

# International post-secondary students

## **Is Nova Scotia allowing international students enrolled at a Nova Scotia post-secondary institution to travel to Nova Scotia?**

Yes. On November 3 2020, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada published a list of post-secondary institutions that can welcome international students. Nova Scotia institutions, such as universities and language schools, are on that list.

## **Do international students need to quarantine (self-isolate) for 14 days when they arrive?**

All international students are required to quarantine for 14 days and get tested under the federal Quarantine Act. They must spend at least 3 days in Canada in quarantine at their point of entry into the country and get a negative test result before they can travel to Nova Scotia. Once they arrive in Nova Scotia, they must complete the rest of their 14-day quarantine. Once they have completed a total of 14 days of quarantine in Canada, they can leave quarantine.

## **How will you ensure international students complete the full 14-day quarantine? Will they be provided with accommodations, meals and other supports?**

The post-secondary institutions that are receiving international students have oversight responsibility for them during their 14-day quarantine, whether on or off-campus. This includes arranging quarantine accommodations, ensuring students have suitable transportation from the airport, and providing meals and other supports during their quarantine period.

## Why are international students required to complete their mandatory 14-day quarantine in a location approved by their institutions?

As outlined in the International Student Institutional Readiness: Public Health Requirements document, Nova Scotia post-secondary institutions approved to accept international students are required to provide international students with the necessary supports and oversight during their federally mandated 14-day quarantine period including arranging or providing quarantine accommodations. In most cases, this will mean accommodation in a hotel or residence facility.

We ask all international students to contact their institution prior to making any travel plans so that they can understand what the arranged quarantine accommodations are so that students may make an informed decision on whether travel to Canada at this time is appropriate for them.

## Do international students need to get tested?

Students who enter Nova Scotia from anywhere except Prince Edward Island should get a COVID-19 test on day 6, 7 or 8 of their self-isolation. See more information about [testing for post-secondary students](#).

## Do international students have to complete any forms or paperwork before arriving in Nova Scotia?

Yes. All international students entering Nova Scotia from anywhere except PEI must complete the [Nova Scotia Safe Check-in](#) form. They must also complete a daily digital check-in during their 14-day quarantine period. Once they have completed 14 days of quarantine in Canada, they can [unsubscribe](#) from the daily check-in emails.

Also, international students will need to use the federal government's ArriveCAN app. It is mandatory for travellers entering Canada to use the app to provide their information to the Public Health Agency of Canada. People can [download the ArriveCAN app](#) or call 1-833-641-0343.

As post-secondary institutions are required to provide or arrange quarantine accommodations for international students (and co-arriving family members), student should reach out to their institution to ensure arrangements are finalized before travel. Please check with the institution as they may require additional paperwork from the student.

## **What happens if an international student begins to experience COVID-19 symptoms during their 14-day quarantine in Nova Scotia?**

International students are asked to self-monitor during their quarantine. Anyone who develops symptoms should complete the online [COVID-19 self-assessment](#) to book a COVID-19 test. Anyone who can't do the assessment online can call 811.

Post-secondary institutions that are receiving international students have plans in place to support any student who receives a positive diagnosis of COVID-19.

## **Do international students have to pay for asymptomatic testing in Nova Scotia?**

No. However, if the student requires a test for essential travel, for example, to fulfill a requirement by their home country in order to travel home, then the student would need to obtain a test from PRAXES which has a fee. Please refer to the PRAXES website for more details: <https://praxes.ca/covidtest/>.

## **Why are we allowing international students to arrive in Canada when the positive COVID-19 cases in many countries are increasing? Won't that increase the risk in Nova Scotia?**

Canada's borders are a federal responsibility. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada started allowing international students with the proper documentation and quarantine plans to enter Canada on October 20, 2020.

Nova Scotia's post-secondary institutions are working with international students to ensure they understand the federal and local public health directives when they arrive in Nova Scotia, including the 14-day quarantine period. Further, they will be monitoring and supporting international students to ensure they successfully complete their quarantine period.

Nova Scotia was very successful in welcoming over 3,500 post-secondary students from outside the Atlantic bubble this past September. Institutions will be following the same protocols to welcome international students safely back to Nova Scotia.

## **What happens if an international student does not comply with the federal mandatory quarantine?**

If students choose to break their mandatory quarantine or isolation, resulting in the death or serious bodily harm to another person, they could face a fine of up to \$1,000,000, imprisonment of up to 3 years or both.

The Contraventions Act gives police (including the RCMP, provincial and local police) more power to enforce the Quarantine Act. They can issue tickets to people who don't comply with the act or the emergency orders. Fines range from \$275 to \$1,000.

## **Why do international students need to quarantine in hotels?**

For the health and safety of both international students and Nova Scotians, post-secondary students arriving from outside Canada must self-isolate for 14 days.

To satisfy federal government expectations and to ensure international students are fully supported, post-secondary institutions have oversight responsibility for their international students during their 14-day quarantine period, whether it's on or off-campus.

Many institutions in Nova Scotia who are welcoming international students have decided to have them quarantine in hotels or in residence because it enables the institutions to better meet their oversight obligations.

We are committed to working with post-secondary institutions, communities, and student groups to ensure international students continue to feel safe and welcomed in our province.