



STUDENT INFORMATION GUIDE:

Travelling to PEI for the 2020 Fall Academic Semester

August 11, 2020

This guide is for all current and incoming UPEI students who are planning to travel to Prince Edward Island for the 2020 Fall Academic Semester. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions that limit travel to Canada and PEI are in place. This guide does not apply to students who are already on Prince Edward Island.

Please note it is the responsibility of students and their families to keep informed of any changes in travel and self-isolation requirements. The following guide is intended as reference only. Students are encouraged to check federal and provincial travel requirements often, as they could change without notice. Parents/guardians travelling with students must also follow all federal and provincial travel regulations.

Travelling to PEI from within Atlantic Canada

All students currently in Atlantic Canada (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Nova Scotia) who are planning to come to PEI are required to complete a [PEI Self-Declaration Travel Form](#) in advance of travel to PEI and are not required to self-isolate. Please complete this form two days in advance of travel.

Parents of students residing in Atlantic Canada do not have to self-isolate; however, they are also required to complete a [PEI Self-Declaration Travel Form](#) in advance of travel to PEI.

Travelling to PEI from other Canadian Provinces

The Province of Prince Edward Island, under the authority of the Health Protection Act, requires visitors entering Prince Edward Island from outside Atlantic Canada to self-isolate for 14 days—even if they do not have COVID-19 symptoms. Therefore, all students currently outside of Atlantic Canada, but within Canada, and including international students who have remained in Canada, are required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival on PEI.

In order to enter PEI as a student, all students travelling to PEI from outside Atlantic Canada must apply for [PEI Pre-Travel Approval](#) from the PEI Emergency Measures Organization before arriving. Students must apply for “Pre-Travel Approval for Students” by filling out the [online application](#) a minimum of 72 hours in advance of travel.

In addition, *new* domestic students (travelling to PEI from within Canada, but outside Atlantic Canada) will require confirmation from UPEI that they are required to be physically on campus for the 2020 Fall Academic Semester. You can obtain this confirmation as well as your Confirmation of Enrolment by filling out the [UPEI Request a Pre-Travel Enrolment Confirmation](#) form.

Developing your Self-Isolation Plan

- Decide when you are going to travel to PEI. You will need to agree to adhere to rigorous hygiene, cleanliness, and physical distancing practices for the entire duration of your travel, including transfers, and once on Prince Edward Island.
- Determine where you will self-isolate for 14 days so that you can fill out the [UPEI Request a Pre-Travel Enrolment Confirmation](#) form:
 - If you are a residence student, you will self-isolate in residence for 14 days. In your self-isolation plan, you will designate your self-isolation support contact as Residence Services, Tel: 902-566-0330, Email: residence@upei.ca. Students self-isolating in residence should plan to arrive on August 14, 2020 if possible.
 - If you live off-campus and can self-isolate at your housing accommodation, you will need to designate a self-isolation support contact who is currently residing on PEI (not another student who is self-isolating.)
 - If you live off-campus, but do not have a self-isolation location, or do not have a person to serve as your self-isolation contact, please let us know in the [UPEI Request a Pre-Travel Enrolment Confirmation](#) form or call us at 1-800-606-UPEI or 902-566-0318. In your self-isolation plan, indicate that you are staying at a UPEI-designated hotel. Students self-isolating in a UPEI designated hotel should plan to arrive on or after August 15, 2020. (UPEI has been working with the Province of Prince Edward Island to secure hotels to support students who need to self-isolate and do not have a location to do so. UPEI will notify you of what hotel you will stay at for your 14-day self-isolation period.)
- Make transportation arrangements to your self-isolation accommodation. Once you are self-isolating, travelling must be avoided. UPEI suggests that you pre-arrange your transportation with local taxi companies. Once you pre-book your taxi service, it is important that you save a copy of your booking and include it in your travel plan. You will be asked to show proof that you will safely reach your self-isolation destination. You might arrange alternative transferring options, as long as they meet PEI public health guidelines. *Reminder:* you will need to wear a mask while travelling to your final destination.
- For new incoming students, arrange medical health insurance to cover your stay prior to September 1, 2020. Contact admin@upeisu.ca for assistance.
- Parents in Canada can travel to PEI with students to drop them off; however, those outside Atlantic Canada require [PEI Pre-Travel Approval](#) and must self-isolate, adhering to all public health measures.

For entry into PEI

- When students arrive on Prince Edward Island, students will need to present their “PEI Pre-Travel Approval” along with government-issued identification (for example, a driver's license, health card, or passport).
- Failure to provide your identification and proof of your “PEI Pre-Travel Approval” at the PEI border may result in being denied entry into the province.

