

# Student Advisory

September 30, 2023



## Canadian Housing Market

Ensure due diligence in understanding the current environment of the Canadian housing market before traveling to Canada. Canada is currently facing a housing shortage in many cities and towns. It is advisable that students pre-arrange for temporary stays or accommodation before their travel date for the initial days or weeks. Students should consider the cost of rentals and transportation availability near their educational institution, and be adequately prepared for the financial outlay during the initial months.



## Employment

If students decide to work during their studies, they should understand employment opportunities within the vicinity of their education institution or near their accommodation. Students may research job sites and employment resources in order to understand the part-time employment market available in Canada.

According to the Government of Canada, students may work up to 20 hours per week as per the parameters of their study permit. It is advisable to refer to your study permit and course load before accepting employment opportunities.



## Medical Health Insurance

In most cases, your medical health insurance offered by your education institution will only cover the month in which you begin classes. Students can arrange with their school to extend medical health insurance to cover them before the start of classes for an additional charge. Students may also check with their school or medical health insurance provider before traveling to ensure proper coverage.



## International Food

Canada is a multicultural society with many grocery stores, restaurants and other stores that offer various food ingredients and prepared meals and can cater to specific dietary restrictions to every individual. Indian grocery stores and restaurants are readily available in most metro cities. However, it is advisable to check availability in the vicinity of your school or place of stay prior to travelling in case this is an important consideration for your lifestyle and dietary needs.



## Travel

Consider budgeting the cost of travel when planning your stay in Canada. There are multiple ways to travel including trains, bus, flights and local transit. Local transit is available in many cities, which can include trains, subways, streetcars, and busses. To rent a car in Canada, individuals must be a minimum of 25 years old and have a valid Driving License.



## Weather

Canada hosts four seasons: winter, spring, summer and fall. Newcomers must be aware of the changing weather forecasts daily, and prepare for the colder seasons with appropriate winter clothing such as snow jackets, gloves, boots and hats. Be sure to budget for winter clothing, as it is a necessity in Canada. Note that winter coats made for Canadian winters are different from winter coats made in India or a warmer climate country. It is advisable to purchase key winter items upon landing.