First Steps for New International Graduate Students Studying Overseas

STEP 1: Get your WesternONE Student Card
Students will be required to show their Western ONECard to verify their identity when writing remotely proctored exams.

Upload your photo and government issued ID (passport).

If your courses are fully online and you are living outside of London: Western will mail your card sometime in September. More details to come! Make sure that your home address is up to date on your Student Center account.

Did you know that you can request to use your preferred name to be on your student card and class list?

STEP 2: Pay Your Tuition Fees
Log in to your Student Center account check your Online Tuition Account. Pay any outstanding tuition fees.

STEP 3: Check in with your Academic Department
Contact your Graduate Program Coordinator about course selection, TA duties, and program specific questions etc.

Introduce yourself to your supervisor and talk about expectations. Read Relations with Supervisors: A Guide for Graduate Students

STEP 4: Your Health Insurance Plans

University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)
- Mandatory for all international students and their family members (spouse and children) who are in Ontario.
- Check your Western email for instructions on notifying Western if you will be living outside of Ontario. Students who are in their home country due to travel restrictions are not required to have UHIP. iesc.uwo.ca/uhip

SOGS Extended Health Plan
Includes some coverage of prescription drugs, as well as basic dental care and vision coverage. sogs.ca/healthplan/

STEP 5: Update Your Address and Emergency Contacts
Log in to your Student Center account and update the following:

- Your home address
- Your emergency contacts – these can be anywhere in the world. It is recommended that you include a family member as an emergency contact.

Update your contact information on AlertWesterU to receive important safety messages in the event of a campus-wide emergency. You can add 2 additional emails and 3 text numbers.
STEP 6: Covid-19 Specific Resources
Stay up to date with Western's Covid-19 processes, procedures and resources for students:

- Information for International Students
- Covid-19 Updates for Grad Students
- Digital Student Experience
- Student Resources Hub
- Western FAQs

Other Important Things to Do

- Check your Western email account regularly. All communication from Western will be sent to that email.
- Register for and attend orientation programs and events.
- Connect with international peers on IESC’s official OWL site for new international students.
- Complete the Graduate Student Modules:
  - Academic Integrity Module
  - HR Training Modules if you will be a TA or RA
  - Student Experience Graduate Student Modules (coming soon)
  - International Student Modules
- Be aware of scams and phishing emails.
- Buy your textbooks.
- Sign up for a Peer Guide & the English Conversation Program.
- Register for upcoming IESC Workshops and Events.
- Become familiar with the various supports, services and resources available to all Western students.
- Check out the programs and services offered by SOGS (Society of Graduate Students – your student council).