WELCOME CENTRE

ORIENTATION FOR GRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
OUTLINE

- Housing + Getting Settled
- Student Card & Bus Pass
- Transportation
- Paying Tuition
- Course Registration
- Health Insurance | SOGS Health Plan
- IESC Programs and Services
- Graduate Student Orientation
- Graduate Teaching Assistants
- SIN Clinics
- Upcoming IESC Events
- On-Campus Resources
- Additional Info | Useful Apps
Looking for temporary accommodations? Click here.

Want to learn more about housing options for graduate students? Click here.

Looking for long-term off-campus accommodations?
- Off-Campus Housing Service
- Top 10 Tips and general information for international students when searching for off-campus housing

Looking to settle in your new home with internet, furniture, etc? Click here
STUDENT CARD

Your Western ONEcard is also your bus pass, Western library card, meal plan card, campus gym membership, and more!

- Upload photo online on Student Center and check “Where and When to pick up your card”
- Can’t upload a photo online? Visit Student Central (WSSB, 1st floor) to have your photo taken there and your Western ONECard produced.
- Bring an official piece of Photo ID (passport) to pick up your student card

Note: Your student card will be available for pick up 24 hours after showing your Study Permit to SGPS and 48 hours after you have uploaded your picture online.

More info here.
TRANSPORTATION

**London Transit buses** – Use your WesternONE card as a bus pass for unlimited rides every day (full-time students)
- Tap your student card when you board the bus – Sept. 1 – Aug 31
- Click [here](#) to learn more about routes and schedules

**Taxis and Uber** – [Click here](#) for more info

**Long-Distance Travel** (Train, Shuttle Buses, Greyhound, etc.) – [Click here](#) for more info

**Driving in Ontario** – [Click here](#) for more info
TUITION & FEES

Not sure how much you have to pay? Check your account balance online on Student Center.

Need information on how to pay your tuition? Click here.

Questions about fees? Email: reg-fees@uwo.ca
TUITION & FEES

Note: If your fees will be paid by an external sponsor, you must provide proof of funding before your tuition deadline.

More information on the Western Graduate Research Scholarship

More information on Graduate Teaching Assistantships

More information about Funding and Fees for Graduate Students
COURSE REGISTRATION

For assistance in enrolling in courses, contact your graduate program and/or supervisor.
HEALTH PLAN: UHIP

Use your UHIP card to see a doctor

**Mandatory** for international students and their dependents (spouse/children)

Automatically enrolled per term

Check your UWO email for an e-mail from SunLife Financial and print out your card

You must register your dependents (spouse and/or children) **within 30 days of arrival** (see UHIP handout).

To enroll dependents you must register for an Enrollment Session and bring the required documents.

More info on UHIP [here](#).
ADDITIONAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Full-time graduate students are covered under the extended healthcare plan through SOGS.

- To opt-in your family members to the SOGS Health and Dental coverage click here.

This plan covers a percentage of additional healthcare expenses such as prescription drugs, dental care, etc.

TAs may have additional extended health plan and a mental health fund coverage through the Union – PSAC 610.
IESC PROGRAMS

Start Strong
Canada Eh? TALK

International Peer Connection Program

Global Cafe

Tea & Info Sessions for Spouses & Partners of Int’l Students

English Conversation Program
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

International Student Orientation (Grad)

- January 3rd
  - 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm
  - Conron Hall, University College (UC), Room 3110
GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

- Graduate Student Orientation – Learn to Thrive in Grad School
- Department/Program Specific Orientations
- [Graduate Student Orientation Activities (SOGS)](https://www.example.com) – Jan 13 – 16
- TATP – Teaching Assistant Training
  - Jan 13, 23 and 30 (must be able to attend all 3)
IESC PROGRAMS

International Peer Connection Program (IPC)

Matches new international students with Peer Guides.

Peer Guides connect new international students to the Western community, answer questions, organize small events and provide support throughout the year.

Click here to register for this program.
IESC PROGRAMS

English Conversation Program (ECP)

This program gives you an opportunity to practice conversational English and improve your communication skills.

ECP groups meet for 2 hours once a week starting in January.

Registration will open from January 3-17
Click here for more info or email ecp@uwo.ca
IESC PROGRAMS

Tea and Information Sessions for Spouses and Partners of International Students

An opportunity for spouses and families to meet other spouses and IESC Staff, practice their English skills, and learn about Canadian culture.

Winter Hours: Fridays from 1:30pm – 2:30pm
Location: Chu Centre (2nd floor), IGAB

Click here for more info.
Global Cafe

Students from around the globe gather at this weekly event to connect, share, and have fun in a relaxed setting.

Join us every Thursday from 3 – 5 pm in the IGAB Atrium.

Coffee and snacks are provided

Join the Facebook group for more details.
IESC PROGRAMS

Academic Workshops – Graduate Students
○ Effective Writing in Canada
○ Reading Strategies for International Students

Canada, Eh?! Sessions
Join our workshops to learn more about Canadian culture.
○ Friendships and Relationships
○ Health Eating
○ Get Connected
A **Social Insurance Number** (SIN) is required for you to work in Canada.

**How to get one:**
- Go in person to a [Service Canada Centre](#) OR
- Sign up for an appointment time and visit a SIN Clinic taking place on campus:
  - January 7
  - January 9

Bring your passport, study permit (copies will not be accepted) with you to the SIN Clinic.

Once you have your SIN, provide it to your employer and enter the information on your [Student Centre](#) account.

It is free!
UPCOMING EVENTS

Meet Your Peer Guide Events (dates to be announced)

Global Cafe
January 9 at 3:00 pm at IGAB Atrium

Welcome Potluck Dinner – Jan 10

What You Need to Know to Get a Job – Jan 13

International Student Connect – Culture and Spirituality – Jan 22

iesc.uwo.ca/events

For a list of all of our events, click here (check often for updates)
ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Writing Support Centre
- Learning Development and Success
- Centre for Teaching and Learning
- Careers & Experience
- Accessible Education
- Own Your Future – develop your professional self
- Psychological Services
- Wellness Education Centre

...and more!

Check out the Student Guide and the International Student Handbook!
**ADDITIONAL INFO**

**Alert WesternU** – emergency mass notification system. All Western students are automatically subscribed. To add a phone number for text notifications.

Get your international student identity card (ISIC) [here](#).

Western is now a **SMOKE FREE Campus**
- Includes all forms of smoking, vaping and tobacco use.

Connect to the Campus Wi-Fi: Instructions [here](#).
USEFUL APPS AND LINKS

Western U App – Access your schedule, Western news, OWL, exam schedules etc.

Western Recreation App – Drop-in fitness hours, aquatics and group fitness schedules

Classfind – Locate classes on campus.

LTC apps for bus schedules (several available)
CONTACT US:

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