

Travel and Arrival Protocol - 2021/22

ARRIVAL DATES

- 1) Vaccinated student should arrive between Sept. 3-6, 2021 and January 29 – 31, 2022.
 - a. Proof of Vaccine –
<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#proof>
- 2) Students who are not vaccinated need to arrive between **August 24-26, 2021** and **January 15-16, 2022** to accommodate the IRCC Mandatory Quarantine process, as a result of COVID-19.

See list of Canadian approved vaccines and other arrival information [here](#). This is the link that will give you all the updated information for arrival requirements by the Canadian Government and CBSA.

<https://www.aircanada.com/ca/en/aco/home/fly/at-the-airport/airport-information/vancouver-int-airport/int-ca.html>

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WEBSITE FOR QUARANTINE AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid>

FINAL DESTINATION

Flights should be booked to **Castlegar, BC or Trail, BC**. This year's travel and arrival protocols are different than normal.

- Please take some time to review the information in this package. A student's failure to follow this protocol may result in denied entry into the country. Denied entry may result in dismissal from the program with no refund. Government authorities may also fine students for non-compliance.
- Our number one priority is the health and safety of our students, host families, schools and communities.
- We are obligated to follow the regulations and recommendations of various authorities, including the government of Canada, provincial and local public health authorities.
- If agents or families book flights to arrive in Cranbrook or Kelowna, BC, please be aware that additional transfer fees apply, as there is a 6-8 hour travel commitment to these locations. If flights land late in the day in either of these airports, there may be additional hotel costs in order that staff are able to transport students in the daylight hours.

PRE-DEPARTURE (before leaving home country)

Contacts & Communication with International Program

KLSD8 International Program Coordinator - Shannon Ellis

Kootenay.International@sd8.bc.ca

+250-505-7015 (International Program Office)

District Principal - Jann Schmidt - jann.schmidt@sd8.bc.ca

+1(250)551-4702 and WhatsApp 12505514702

Homestay Manager - Kathi Knapik - kathi.knapik@sd8.school

+1(250)505-6848 WhatsApp 12505056848

Canadian Homestay Family & Student Ambassadors - to be determined

Building Relationships

- Digital face-to-face (i.e. FaceTime, Zoom) meetings to get to know one another
- Share COVID experiences and the precautions being taken
- Exchange emails and digital contact info (i.e. WhatsApp, FaceTime, WeChat...)
- Confirm flight arrival plans
- Build relationships and trust between the families
- Respond to the WhatsApp group or text that we will send you so that we can support your travel and arrival

Household Precautions in Home Country - in an effort to reduce the risk of COVID exposure prior to leaving home

- It is recommended that students and their families limit exposure and take COVID recommend precautions in their own homes and in their own home community for the two weeks leading up to departure by limiting social contact as much as possible to their household members.
- Any attempt that students and their families can make to reduce the risk of exposure to the COVID virus is essential.
- Where possible, having student and family vaccinated with one of Canada's approve vaccines listed here.

<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada>

Medical Check / Testing - to reduce the chances of IRCC preventing the student from entering Canada:

- It is mandatory that the students get a PCR COVID-19 test within 72 hours of departure. A record of this must be brought with the student.

- Have a paper copy of Self-Isolation Plan BC
- If you are 18 years old, you are required to complete a 3 day hotel quarantine. You will be required to show CBSA your hotel reservation. As of Aug. 9th, this requirement will be lifted.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice/mandatory-hotel-stay-air-travellers/list-government-authorized-hotels-booking.html>

- Have all addresses and contact information of people supporting quarantine (if applicable).

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/arrivecan.html>

Shorten Your Arrival Time at YVR (Vancouver)

[Canada Border Services Agency](#) (CBSA) and [Vancouver International Airport \(YVR\)](#) have collaborated on a project to expedite the issuing of study permits for new international students upon arriving in Canada at YVR Vancouver airport. YVR and CBSA have developed a website called the [Voluntary Compliance Portal \(VC Portal\)](#) where incoming international students can voluntarily submit their immigration and permit information. This portal is run by YVR, and the information is then sent to CBSA in order to process and print the permits prior to the arrival of the student. This can have *significant* time savings for both the student and CBSA.

The VC Portal can be found at <https://www.yvr.ca/en/students>

In order to use the VC Portal, the following eligibility criteria must be met:

1. The **student's first entry to Canada must be at YVR airport**; they cannot connect to YVR via a domestic flight;
2. The **student must be in possession of a Letter of Introduction/pre-approved Study Permit application issued by IRCC**;
3. They must submit the information through the VC Portal a **minimum of 72 hours in advance** of their arrival at YVR.

Note that this does not exempt students from the normal assessment of admissibility to Canada by Border Services Officers and does not replace the usual procedure for seeking entry to Canada.

