. Register your travel on [ArriveCAN](#)

Find a full checklist of entry requirements [here](#).

- **Once you enter the country, requirements will vary depending on your vaccination status. See the next section for more information.**

What happens once I land in Toronto? Will I need to quarantine?

1. **Are you [fully vaccinated](#) (meaning you've received a full schedule of a Pfizer, Moderna, Astrazeneca, or Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two weeks before your date of travel)?**
 - a. **Yes** > You are exempt from Canada's international travel mandatory hotel stay, quarantine, and day 8 testing as of July 5th as long as you:
 - i. Accurately document your vaccination status on ArriveCAN in English or French
 - ii. Provide a negative COVID test before departing



- iii. Be tested upon arrival in Canada
 1. Only randomly selected travellers will be asked to conduct an arrival test as of August 9th. This only applies to fully vaccinated travellers.
 - b. **No** > You will be subject to a 3-day mandatory hotel stay, quarantine, and day 8 test. Proceed to question 2.
 - i. Regardless of where you quarantine, you must complete a 3-day mandatory hotel stay at a government-approved location. Book your hotel stay [here](#).
 - ii. 3-day mandatory hotel stays will not be required for any travellers as of August 9th. However, the requirements regarding quarantining and testing remain the same for unvaccinated travellers.
- 2. Are you living in an on-campus residence or other group accommodation (e.g. campus co-op) this year?**
- a. **Yes** > Once you complete your 3-day mandatory hotel stay, **if relevant**, you cannot complete the remainder of your quarantine at your residence and will have to find another place to quarantine including:
 - i. [UofT's Quarantine Program](#)
 - ii. Any off-campus residence where you can have all necessities delivered to you (e.g. renting a short-term apartment)
 - b. **No** > Once you complete your 3-day mandatory hotel stay, **if relevant**, you can complete your quarantine at your off-campus residence. But you can still register with UofT's quarantine program for back-up.

When should I arrive in the country?

1. **Are you okay with taking the first two weeks of your classes online?**
 - a. **Yes** > You can arrive as late as the first day of classes and [take your first two weeks of classes online](#).
 - b. **No** > Then you should arrive at least two weeks before the start of the semester to allow for the completion of your quarantine.
 - i. Even if you're seeking a fully vaccinated exemption and won't have to quarantine, remember that if you test positive upon arrival or become symptomatic, you will still have to quarantine. Make sure that you build flexibility into your schedule to allow for quarantining, if necessary.

When do I need to book quarantine accommodations?

1. **Are you required to partake in a 3-day mandatory hotel stay (aka are you not fully vaccinated)?**



- a. **Yes** > Although there is no official deadline for booking your hotel stay, we recommend that you reserve a room as soon as possible in order to secure a space and cheaper rates. Book your hotel stay [here](#).
 - b. **No** > Remember, you are only exempt from this hotel stay if you are fully vaccinated **or if you arrive in Canada on or after August 9th.**
- 2. Do you plan on using [UofT's Quarantine Program](#)?**
- a. **Yes** > See below for more detailed information on booking a spot:
 - i. If you're an incoming first year student:
 1. If you'd like to arrive in August, applications submitted before July 21st will be prioritized
 2. If you'd like to arrive in September, applications submitted before August 23rd will be prioritized
 - ii. If you're an upper year or graduate student:
 1. If you'd like to arrive in August, applications submitted between July 22nd (12:00PM) and July 29th will be prioritized
 2. If you'd like to arrive in September, applications submitted between August 24th (12:00PM) and August 31st will be prioritized
 - b. **No** > You will still need to book a 3-day mandatory hotel. Find information on how to book your hotel stay [here](#). Once your hotel stay is over, you will still have to quarantine for another 11 days (for a total of 14 days). You may complete this quarantine at your off-campus and non-group residence or by making separate accommodations (e.g. renting a short-term apartment).

What are the costs associated with my travel?

- **Pre-departure COVID-19 test**
 - Depending on the situation in your current location, you may have to pay for a privately administered COVID-19 test for travel. Although the costs can vary substantially, you may have to pay upwards of \$100.00 CAD for a test.
- **Translation of Documents**
 - Documentation of vaccination and testing must be submitted in English or French. If your documents are not written in either language, they will have to be officially translated. The cost of this service will vary.
- **3-Day Mandatory Hotel Stay**
 - All travellers entering Canada must pay for this stay out of pocket. Rates will vary depending on which hotel you stay at and how far in advance you book your stay.



