

## Before Coming to Canada: New International Student Checklist

- Receive MSVU Letter of Acceptance, ID number, email address, username and password. If you do not receive your username, password and MSVU email address, please email [helpdesk@msvu.ca](mailto:helpdesk@msvu.ca) for help.
  - Accept your offer by paying the **non-refundable** Confirmation Deposit at: [www.msvu.ca/pay](http://www.msvu.ca/pay).
    - a. If you applied for an undergraduate, diploma or certificate program, pay CAD\$500.
    - b. If you applied for a graduate program, pay CAD\$100.
  - Ensure your passport is valid for more than 6 months, otherwise renew it at once (**if it is valid for less than 6 months, you won't get a visa or study permit for Canada**).
  - Visa and Study Permit Application:  
Do you need a Study Permit? The answer is:
    - Yes, if your study is for more than 6 months ([Study Permit Application Instruction](#)).
    - No, if your study is less than 6 months.Do you need a visa, eTA or nothing?
    - please find it out here: [www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp).
  - Buy travel and medical insurance that will be valid until the Mount's health insurance plan begins in the new semester (Sep 1st for Fall Term, or Jan 1st for Winter Term).
  - When arriving in Canada and going through the customs, the CBSA officers will see the following documents:
    - 1) Your valid passport with the Canadian student visa (if needed; see above);
    - 2) Letter of Important Notice you received from the Canadian consulate. On this letter, there is your name and UCI number;
    - 3) MSVU Letter of Acceptance; and
    - 4) Your proof of financial support (such as the bank statement you used for your visa application).
- Note: Always carry the above important documents with you, as well as cash or traveler's checks if you have any. DO NOT place them in your checked luggage.**
- If you are not using MSVU airport pick-up, you can go to the Ground Transportation Office in the airport lobby to get a taxi. (the cost will be around CAD\$63: <https://halifaxstanfield.ca/transportation/taxi-limos>).
  - If you live on campus, travel to Assisi Hall and pick up your keys at the Security Office (Assisi Hall is No. 18 on the [campus map](#)). If you are living in Birches or Westwood, please ask the taxi driver to wait until you obtain your keys and then drive you to your residence so that you don't need to walk with all your luggage.
  - Settle in, take a deep breath and relax — you have made it to Mount Saint Vincent University!
  - Attend New International Student Orientation activities [www.msvu.ca/international](http://www.msvu.ca/international).
  - Continue checking [www.msvu.ca/international](http://www.msvu.ca/international) for information about studying at Mount Saint Vincent University.

# GREETINGS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CENTRE

The Mount is a small wonder with big opportunities to discover your potential, explore the cultural diversity, global engagement and many more. With our unique collection of programs, super friendly communities and some of the smallest class sizes in Canada, you're sure to find the right path for you at the Mount. We, the Mount International Education Centre, welcome you to your new home and family.

## MUST REGISTER FOR THE FOLLOWING...

You must be wondering how to start and where to start! We are here to assist you with everything. For now, you need to do the below tasks immediately:

### REGISTER FOR CLASSES

Register for classes as soon as possible but first, email [advising@msvu.ca](mailto:advising@msvu.ca) to receive advice.

You can also find your courses and register through mobile app by downloading *Ellucian Go*. Choose Mount Saint Vincent University and login by using your Mount email and password.

If you are an EXCHANGE student, email our International Student Advisor, Kay Balite at [kay.balite@msvu.ca](mailto:kay.balite@msvu.ca)

If your admission is conditional and requires you to complete an English language program at MSVU, please register for your language classes with our Manager of EAP Programs, Nicolle Bowes Cashen at [nicolle.bowes@msvu.ca](mailto:nicolle.bowes@msvu.ca)

### REGISTER FOR ORIENTATION & AIRPORT PICK-UP

The New International Student Orientation (NISO) is the most important event and it is FREE!

It starts with a FREE airport pickup service for those who register for NISO. **Airport pickup is available ONLY on Sunday, January 5, 2020.**

Winter orientation is on **Monday, January 6** from 10am-3pm. ALL new international students MUST register. [Learn more about NISO here.](#)

**NOTE: If you arrive before Sunday, January 5 you need to arrange off-campus accommodation until residence is open on January 5th.**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR NISO & AIRPORT PICKUP](#)

If you plan to live on-campus, you must pay a non-refundable deposit of \$500, which you can pay online: [www.msvu.ca/pay](http://www.msvu.ca/pay). Then, you must submit an online application: [www.msvu.ca/residence](http://www.msvu.ca/residence). [Learn more about residence.](#)

If you plan to live off-campus, you are responsible for finding your own accommodations.