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAVELERS ENTERING CANADA BY AIR:

As of November 21, 2020, if you're flying to Canada as your final destination, you must use [ArriveCAN](#) to submit your:

- travel and contact information
- quarantine plan (unless exempted under conditions set out in the [mandatory isolation order](#))
- COVID-19 symptom self-assessments
- PCR Negative COVID test results

Arrival Planning

As of July 21, 2021, if you're flying to Canada as your final destination, you STILL must use ArriveCAN - download the “[ArriveCAN](#)” App (available for Iphone and Android).

to submit your:

- travel and contact information
- quarantine plan (all travelers must have a quarantine plan even if they have been fully vaccinated, in case they test positive)
- Complete the MANDATORY Self-Isolation Plan BC. Submit after you have downloaded and printed your copy (<https://travelscreening.gov.bc.ca/>).
- Download the “ArriveCAN” App (available for Iphone and Android).
- Carry a paper copy of the self-solation plan with you. You may be asked questions about it upon arrival.
- COVID-19 symptom self-assessments
- Upload your Vaccination document - must be legally translated into English or French



You **must**:

- submit your information **before** you board your flight to Canada
- be ready to show your [ArriveCAN](#) receipt when seeking entry into Canada
 - a border services officer will verify that you have submitted your information digitally

Packing

Carry-on luggage requirements: Bring these onto the plane.

Safety/sanitation - students must carry at least:

- 2 face masks

- a travel-sized bottle of hand-sanitizer - less than 100ml
- disinfecting wipes.

Documents to Bring in Carry-on to Present to Border Official (CBSA)

- Passport
- Study Permit, Approval for Study Permit letter and/or eTA (this will be recognized after Sept. 7, 2021)
- Custodianship Declaration Custodian Canada (printout from pdf)
- Copy of Custodianship Declaration Parents
- Letter of Acceptance from school - LOA
- Contact sheet for International Program staff, including 24/7 emergency phone number and Homestay Family
- Copy of *this document*, with student and parent(s) signatures
- Copy of Medical Insurance - obtain from Kootenay Lake International Program
- Letter of Consent for Travel of Minor Child (for countries that require a signed and notarized letter in order to travel alone)
- Unaccompanied minor assistance & handling waiver form - usually for the airline - not all airlines require this
- Non-discretionary / non optional education travel letter (attached and NEEDs editing)
- Quarantine Self Isolation Plan - printed out after registering with IRCC (see Fit to Fly)
- Receipt SD8 Homestay Quarantine fee (\$500) - if required
- Receipt SD Homestay, Tuition fee, health Insurance fee (about \$26.000)
- Health declaration (general statement from the doctor- no infection and OK for travel) with a negative PCR Corona Test (< 72hrs before)
- If you are 18 years old - proof of 3-day reservation at quarantine approved hotel at port of entry.
- Proof of Vaccine - <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#proof>

The list above is generic, some countries require different things for their student to travel.

Before you Arrive - What will keep you busy during quarantine? Plan to bring those items/activities with you

Checked Luggage - In addition to regular packing requirements you may wish to bring the following for your own personal use:

- 10 disposable face masks OR 5 disposable and 1 cloth face mask
- One travel size bottle of quality hand sanitizer
- Thermometer - to monitor your health

AIRPORT & FLIGHTS: BEST PRACTICES

- Always wear a mask in the airport

- Practice Social Distancing (2m) & avoid crowded areas of the airport
- Avoid unnecessary movement - go directly to your gate and stay in one place
- Avoid restaurants and food kiosks
- Wash hands frequently. Wash them right before boarding the airplane.
- Touch as few surfaces as possible. Keep your hands to yourself (and off your face)!
- Use hand sanitizer often, especially after touching anything and before eating
- Sanitize your personal space and high touch areas incl. arm rests, electronic device, laptop computer, etc.
- Minimize trips to the Washroom - flush the toilet with the seat cover down, wash hands thoroughly, use paper towel when opening doors.
- Keep your digital device charged. Sanitize it frequently if using on flight. You will need it to contact Jann Schmidt, who picks you up at Kelowna's airport. Bring some food with you, as restaurants or stores may be closed, and flights may not be serving food
- Bring a refillable water bottle with you. Empty it before going through security so that it isn't taken away.
- If you need help at the airport, go to the service desk or look for volunteers who can help you. In Vancouver, the volunteers are in green T-shirts. Don't be afraid to ask for help if needed.

ARRIVAL IN CANADA: Vancouver, Calgary or Toronto

You will be expected to practice COVID Quarantine protocols, even if you have been vaccinated, until you get the negative results from the COVID test given to you in Canada. This is an IRCC and CBSA Government requirement.