- In February, news outlets anecdotally [reported](#) the nightly costs of a Toronto hotel quarantine stay as ~\$300.00 CAD.
- This mandatory hotel stay will be removed for all travellers on August 9th, so this cost will not be applicable after that date.
- **Completing your quarantine**
 - If you're using [UofT's Quarantine Program](#) (Full Accommodations) for the first time, the entire cost is covered by the University. However, if you've used the program once before, you will have to pay for the cost of the program. The estimated cost of this program is ~\$2000.00 CAD.
 - If you're quarantining at home, then costs associated with the delivery of food and essential items may be applicable.

Find more information on financial support resources [here](#).

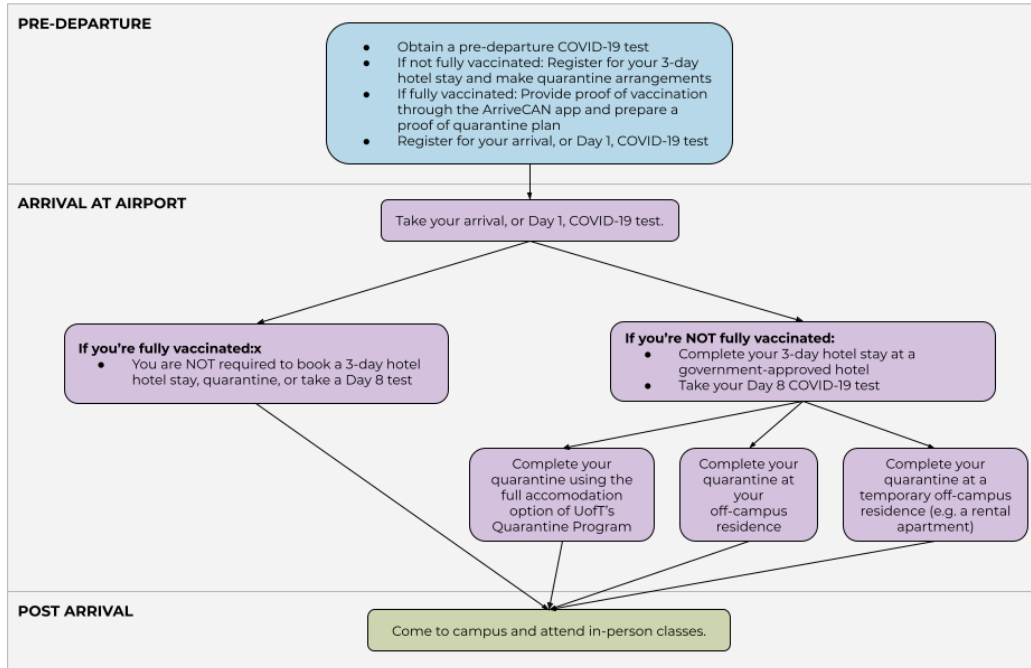
If I'm not using UofT's Quarantine Program, how will I obtain food and other essential items during my quarantine?

- **During your quarantine, you can either:**
 - Arrange for someone you know and who does not live with you (e.g. a family member or friend) to purchase necessities and deliver them to your house
 - Or utilize paid services, such as [Instacart](#), to have your necessities delivered to you

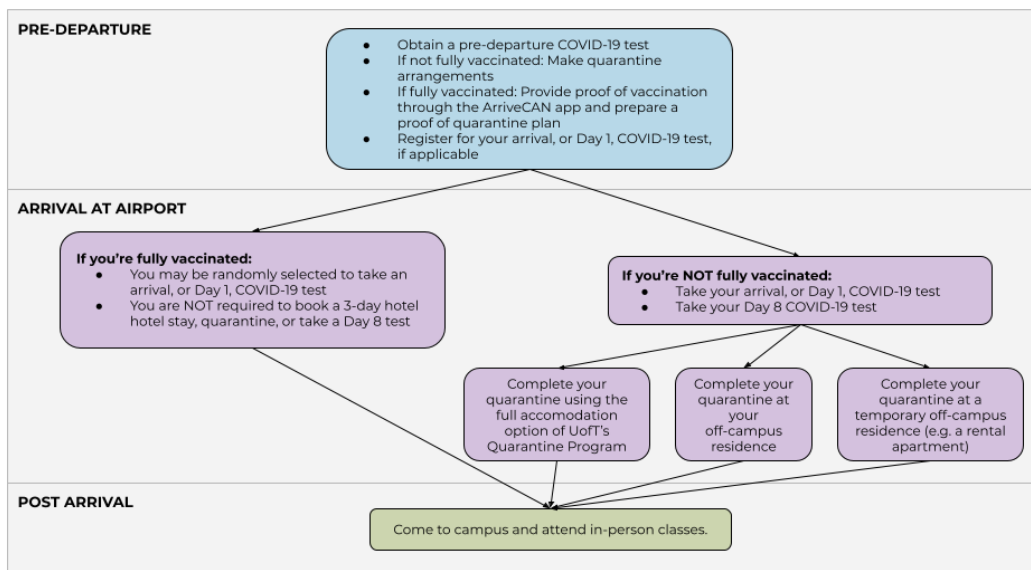


Still not sure what to do? Use this flow-chart to help determine what regulations apply to you.

