

INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ATTENDING CNA GANDER CAMPUS

Location Guide:

Gander is located in central Newfoundland, approximately 330 kilometres from the capital city of the province, St. John's. There is an airport located in Gander, and many flights land daily from the international airport in St. John's. The campus is located on the western edge of town.

To see a Town Map:

<http://www.gandercanada.com/images/stories/pdfs/map.pdf>

Getting Here:

By Plane: Air Canada operates flights to and from Gander. The most common flights arrive in Gander from St. John's; Goose Bay, Labrador; and Halifax, Nova Scotia. It may be easier or more cost effective to fly to Halifax International Airport or St. John's International Airport and then continue on a connecting flight to Gander Airport.

<http://www.ganderairport.com>

<http://www.aircanada.ca>

By Bus: The inter-provincial bus service is called DRL Coachlines. The DRL buses run daily across the province and arrive in Gander at the airport. From St. John's, you can take a taxi to either of the two pickup locations, the Memorial University Centre or the Crossroads Motel, and then buy a ticket to Gander. Prices vary by location of departure, but a ticket on the bus from St. John's to Gander will cost \$55CDN, or \$49CDN if you can prove you are a student.

<http://www.drl-lr.com/>

By Ferry: Marine Atlantic operates two ferries from Nova Scotia to Newfoundland. Both ferries leave from North Sydney, Nova Scotia. If you land in Halifax, Nova Scotia and wish to take the ferry to Newfoundland, you can take a bus from Halifax to North Sydney and then take the ferry to Port-Aux-Basques, which is a six hour crossing. A DRL bus operates between Port-Aux-Basques and Gander. You may also land in Argentia and take a local taxi from the port to Goobies Junction, from where you can take a DRL bus to Gander.

<http://www.marine-atlantic.ca/>

<http://www.acadianbus.com/search.aspx>

By Car: If you fly or take the ferry, you have the option of renting a vehicle from one of the many services on the island. Driving from St. John's to Gander is extremely straightforward, although a map is recommended to get around the St. John's Metro Area. Take the Trans Canada Highway (TCH) route 1 330 kilometres west. Gander is located on the Highway and cannot be missed. Be sure your car rental service will allow you to drop the car off in Gander. Currently there are several rental agencies operating in Gander: Budget Rent-a-Car, Thrifty Car Rental, Avis, and National Car Rental. All of these operate at the Gander Airport.

<https://www.nationalcar.ca/>



<http://www.thrifty.com/>
<http://www.avis.com/car-rental/avisHome/home.ac>
<http://www.budget.com/budgetWeb/home/home.ex>

For information about driving in Canada using your current licence, see the transportation section below.

By Taxi: Taking a taxi from St. John's to Gander is not recommended as it will be extremely expensive. For information about taxis within the town of Gander, see the transportation section below.

Once You're Here:

When you land in Gander or arrive by bus at the airport, you can arrange to have a staff member come meet you to help orient you to the town. If you would like to take advantage of such a service, please call the campus at least 14 days in advance at +1.709.651.4800 and provide your flight or bus arrival information. Please note, if you choose to fly into St. John's International Airport, we cannot guarantee a staff member will be able to meet you.

Getting Settled:

Housing: Gander has several apartment buildings available, as well as houses, in-house apartments, and single rooms in private homes. The campus maintains a list of available housing. For the most up-to-date list, please call the campus directly at +1.709.651.4800. It can be faxed or e-mailed to you.

Housing may also be found through Gander's weekly newspaper, *The Beacon*. You can have the current housing advertisements faxed to you if you contact the campus.

Housing prices vary depending on type and quality. As of 2011, renting an entire house in Gander can cost anywhere from \$700-\$900+ a month. Renting a main floor or basement apartment in a house can cost from \$500-\$800. Renting in an apartment building can cost from \$500-\$700. Many apartments are unfurnished and you will need to purchase a bed, tables, chairs, etc. Most apartments include major appliances (ex: fridge and stove).

Renting a room in a house (bedsit) will come with various options. Some are only available 5 nights a week, and you are responsible for finding accommodation on the weekends. Some are available 7 nights per week. Cost varies but will be approximately \$90-\$150 for a 7 night rental. Some of these rentals will include meals, or one or more meals per week. The benefit of renting a bedsit is that many come furnished and you will not need to purchase furniture.

Many housing ads include "p.o.u" which means "pay own utilities". Utilities include heat, light, home phone, television, and internet access. These will cost over and above your monthly rent and prices will vary by service and provider. It may be more cost effective to find an apartment that includes one or more utilities, such as heat and light.

Gander campus does not have a student residence, so it is your responsibility to secure housing for the duration of your studies. We know that finding a place to live while in another country can be difficult, so if you would like to arrange to have a member of staff check out an apartment you have chosen to make sure it is the space you're looking for, that can be arranged. Simply call the campus at +1.709.651.4800.

Health Care: If you will be a student in Gander for more than 12 months, you are eligible for health coverage under the province's medical care program (MCP). MCP will cover the cost of doctor visits, hospital stays and surgeries, but does not cover dentistry, optometry, or prescription medications.

Alternate or additional coverage is available for extra costs. If you will be with us for less than 12 months, you must have insurance from another provider in place before registration.