Travelling to PEI from outside of Canada

Before students make any travel plans, it is extremely important that they determine whether they are permitted to travel to Canada and to Prince Edward Island. For detailed information on who can enter Canada, visit [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Visitors, foreign workers and students](#)

International students who received their study permit approval before March 18, 2020 or US students travelling directly from the US must have an essential reason to travel to Canada. Therefore, all international students must prove that they are required to be physically on campus for the 2020 Fall Academic Semester in order to enter Canada and PEI. Students can obtain this confirmation as well as their Confirmation of Enrolment by filling out the [UPEI Request a Pre-Travel Enrolment Confirmation](#) form.

In addition to Government of Canada requirements, all international students travelling to PEI from outside Canada will require [PEI Pre-Travel Approval](#) from the PEI Emergency Measures Organization before arriving in Canada and PEI. Students must apply for “PEI Pre-Travel Approval” a minimum of 72 hours in advance of travel.

On March 25, 2020, the Government of Canada implemented a self-isolation requirement for returning international travellers under the Quarantine Act. For details, students should visit [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Travel restrictions, exemptions and advice](#) . The Province of Prince Edward Island, under the authority of the Health Protection Act, also requires visitors entering Prince Edward Island from outside Atlantic Canada to self-isolate for 14 days—even if they do not have COVID-19 symptoms. **Therefore, all international students are required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival on PEI in a UPEI-designated hotel.**

In addition to a valid study permit/visa, Confirmation of Enrolment, and proof that they have to physically be on campus for the 2020 Fall Academic Semester, all international students must develop a self-isolation plan to enter Canada and PEI.

Developing your Self-Isolation Plan

- Decide when you are going to travel to PEI. Because you are self-isolating in a UPEI-designated hotel, you should plan to arrive on or after August 15, 2020. You will need to agree to adhere to rigorous hygiene, cleanliness, and physical distancing practices for the entire duration of your travel, including transfers, and once on Prince Edward Island.

- Fill out the [UPEI Request a Pre-Travel Enrolment Confirmation](#) form and indicate that you will need to stay at a UPEI-designated hotel. (UPEI has been working with the Province of Prince Edward Island to secure hotels to support international students. UPEI will notify you of what hotel you will stay at for your 14-day self-isolation period.)
- Your [Confirmation of Enrolment](#) will also serve as proof that you are required to be physically on campus for the 2020 Fall Academic Semester for entry into Canada and PEI. If you are travelling by air, this confirmation will serve as your “travel support letter” from UPEI as the airline might ask for one.
- Make transportation arrangements to your self-isolation accommodation. Once you are self-isolating, travelling must be avoided. UPEI suggests that you pre-arrange your transportation with local taxi companies. Once you pre-book your taxi service, it is important that you save a copy of your booking and include it in your travel plan. You will be asked to show proof that you will safely reach your self-isolation destination. You might arrange alternative transferring options, as long as they meet PEI public health guidelines. *Reminder:* you will need to wear a mask while travelling to your final destination.
- For new incoming students, arrange medical health insurance to cover your stay prior to September 1, 2020. Contact admin@upeisu.ca for assistance.
- Complete the [PEI Pre-Travel Approval](#) application a minimum of 72 hours in advance of travel to Canada and PEI.

For entry into Canada and PEI

- If you are permitted to travel to Canada, download the “Arrive CAN app” (from the App Store or Google Play) in order to submit your information to the Canada Border Services Agency.
- Upon arrival at the Canadian port-of-entry, in addition to submitting your self-isolation information, you will need to present your visa/study permit, letter of introduction, “Confirmation of Enrolment” (which also confirms that your travel is essential), and your “PEI Pre-Travel Approval.”
- When students arrive on Prince Edward Island, students will need to present their “PEI Pre-Travel Approval” along with government-issued identification (for example, your passport).
- Failure to provide proper documentation, including a self-isolation plan and “PEI Pre-Travel Approval”, at the Canadian and PEI borders may result in being denied entry into the country or the province. In certain situations, government authorities may also levy fines or lay criminal charges for non-compliance.

TIMING OF TRAVEL TO PEI

For most students, UPEI’s 2020 Fall Academic Semester begins September 8, 2020, with exceptions for some programs that begin in August. Students who meet the criteria to travel to Canada and PEI, and are required to self-isolate for 14 days, should plan to arrive in PEI in time to complete the 14-day self-isolation period before classes begin.