Arriving Before August 9th



Arriving After August 9th





I am travelling from India. What additional restrictions apply to me?

At least until September 21, 2021, the Government of Canada has suspended direct flights from India. This means that in order to enter Canada from India, you will need to take an indirect route and several restrictions that differ for travel from other countries. The following is a [statement](#) from the government on travel from India:

"The Government of Canada has suspended flights from India until September 21, 2021.

During that period, passengers who travel to Canada from India via an indirect route will need to obtain a pre-departure negative [COVID-19 molecular test](#) result from a third country before continuing their journey to Canada.

Travellers who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 must provide proof of a positive COVID-19 molecular test conducted between 14 and 90 days prior to departure, instead of a negative COVID-19 molecular test. This proof must be obtained in a third country before the continuation of the journey to Canada. You might need to seek entry and stay in a third country for at least 14 days.

Keep in mind:

- *certain countries do not allow entry or transit from passengers arriving from India or from passengers who have previously tested positive to COVID-19*
- *COVID-19 testing for passengers in transit might not be available in all international airports or third countries*
- *if you test positive during transit, you may be quarantined or sent back to your point of departure*

Carefully consider your itinerary, transit options and entry requirements for third countries."

Students facing extreme difficulties travelling from India to Canada can reach out to the UTSU for additional resources and assistance at leila.tjiang@utsu.ca.



LEARN ABOUT THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU:

Summary of Important Government Resources to Reference:

- [Federal Government Homepage for COVID-19 Travel Guidelines](#)
- [Check for your eligibility to travel into Canada](#)
- [Checklist of Entry Requirements](#)
- [Fully Vaccinated Exemptions](#)
- [3-Day Mandatory Hotel Stay](#)
- [ArriveCAN](#)

Office of the Vice-Provost, Students (OVPS) Resources

Access an FAQ for international students [here](#).

Access the OVPS quarantine guide [here](#).

UofT's Quarantine Program

- Apply for UofT's Quarantine Program using the [StarRez Portal](#)
- You can use UofT's Quarantine Program regardless of whether you live on residence or off-campus
- There are 3 versions of UofT's Quarantine Program:
 - (1) Full Accommodations**
 - Use this version of the program if you would like to complete your quarantine in a University-facilitated space
 - If you are using this program for the first time, then it is free. If you have made use of this program once before, it is not free. It is estimated that this program will cost ~\$2000.00 CAD.
 - (i) If you cannot cover the cost of the program, explore financial support options [here](#).
 - You will be charged a \$350 cancellation fee if you do not cancel your reservation at least 48 hours in advance. However, if you are turned away at the border, you will not be charged this fee.
 - (2) At-Home Program**
 - Use this version of the program if you would like to complete your quarantine at home, but would still like to remote receive support services from the University (e.g. health checks)
 - (3) Backup Quarantine Plan**



- Use this version of the program if you simply require proof of a quarantine plan when travelling. In other words, in the event that your fully vaccinated exemption from quarantine is not accepted upon arrival, this allows you to use UofT's full or at-home program.
- Questions regarding this program can be sent to info.quarantine@utoronto.ca.
- Note that if your point of entry into Canada is NOT the Toronto Pearson International Airport, then you will not be able to use UofT's full accommodation program. You must quarantine in the city that is your first point of entry into Canada.

Financial Support Resources

Access University-wide financial support directory [here](#). We've selected a few key supports below:

- [Emergency Assistance Grants for Undergraduates](#)
- [School of Graduate Studies Emergency Grant program](#) and [School of Graduate Studies Emergency Loan](#)
- [Ontario Emergency Assistance program](#)

Access financial support from the Faculty of Arts and Science [here](#).

Access the UTSU's financial aid resources, including Emergency Bursary which was recently increased to a \$500 maximum disbursement, [here](#).

Immigration Advisors at UofT

Access staff at the University of Toronto which can help you navigate immigration documents and more at this [link](#).