- ❑ If you are a new student who has a study permit approval letter ***PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PICK UP YOUR STUDY PERMIT BEFORE GETTING YOUR LUGGAGE.*** If you are unsure what to do, ask!
 - Proceed through immigration and baggage pick up while maintaining physical distancing (2 metres).
 - Be prepared to speak to your self-isolation plan as you will be interviewed by IRCC. Carry printouts or screenshots of your plans and documents
 - Know the name and address of your quarantine location
 - Know that a staff member or homestay will be picking you up at the airport
 - ❑ Text or Whatsapp to let them know you have arrived in Canada
 - exit the International arrival area and go to the Domestic Gate area:

Vancouver Airport Travel Directives and Screening: [COVID-19 Update](#)

For Frequently Asked Questions at Vancouver Airport:

<https://www.yvr.ca/en/coronavirus/faq>

Calgary Airport Travel Directives and Screening:

<https://www.yyc.com/en-us/travellerinfo/covid-19.aspx>

Toronto Airport Arrival:

<https://www.torontopearson.com/en/arrivals/guide>

Domestic Flight Arrival in Castlegar or Trail

- ❑ Once you have disembarked in Castlegar (or your destination), immediately text or WhatsApp your contact (sent earlier by the program) to let them know you have arrived. If you did not get this information, see the Contact section in this document.
- ❑ Put on a fresh mask and gloves. Properly dispose of previous ones.
- ❑ Retrieve your luggage and exit the baggage area.
- ❑ Wipe down your luggage handles and bag. Our team will be there to meet you with disinfectant wipes

- Don't rush. Take your time and keep plenty of space between you and others.
- Your ride will be standing outside the entrance, with a sign for Kootenay Lake School District: →



School District 8
Kootenay Lake

- If you cannot find Jann, phone or text her or one of the numbers on your Arrival Information Sheet
- Load your own luggage into the car/bus and sit as far away from the driver as possible
- Although your host family will be excited to greet you, BUT they will not be able to hug you or shake your hand. Do not take offense! If you are not quarantining with your family, you will see them virtually.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL TRAVELERS AFTER THEY ENTER CANADA

As of November 21, 2020, all travelers, whether they travel by air, land or sea, must provide information after their entry into Canada.

You must use ArriveCAN or call 1-833-641-0343 to:



- confirm that you've arrived at the address you provided for your quarantine or isolation location within 48 hours of your entry into Canada
- complete daily COVID-19 symptom self-assessments during your quarantine period

SELF-QUARANTINE (if applicable)

As part of the Government of Canada, Provincial Health Officer and IRCC's Quarantine Act, students are required to Self-Quarantine for 14 days if they are not fully vaccinated with vaccines approved by Canada and with Canadian standards for the term Fully Vaccinated. This means that you must stay in an identified space, in one residence/hotel, and practice safe contact with others. You will be provided with a comfortable room, food, clean linens every few days and wifi access for communication and online learning and emotional support (via various digital communications). Our staff or homestay families will check on you frequently and be there to support you. Options will include homestay (on first-come basis) or hotel.

- You will not be alone. There will be daily virtual or in person (distanced) meetings with International Staff, as well as host family interaction.
- We will be completing some of our orientation virtually.
- An important daily goal is to find safe ways for you to get outside and connect with others (at a distance). This will look different, depending on your setting.
- You will need to record your temperature daily.

- A student who exhibits symptoms will be taken for a diagnostic test. If you test positive for COVID-19 you will remain in quarantine and be monitored and treated (as necessary) by medical personnel. The quarantine end date will be adjusted accordingly. There will be additional costs for every day that quarantine is extended until the student recovers, as deemed by a medical professional.

QUARANTINE COSTS - if applicable

IMPORTANT - Quarantine is a government requirement and the result for our continued efforts to welcome international students into Canadian schools during a pandemic. It is our hope that all students can quarantine in homestay families, but it is the BC Ministry of Health and IRCC that approves quarantine situations. Our homestays that are approved for quarantine are limited, therefore we will determine placements based on the date of full payment of fees. Once we have exhausted our list of approved homestays, we will be assigning students to the hotel option which families will be responsible for the extra cost. See below for details of both options.

If in Homestay - \$500 14-day Quarantine fee + regular Homestay monthly fee of \$900/month. *limited space is available; on a first-come basis, based on when the Quarantine Fee and tuition is paid.*

******Due to limited availability Quarantine Homestays - the homestay family that you stay with MAY NOT be who you remain with for the school year. The Kootenay Lake International Program will facilitate the student's move at the end of quarantine, should it be necessary.******

The homestay family will provide the student with:

- a comfortable environment as specified in the “Self Quarantine” section above
- cleaning supplies, as you will be required to clean your own quarantine space

If in Hotel - Sandman Hotel - Castlegar, BC - [Sandman Hotel Castlegar](#) - for 14 days

Single room - \$1800*

Shared room - \$1450* must be approved by agents and home parents. Students **MUST** arrive together on the same day to quarantine together

This includes:

- Room
- Food
- private bathroom
- Night security
- Full time International Program staff on site for support
- Distance Education/English Language course
- Orientation activities

* if students arrive partway through a month, homestay will be prorated.

