

Camosun International Student Newsletter

Volume 34 | January 9, 2023 | WELCOME TO WINTER 2023



Greetings from Camosun International!

Greetings from Camosun International! Welcome to the start of the Winter 2023 Term. Here is some important information to help you get our new students settled to your new life in Victoria and succeed in your studies. Returning students, welcome back! We hope that you find these reminders helpful.

First Semester Checklist

- Get your [Camosun ID and bus pass](#) with the Library (they are all in one card)
- [Open a bank account](#) in Canada
- Get a SIM card (phone) & Internet
- Apply for your [BC Services Card](#) (you do not need to carry your passport with you in Canada)
- Apply for [SIN number](#) (you will need this to work)
- Apply for your [Co-op Work Permit](#) as soon as possible, if internships/practicums are a mandatory part of your program, especially for Health programs (Practical Nursing, Early Learning & Care, Health Care Assistance etc).
- Apply for [Criminal Record Check \(CRC\)](#) immediately if your program requires this (for example, Practical Nursing, Health Care Assistance, and Sport and Exercise Education programs).

- Textbooks: Make sure that you purchase your textbooks at the [Bookstore](#) early. You will need to know your course codes and section numbers (e.g. ACCT 111-001 in order to find your textbooks).
- Log into [myCamosun](#) and view “My Program” under “Student Planning”. Check your program requirements in the [Academic Calendar](#) . You can also contact your International Academic Advisor for your Personal Learning Plan during your first semester.
- How do I log into Camosun’s online courses? All courses will use D2L (Desire to Learn) as the main platform to deliver the course. D2L enables your instructors to provide you with online content, activities, group collaboration tools, and assessment options. You will be able to log into D2L 7 days before your course starts. Access to your course pages will start on the first day of class and will close 20 days after the end date of the course. Some instructors may use other tools such as Collaborate, a video-conferencing tool, that will allow you to connect in real time with your instructor and other students in your class. You will need audio and video enabled on your computer to use Collaborate.

Need help with D2L? Please check [our tutorials](#) . Sign up for [Office 365](#)

- *Have technical issues or trouble with your password?* Camosun’s Information Technology Services department is here to help! Visit our [ITS department](#) and speak with someone through the online chat.

- **MEDICAL INSURANCE:** During your studies at Camosun College and your time in Canada you must have medical insurance at all times.

- ❖ **MSP:** As soon as you arrive in British Columbia (whether coming from another country or another province), you must apply for the B.C. public health insurance, Medical Services Plan - MSP. Click here to apply online: [MSP: How to apply](#). MSP will start in the fourth calendar month after arriving in B.C. and it costs \$75 per month for international students.

Returning/Continuing Students: Please make sure you renew your MSP (for ex. when you renew your study permit) and do not let it expire. This is of utmost importance! If you have been in Victoria for a while now and still do not have MSP, please apply asap.

- ❖ **guard.me: New students must** sign up for guard.me during their first three months in B.C. unless they already have MSP coverage. [Please send us a copy of your MSP coverage confirmation so that we can opt you out of guard.me.](#) The cost is \$50/month for a very extensive coverage. The cost of guard.me is deducted from new students’ initial deposit.

Please check our website for more information: [Medical Insurance and Healthcare for International Students | Camosun College](#)

Know Deadlines & Important Dates

It is your responsibility to know the important dates and deadlines. [Important Dates & Fee Deadlines 2022/23](#). There are a variety of start and end dates for different course sections. Find your class schedule and exam dates under "Plan & Register" in [myCamosun](#). Deadlines vary depending on start and end dates, and the length of the course.

Please see table below for the different deadlines for each course length.

Credit programs Winter 2023: January to April

Length	14 weeks
Start	January 9
End	April 15
Tuition & Fee Payment Deadline <i>Non-payment of fees may result in de-registration</i>	December 12
100% Refund Deadline*	January 8
Course Add/Drop Deadline <i>Courses added after this period require School permission</i>	January 15
80% Refund Deadline* <i>Courses dropped after this date are ineligible for refund</i>	January 15
Deferred Tuition & Fee Payment Deadline <i>For courses added after Dec.12 and students on approved tuition & fee deferral Tuition & fees for registrations occurring after Jan 23 are due immediately</i>	January 23
Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty	April 15

Other lengths: If your courses don't start on the standard dates above, refer to the [list of non-standard course sections](#).

