

Queen's School of Graduate Studies: Visiting Students FAQ for Internationally-arriving Visiting Research Students, Fall/Winter 2020-2021

What is a visiting research student? and are they affected by the current suspension of international travel?

A student who is registered in a graduate level program at their home university may register at Queen's for non-degree study to join a research group. Upon receipt of the requisite application which includes a letter of approval from Queen's, the recommendation of a research supervisor and the Department Head, such a student can be accepted by the SGS as a Visiting Research Student (VRS) at Queen's University for a period up to one year. These students may be assessed student activity fees but not tuition fees. They must be insured under the UHIP and cannot enroll in courses. Contact the SGS office for further information and the application documents for the VRS program.

Queen's presently has a suspension of international inbound and outbound student mobility in place for the Fall and Winter terms, 2020-2021. This suspension includes internationally-arriving visiting research students.

Will exceptions be granted?

Exceptions to the suspensions will be considered. Any exception will require the graduate supervisor to attest that the visiting student would have substantial in-person activities, including access to facilities, research obligations or meetings that require them to be physically present at Queen's. Requests for exemptions must be submitted by the Queen's supervisor. Requests can be submitted to global@queensu.ca. The supervisor would also need to provide assurance that the VRS will complete the [International Arrival Information Form](#) prior to travel, if an exemption is granted.

If an exception is granted, what protocols must be followed?

The health and safety of students, staff and faculty is the top priority for Queen's. The university is guided by the Government of Canada recommendations and Kingston Public Health.

VRS who receive approval from Queen's to travel to campus, MUST contact the university, well before departure, to discuss travel plans and quarantine requirements. Once the student arrives, and wherever the student quarantines, there will be specific and mandatory health and safety requirements to follow, including getting tested for COVID-19, disclosing test results to the university, and connecting with staff at various points during the 14-day quarantine period.

Visiting research students who have been approved to travel to Queen's for Winter 2021 term must complete the [International Arrival Information Form](#) prior to travel.

Guidelines and recommendations for travel to Queen's can be found at the Queen's University International Centre (QUIC): <https://quic.queensu.ca/arrival-to-canada/>

Note: this includes a **mandatory** 14 day Quarantine plan.

14 Day Quarantine Plan

The Government of Canada directs all international travelers to “go directly to your place of quarantine without delay and stay there for 14 days from the date of when you arrived in Canada”, except to seek medical attention. It is crucial that all individuals arriving to Canada follow these orders. Not following the [Quarantine Act](#) will result in a [fine and possible jail time](#). There is no exception to this requirement,

all individuals are required to Quarantine upon entry to Canada. For more information please refer to the [Government of Canada website](#).

Please remember that while in Quarantine students cannot have visitors.

For guidance on preparing a quarantine plan, see: <https://quic.queensu.ca/arrival-to-canada/>. Further questions or concerns, please contact an [International Student Advisor](#).

Will housing be available?

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, hotels across Kingston have created accommodation packages to meet the needs of Queen's students. Each provider offers a different package. Interested students are encouraged to investigate all the options available. Please contact the hotel directly to inquire about the Queen's student/best available rate. It may be also a good idea to ask about booking cancellation policy in case your plans change. You will be required to pay for these accommodation and food costs.

<https://quic.queensu.ca/arrival-to-canada/> see **Quarantine Temporary Accommodation**

To search for accommodation post-quarantine see: <https://quic.queensu.ca/living-in-kingston/housing/>

What are the current rates for UHIP health coverage?

For updated information on UHIP see: <https://quic.queensu.ca/uhip/>

Are there other graduate student resources to consult?

Queen's University International Centre: <https://quic.queensu.ca/>

School of Graduate Studies Covid updates: <https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/home>

Society of Graduate and Professional Students: <https://sgps.ca/>