[APPLY FOR RESIDENCE](#)



Seton Annex, MSVU



@mount.international



[international@msvu.ca](mailto:international@msvu.ca)



902-457-5982



[msvu.ca/international](http://msvu.ca/international)



Official: MSVU



## NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

**Winter 2020 NISO Date: Monday, January 6**

New International Student Orientation is a one day program that is designed to address the unique needs of international students. You will get a taste of global cultures, enjoy a glimpse of the campus life and find new friends from all over the world. You will get a chance to:

- Meet and make friends with other new students
- Set-up your bank account -Tuesday, January 7
- Shop for essentials
- A tour of the Mount's campus
- A Canadian cultural orientation and Mount academic orientation
- Information about Canadian immigration regulations and your health-insurance policy

For more info, check the [New International Student Orientation Page](#).

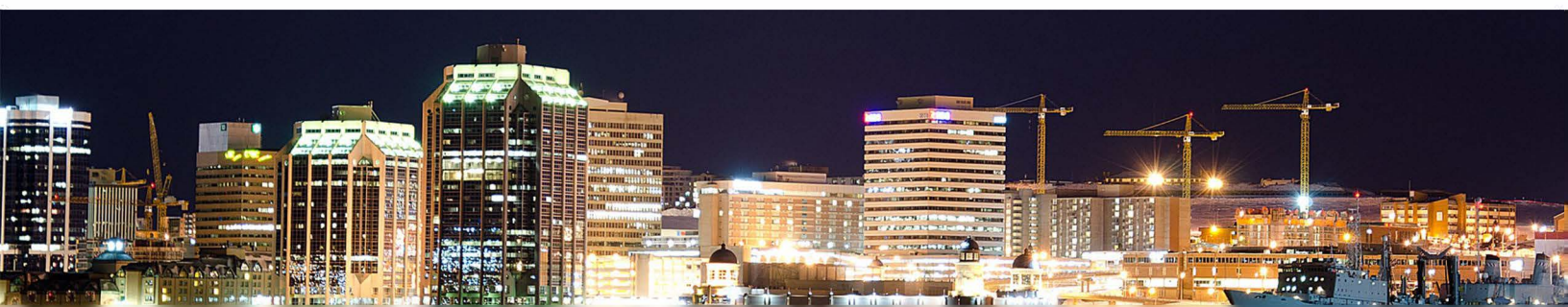


## LIFE IN RESIDENCE

For students looking to live on campus, the convenience and safety - and, of course, Wi-Fi - of the Mount's three residence buildings offer the perfect home away from home.

Apply now if you want to join the fun in the residence. [Find more about residence life](#).

**NOTE:** If you are living on campus, you can move into the residence before the NISO, but you may need to wait for your permanent room. You might have to stay in the common room/area before you are officially provided with a fixed room.



## LIVING OFF CAMPUS: HALIFAX LIFE

**Halifax** is the capital city of Nova Scotia with a population of approx. 410,000 in 2019. This city is one of the friendliest cities for the students because of the vibrant city life, cultural diversity, and affordable living opportunity.

If you plan to live off-campus, finding a location is the first thing you want to do. In a decent area, rent for one bed apartment rent is approx. CAD 700-900/m. The utilities, internet & telephone will cost you CAD 150-200/month, depending on the usage. [Search on Kijiji](#) to find available houses. Groceries will cost around CAD 150/month.

**Public transportation** is available throughout the city. If you are a full-time student, you can travel by bus for free under your U-pass (September to April).



# YOUR LIFE AT THE MOUNT

The Mount community is made up of students, faculty, staff, alumnae, friends, donors, and people and organizations within the broader region who make us part of their everyday lives. From research institutes to health and wellness services, there's something for everyone at the Mount. [Follow the official MSVU Facebook page.](#)

Not only you will be supported and encouraged at every step of your educational journey, but you can also participate in exciting programs and join like-minded, passionate students along the way. At the Mount, you will enjoy the best time of your life. For instance, check these:

Career Services

Bookstore

Academic Support

Mount Library

Health & Wellness

Financial Aid

Safe & Secure Campus

Students' Union



On top of everything, your International Education Centre is always organizing exciting events for the international students. You will have the chance for global engagement, joining international communities, and the key IEC events to get connected. Here are a few:

- International Student Society*
- World University Service of Canada*
- MSVU Students' Union*
- Multicultural Night*
- Welcome Parties & Social Events throughout the year*
- International Education & Development Work*