Residence Services is requesting residence students arrive by August 14, 2020, if possible. Students self-isolating elsewhere should plan to arrive August 15, 2020 or later. Students should carefully time their arrival. If students attempt to arrive too early, their purpose of travel could be considered optional and discretionary; therefore, they may not be able to enter the

country and/or province. Students who are travelling from outside the country and are booking flights to Canada should book connecting flights directly to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island when possible.

UPEI realizes that students may be unable to arrive early and accommodations will be made if students cannot complete their self-isolation period prior to the first day of classes.

DEFINING SELF-ISOLATION

What does it mean to self-isolate? Self-isolation (or quarantining) means having no contact with others. This means all situations where students may come in contact with others, such as at social gatherings, work, events, faith-based gatherings, healthcare facilities, grocery stores, restaurants, shopping malls, etc. During the self-isolation period, students must:

- stay in their own room or apartment and/or on the building's property;
- practice physical distancing while in corridors, stairwells, elevators, other shared spaces and outdoors;
- not leave their room/accommodation unless absolutely necessary, such as to seek medical care;
- not go to school, work, other public areas or use public transportation (e.g., buses, taxis);
- arrange to have groceries and supplies dropped off at your door to minimize contact, and; and
- stay in a separate room and use a separate bathroom from others in your accommodation.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHILE SELF-ISOLATING

Staff who work for the Province of Prince Edward Island, through Operation Isolation, will contact students in self-isolation once a day to check in and do a brief health screening. Phone calls that are not returned that day may result in fines or criminal charges.

The Chief Public Health Office will arrange for COVID-19 testing of international students arriving from outside Canada at approximately day 10 of self-isolation. The 14-day self-isolation must be completed regardless of a negative test result.

If you are self-isolating in residence

Residence Life Advisors will conduct daily virtual check-ins to see how all students in self-isolation are feeling, and to support them in connecting with other students and services.

There will be no extra room charge for the 14-day self-isolation period. Meals will be prepared, at no cost to the student, by UPEI's contracted food service provider (Chartwells) and delivered three times per day on a set schedule, taking into consideration allergies, medical conditions, and food preferences.

For more details and information please reach out to Residence Services at residence@upei.ca.

If you are self-isolating at a UPEI-designated hotel

UPEI has been working with the Province of Prince Edward Island to secure hotels to support students who need to self-isolate and do not have a location to do so.

Hotel accommodation, meals, and security services will be provided at no cost to the student, but this does not include other personal items or supplies. Meals will be delivered three times per day on a set schedule, taking into consideration allergies, medical conditions, and food preferences.

As soon as the hotel(s) are confirmed, information about services and amenities will be provided to students.

UPEI staff and/or Student Ambassadors will conduct daily virtual check-ins to see how all students in self-isolation are feeling, and to support them in connecting with other students and services.

If you are self-isolating at your housing accommodation

In addition to Operation Isolation calls, UPEI staff and/or Student Ambassadors will conduct daily virtual check-ins to see how students self-isolating in their own housing accommodation are feeling, and to support them in connecting with other students and services.

FINDING PERMANENT ACCOMMODATION

Students are not allowed to leave your self-isolation accommodation for the entire time that you are self-isolating. It is therefore highly recommended that students secure your long-term housing in advance of arriving on PEI.

If students have not yet secured long-term housing once their self-isolation period is over, if they need to stay at the hotel in the short term, they should make arrangements directly with their hotel.

[Off-campus Housing](#) helps students find housing availability outside our UPEI residence and homestay options. While they cannot guarantee suitable accommodations for all students, they provide links to many rental listings and opportunities for accommodation operators to list their available properties.

The [Homestay](#) Program is a great accommodation option for international and domestic students who prefer a "family-like" living arrangement. We have a wide variety of host families registered in our program who love meeting people from around the world and sharing our beautiful island with them.

OTHER RESOURCES

We recognize how the COVID-19 situation may be stressful, especially for students travelling to PEI. UPEI has a number of supports for students through [UPEI Student Affairs](#), including personal counselling (studentserv@upei.ca), Accessibility Services (studentserv@upei.ca), and the International Student Office (irostu@upei.ca).

- [UPEI's Operational Ease-Back Plan](#)
- [Keep up to date with UPEI's response to COVID-19](#)
- [How to safely use a non-medical mask](#)

All UPEI students planning to travel to PEI must clearly understand the Government of Canada and the Government of Prince Edward Island laws and regulations, which are subject to change without notice, before making travel plans. Please consult government websites for the most up-to-date information. Failure to comply with these requirements may compromise the ability to attend and participate in UPEI programs and activities and could affect the student's ability to stay and study in Canada and PEI.

QUESTIONS? For more information, contact:

**1-800-606-UPEI (8734)
902-566-0318**