Cleaning policy in line with COVID expectations by Sandman Hotels
[Our Response to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

WHAT DOES QUARANTINE LOOK LIKE FOR NON-VACCINATED STUDENTS? - it is the responsibility of the students and families to confirm the [Canadian approved Vaccines](#) and requirements

The purpose of quarantine is to ensure that you do not spread illness, in the unlikely event that you have been in contact with COVID-19 in your travels or pre-departure. It protects your host family and community and monitors your health and well-being.

Quarantine at Homestay

Immediate Arrival at Home: Remove your travel clothes right away and place them in a plastic bag. Put on gloves and securely tie the bag and place it outside of your room. Throw the gloves away. This clothing will be stored and laundered later.

- No Cell Phone Plan yet - you will communicate with International Program staff using Wi-Fi (i.e. FaceTime, WeChat or WhatsApp applications)
- Stay in your own room as much as possible and away from others. It is VITAL that you stay isolated. You may, of course, use restroom facilities.
- If you find your room too hot or too cold, please let your homestay family know so they can provide a comfortable solution.
- Keep your room well-ventilated and clean/tidy - open the window(s) to let the air circulate.
- Confirm with the Homestay what areas of the home and yard that you can access.

Cleaning & Hygiene Expectations

- Please put all toilet paper in the toilet and flush the toilet with the lid down.
- Practice good hygiene. Wash your hands frequently with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your mouth and nose with your elbow when coughing or sneezing or use a tissue. Avoid coughing into either your hands or into the air. Dispose of used tissues right away into a trash bin and immediately wash your hands.
- Shower once per day and brush your teeth twice per day.
- **If you share a washroom with others, you MUST sanitize surfaces after every use** (toilet seat and lid, flush handle, taps, door handles, etc.)
- Use a separate towel, kept away from others. Take your towel and all your belongings (toothbrush, comb, etc.) back to your room with you on each trip to the washroom.
- Package up your garbage each day, placing in a plastic bag that you tie shut.
- In addition, you are expected to thoroughly clean the washroom every day.

- Your family will provide you with cleaning supplies and a laundry hamper lined with a plastic bag. You may be required to launder your own items. Your host family will share a schedule with you, and show you what to do, so that your bed linens, towels and clothing are washed regularly. All laundering must be done in hot water and dried in a hot dryer.

Keeping Busy

- □Keep your cell phone charged! Check and respond to emails and messages from International Program staff and other Orientation & Welcoming Committee members, including your homestay family!
- If you are new here, we will provide you with a Canadian buddy to communicate with.
- Complete online learning and orientation activities.
- Be creative. Find unique ways to communicate with and interact with your host family ... watch movies together virtually, eat dinner together virtually, play games online
- Try to spend more time communicating with your new Canadian homestay family than with your family and friends back home (Spending too much time talking with family and friends back home can make you feel more isolated and alone).

Daily Monitoring of your Health. Your physical and mental well-being is very important.

- complete the *required daily health check*.
- Contact your homestay immediately if you are not feeling well, if you notice a change to your 'baseline' health or if you are feeling sad and lonely
- Reach out to our staff any time you want to talk

Daily Meals & Snacks will be provided by your homestay.

- Please communicate with your host family about the quantity of food and any food allergies or strong preferences. We don't want to waste food or have you go hungry!
- Your host family will prepare meals and snacks for you and leave them at your door. They will knock when your food is ready.
- Leave dirty dishes and uneaten food in the container and location specified, outside of your room. Please do not keep any food waste in your room.
- Do not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups or utensils with anyone else - even if you are quarantining together. Especially not with others in the home!

If you feel overwhelmed, ask for help. These instructions and protocols might seem overwhelming, but they are in place for everyone's safety during this 14-day period.

Please remember that Self-Quarantine is a requirement of the Quarantine Act and not optional. Students who are in private homestays or with their parents must also self-quarantine for 14 days.

POST QUARANTINE BEHAVIOURS

- Quarantine is not ‘normal’ ... but when completed, it is expected you will continue to practice the recommended health and safety protocols (physical distancing and hygiene), as directed by the Provincial Health Officer.
- Stay connected to International Program staff.
- Get re-connected. After being in your room for 14 days, it may feel normal for you to be there. You and your host family will have to start to make new routines.
- Each country has developed their own COVID protocols, please ask if you are unsure how Canada is managing health protocols.

I acknowledge the importance of quarantine and will follow all Canadian national, provincial and local school district guidelines regarding Quarantine and health and safety during COVID-19.

Student - Signature

Date

Natural Parent - Signature

Date

Witness - Signature

Witness - Print Name & Title

Date