*The refund deadlines mentioned in this chart and below are for continuing students. If Winter 2023 Term is your first semester at Camosun College please refer to the [First Semester International Student Refund Procedure](#).

Dropping a Course after the Fee Refund Deadline

The deadline to drop a course with 80% fee refund is **January 15, 2023**. After the deadline, there will be no refund for courses dropped. The deadline to withdraw from a course without academic penalty for Winter 2023 is **April 15, 2023**.

Please see [How to Drop Your Courses](#) and [How to Register in Courses](#)

Waitlisted Courses

- Familiarize yourself with our [Waitlist Process](#).
- If you are on a waitlist, attend the classes (only if you are in top 5) and inform the instructor about your interest so you do not lose content. It is important to check your email daily to find out if a seat has become available for you. You will only have 24 hours to register, or the seat will be given to the next student on the list. If you are waitlisted for an online class, it's your responsibility to contact the instructor to let them know you are still interested.

- **After classes have started**, if you are still on a waitlist for your preferred course section, and there is a chance you will get in (e.g. you're in the top 5, not 40th on the list), be sure to attend the first day of class or you might be removed from the waitlist for not being there. Each instructor may handle things a little differently, so when in doubt, contact them.

How can you contact International Student Services?

We have a team of International Student Experience Advisors (ISEAs) who can assist you with general questions and help with referrals to Academic Advisors, International Counsellors, and Employment Facilitators within the college.



In-person: Come see us at the front desk:

Monday-Thursday: 9am-4pm

- Interurban campus: Liz Ashton Campus Center, CC251 (by the Bookstore)
- Lansdowne campus: Isabel Dawson, C201

Friday: 9am-4pm, Virtual services only. No in-person service. Please call us with questions.



Virtual services: Both offices will be offering virtual services only on Fridays.



Phone our office: +1-250-370-4812, Monday-Friday 9am to 11:30am and 1:30pm to 4pm

Please feel free to leave a message clearly stating your question with your full name and Camosun ID#.



You are welcome to email your question(s) to international_advisors@camosun.bc.ca.

Please include your full name and Camosun ID#.

Academic Advising

Booking Appointments (Tuesdays 9:30am to 11:30am and Thursdays 2:00pm to 4:00pm)

You can book 30-minute appointments with an Academic Advisor. Topics you can discuss in these sessions include:

- Building your own learning plan
- Academic success and support service discussions
- Graduation and completion requirements
- Program change
- Transfer credits evaluation
- Transferring to universities

Please drop by our office, phone us or email international_advisors@camosun.bc.ca if you wish to book an appointment with an advisor. Include your name and Camosun ID#, your program and the questions you have.

Drop-ins (Mondays 2:00pm to 4:00pm and Wednesdays 9:30am to 11:30am)

You can come to the office for a 15-minute drop-in. Drop-ins are for quick questions. You don't need to book appointments in advance. The first-come, first-served policy applies.

Co-operative Education and Career Services

[Co-op & Career Services](#) helps students and organizations engage in meaningful ways through a variety of work-integrated learning and career opportunities. [Contact us](#) at educationthatworks@camosun.ca | [250-370-4181](tel:250-370-4181)

Karena Daschel is our Employment Facilitator for International student. Karena can assist you learning more about how you can complete work terms (co-op for example if you are interested).

- **Lansdowne Career Lab**
Fisher 128 - 3100 Foul Bay Rd, Victoria BC V8P 5J2
- **Interurban Career Lab**
Career Lab (between Jack White & Urban Diner) - 4461 Interurban Rd, Victoria BC V9E 2C1

International Counsellors

[Counselling Services](#) provides personal, Career and Educational Counselling. Counselling appointments are confidential and are provided at no additional cost.

Phone the Camosun College Counselling Centre at **250-370-3571** (open Monday to Friday, 9:00-4:00pm), to schedule a counselling appointment with an International Student Counsellor.

Additionally, for students who need support during evenings and weekends, or who are currently outside of Canada, we encourage you to seek help by contacting [Here2Talk](#).

Keep in touch through social media!

Follow us on Instagram [@camosunintl](#), [Friends of Camosun Facebook](#) page and our [Camosun International YouTube](#) channel to see college news, events, contests, students photos and videos, testimonials and more! You can share photos and videos with us. Please tag us and add #camosunintl when sharing some of your student life!



Camosun International
international_advisors@camosun.ca | 250-370-4812
CAMOSUN COLLEGE | Victoria, BC | camosun.ca



Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.