



INTERNATIONAL



# ARRIVE IN CANADA

## CHEAT SHEETS



# WELCOME TO DC!

We're excited to have you join us. Moving to Canada is an exciting step, but we know it can also come with a lot of questions and new experiences. This cheat sheet is designed to help make your transition smoother by providing key information, helpful tips, and important reminders as you prepare for your journey.

## PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

### Documents to keep in hand (not packed in checked luggage):

- Passport + study permit approval letter (part of entry letter of introduction)
- Letter of Acceptance (LOA) from Durham College (DC)
- Tuition payment receipt(s)
- Proof of funds & housing information
- Medical exam results (if you needed one)
- A small amount of Canadian dollars (cash)

Read [here](#) for a list of items you need to have when you arrive in Canada.

### Packing essentials:

- Warm clothing (Canada can be cold even in spring/fall)
- Universal power adapter
- Medications and prescriptions, if applicable
- Ensure your prescriptions have the contact number of the clinic and are translated in English or French if required.

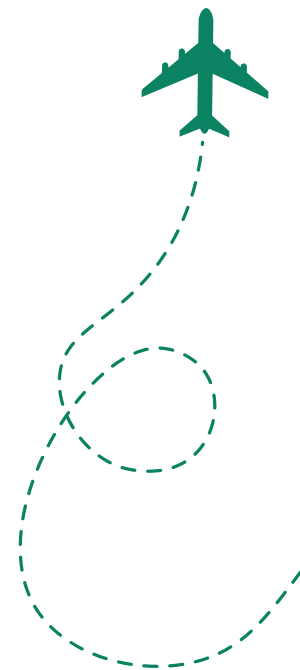
For acceptable foods and liquids when traveling to Canada, you can check [here](#) and [here](#).

### Digital prep:

- Download transportation app (i.e. PRESTO).
- Use ArriveCAN (for submitting customs declarations, among other things, to help speed up airport and landborder processing).
- Familiarize yourself with our Contact Us form and our NEW International Students Guide, found [here](#) and [here](#). Our response time via the Contact Us form is generally two business days.
- Take screenshots of important documents.

## WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE PLANE

- CBSA Declaration: You may complete the Advance CBSA Declaration through ArriveCAN, available as a mobile app or by [signing in online](#) using the CBSA website before landing.
- Flight attendants may also distribute declaration info and highlight customs guidance.



# UPON LANDING AT TORONTO PEARSON (YYZ)

Follow signs for:

- Immigration / Border Services
- Baggage Claim
- Customs

At Immigration, present the following:

- Passport
- Study permit approval letter
- LOA from DC
- Any other documents the visa office told you to bring
- Valid immigration medical exam results, if applicable
- Proof that you will leave Canada at the end of your authorized stay.

Examples include:

- An explanation of how the academic program builds on previous education and/or is required or valued in your home labour market.
- Proof that close family members (parents, spouse, children) live in your home country
- Answer questions clearly.

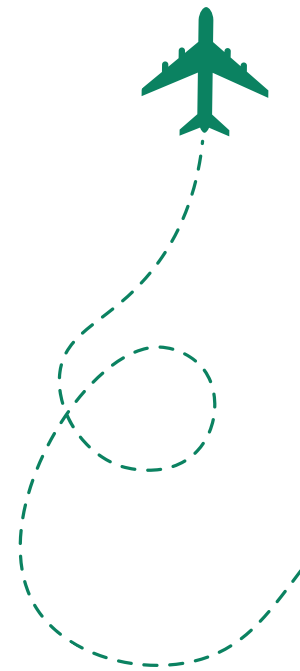
You will receive your Study Permit at the airport—check it carefully before leaving.

**Baggage & Customs:**

- After completing immigration processing, collect your checked baggage and proceed to the customs declaration area.
- If you have goods to declare, use the appropriate lane and declare all items honestly and completely.
- For details on what must be declared and items that are restricted or prohibited, review CBSA's customs declaration guidance [here](#).

**Finding Transportation:**

- All ground transportation signs are labelled "Ground Transportation," "Train to City," "Taxi/Limo," or "Shuttle."



# USEFULL HOTLINES FOR STUDENT

- [UP Express Help Line](#): 1844438-6687
- [Durham Region Transit Customer Service](#): 18662470055
- [Pearson Airport General Inquiry](#): (416) 2477678

## TRAVELLING FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE DURHAM REGION

### Option A: Train + Train (Most Reliable for Newcomers)

1. Take the UP Express from Pearson (Terminal 1) to Union Station in downtown Toronto.
  - Duration: 28 minutes
  - Trains every 15 minutes
  - Click [here](#) for the UP Express schedule.
2. From Union Station, take the Lakeshore East GO Train to Oshawa, Whitby, Ajax, or Pickering.
  - Click [here](#) for GO Train schedules.

### Option B: Taxi/Limo (Door to Door)

Several dedicated services operate directly between Pearson Airport ↔ Durham Region.

1. Airport Taxi Oshawa
  - 24/7 service, doortodoor, flight tracking, fixed booking
  - Covers all major Durham communities, including routes via Hwy 401 & Hwy 412.
  - Click [here](#) for Airport Taxi Oshawa service info.
2. Pearson Airport Transit
  - Clean, comfortable vehicles; transparent pricing
  - Click [here](#) for Pearson Airport Transit price list.

### Option C: Public Transit Buses (Budget Option)

Public transit is inexpensive but requires transfers and may take 2–3 hours.

1. Pearson Airport → GO Transit Bus or TTC bus
  - Info about TTC Express and GO buses are available via the [Pearson Airport website](#).
  - You can buy a PRESTO card or a ticket anytime from the kiosk within the airport to your exact destination.
  - You can also buy them online from [here](#).
2. Transfer to DRT (Durham Region Transit) within the region.
  - [DRT](#) offers On Demand services, PRESTO card support, and full transit maps.