<http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/mcp/index.html>

Language: The vast majority of people in Gander and the rest of Newfoundland speak English. Many people also have some basic level of French, but it is not necessarily common. CNA provides language testing through International Students Services.

Telephone Information: If you have a mobile or cell phone it may not work in Canada, or it will cost much more to operate it. There are several providers here, however most phones are sold on three year contracts, which may not be the best option for you. You can purchase a pay-as-you-go phone, or simply have a landline installed in your home or apartment.

Bell Aliant (home phone, internet, cell phones): <http://www.bellaliant.net>

Rogers (home phone, internet, cell phone not recommended): <http://www.rogers.ca>

Telus Mobility (cell phones, mobile internet): <http://www.telusmobility.com/en/NL/home/>

Within Gander and area, you need a 7-digit number to dial: ex. 651.4800.

To phone someone outside of Gander, or to phone Gander from away, you will need to dial the long distance number and area code first. The area code for Newfoundland is 709, and to dial long distance you start with 1: ex. 1.709.651.4800.

To call internationally from within Gander, you will need to include the international dialing code, which is 011, and then include the country code. To phone the UK from Gander, for example, you would need to dial 011.44.XXXX.XXXX, where X is the local number.

A list of country codes can be found here: <http://countrycode.org/>

Personal numbers can be found in the *white pages* of the telephone book. They can be searched online at <http://www.canada411.com>

Business and other commercial phone numbers are found in the *yellow pages*. Search them online at <http://www.yellowpages.ca>

Money & Banking: you should consider opening a bank account upon your arrival into the country. It is unsafe to keep large sums of money on you or in your home, and it may be more convenient to bank with a Canadian institution. There are several banks with branches in Gander which have services specifically for students:

CIBC: <http://www.cibc.com>

RBC Royal Bank of Canada: <http://www.royalbank.ca>

TD Bank: <http://www.tdcanadatrust.ca>

Scotiabank: <http://www.scotiabank.com>

BMO: <http://www.bmo.com>

To open an account, simply go to the branch and ask a teller to explain the different types of accounts available and the costs associated with each. You will need to bring your passport, your student ID or letter of admission, and proof of residency. A chequing account might be the best way to start, as it allows you to easily pay bills and rent while providing you a statement of your expenditures every month.

Currency in Canada is based on the dollar system. 100 cents (¢) = 1 dollar (\$). In Canada, we have paper dollar amounts from \$5 to \$100 and above, each coloured differently for easy identification. Some businesses will not accept \$50 or \$100 bills. Our coinage has denominations printed on it. There are 1¢ (cent), 5¢ (nickel), 10¢ (dime), and 25¢ (quarter) coins, as well as \$1 coins (loonie) and \$2 coins (toonie).

Taxes: International students may have to file a Canadian Income Tax Return. You must determine your residency status to determine how you will be taxed in Canada.

For more information on filing a Canadian tax return:
<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/nnrstdnts/ndvdlstdnts-eng.html>

Transportation & Driving: In Gander, there is no public transit system like a bus or subway. There are two taxi services in Gander and their rates are \$5 for any destination within the town limits. If you do not or will not have a car, you might like to purchase a bicycle if you prefer not to use a taxi. Gander is not overly large, but it is somewhat spread out geographically.

Busy Bee Cabs: 256.1444

Town Taxi: 256.3333

If you wish to buy a car or drive while studying in Gander, you may be exempt from having to obtain a Newfoundland driver's licence if your current licence is considered equal to Canada's Class 5 Licence. However, if your licence is not in English or French, it may be wise to apply for an International Driving Permit. You must apply for such a permit from your home country.

For more information: <http://www.gs.gov.nl.ca/drivers/index.html>

Postal Services: Canada Post is the public mail services. As of 2011, stamps for Canada cost \$0.54, stamps for the U.S. cost \$1.03 and stamps for overseas cost \$1.75, all plus tax. Stamps are available from both postal outlets in Gander, as well as from many corner stores that may be closer to you. The price of stamps generally changes every year. Canada Post offers a wide variety of postal services to meet your needs. There are also a number of private courier and shipping agencies you may choose to use.

<http://www.canadapost.ca>

Shopping & Restaurants: Gander offers a selection of stores, businesses and restaurants to meet your needs. However, if you are coming from a larger town or city, you might find some things harder to find. Be aware that specialty food items might not always be found in Gander. You can consult the yellow pages for information on what stores can be found in Gander. Currently there are three major grocery stores, Dominion, Price Chooper and Co-op. You can purchase a membership at Co-op for \$5, although you are welcome to shop there without being a member.

Newfoundland has a system of Harmonized Sales Tax, which is 13%. Most goods and services are taxed, although most food items are not. The tax is not included on the price tag. A item priced at \$10 will actually cost you \$11.30. Be aware that tax is not included in the price as it is in some other countries.

Useful & Emergency Numbers:

Gander Campus: 651.4800

Town Police: 256.4065

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP): 256.6841

Fire Emergency: 256.1111

Ambulance: 651.2111

James Paton Memorial Hospital: 651.2500

Useful websites:

CNA Admission Requirements: <http://www.cna.nl.ca/international-students/admission.asp>

CNA Application Process: <http://www.cna.nl.ca/international-students/application-process.asp>

CNA Fee information: <http://www.cna.nl.ca/international-students/fees.asp>

Studying in Canada: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/index.asp>