



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

## International Centre for Students

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Welcome to the University of Manitoba! On behalf of the University community, it gives us great pleasure to welcome you to the University of Manitoba and to the city of Winnipeg.

The transition to a new university and a new country can be both exciting and overwhelming. The International Centre for Students (ICS) is here to help you with this transition, both before and after your arrival in Winnipeg. The enclosed **Pre-Arrival Guide for International Students** contains information you will need as you prepare to come to Canada. To make the most of your first few days in Winnipeg, you will want to participate in our **Orientation Programs**. These programs, described below, are an effective and efficient way to get the information you need in a short amount of time. Many programs fill up quickly – early registration is recommended.

### ICS Winter Orientation Programs (2011)

To register for any of the ICS programs listed below, please complete the **International Student Arrival Form** and return it to the ICS office by fax (204 474-7562) or by e-mail ([ics@cc.umanitoba.ca](mailto:ics@cc.umanitoba.ca)) as soon as possible.

- **Orientation for New International Students (Friday, January 7, 2011):** Our interactive orientation is designed to introduce you to the University of Manitoba campus and to cultural differences in educational settings. You will meet the ICS staff, hear tips and strategies from experienced students, and learn about the services available to you on campus.
- **Campus Buddy Program:** The ICS can connect you with an experienced student who will write to you before you arrive and help you find your way around campus, obtain your student card, find the computer labs, and give you a student's perspective to the U of M.
- **Welcome Family Program:** Students who have not been able to make arrangements for permanent accommodation can request to be hosted by a Welcome Family for 3 to 5 days at no cost. Welcome Families meet their students at the airport, provide 3 to 5 days of free room and board, offer information about transportation, banking, etc., and assist their students in adapting to our climate, culture, and community.

Requests for Welcome Families (including complete arrival details) must be received at least 2 weeks (14 days) before you plan to arrive in Winnipeg. Requests received less than 2 weeks before an arrival date cannot be guaranteed placement.

**Welcome Family requests will be accepted until December 8, 2010. Welcome Family requests received after December 8, 2010 cannot be accommodated.**

- **ICS Newsletter:** Keep up to date on Immigration news, ICS events, rooms for rent, and much more by registering for the ICS newsletter.

Additional information about our programs can be found on-line at our web site:  
[www.umanitoba.ca/student/ics](http://www.umanitoba.ca/student/ics)

All international students are required to purchase **health insurance** coverage through the Manitoba International Students Health Insurance Plan. This insurance plan covers basic hospital and doctor's visits. Full-time students are also required to participate in the University of Manitoba Students Union (UMSU) Health and Dental Plan that provides extended health coverage as well as some dental and eye care coverage. Family rates are available for both plans. Students are encouraged to review the benefits provided by both plans before traveling to Canada and to purchase additional health insurance coverage if they feel it is necessary.

Manitoba International Students Health Insurance Plan: [www.miship.ca](http://www.miship.ca)  
University of Manitoba Students Union Health and Dental Plan: [www.umsu.ca](http://www.umsu.ca)

Students coming to the U of M through the ICS Exchange Program are automatically enrolled in the Manitoba International Students Health Insurance Plan, but are NOT automatically enrolled in the UMSU Health and Dental Plan, regardless of their full-time or part-time status. Exchange students interested in the UMSU Health and Dental Plan may opt to enroll upon arrival.

Students interested in living in a U of M **residence** should consult the Housing and Student Life web site (<http://umanitoba.ca/student/housing/>) for detailed information and application forms. The Housing and Student Life Office can be reached by phone at (204) 474-6404 or by email at [housing\\_studentlife@umanitoba.ca](mailto:housing_studentlife@umanitoba.ca). Spaces in residence fill up quickly. Early registration is highly recommended!

Visit [www.umanitoba.ca/bisoncam](http://www.umanitoba.ca/bisoncam) to get a sneak peak at campus activity through the lenses of Bisoncam, the University of Manitoba's **live web cameras**. One camera offers a view of University Centre, the centre of student life at the U of M's Fort Garry campus and home of the International Centre for Students!

We hope this information will be helpful to you as you prepare for your studies at the University of Manitoba. If you have any additional questions, please contact one of our International Student Advisors for assistance.

Angela Bohonos  
International Student Advisor

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Helen Wang  
International Student Advisor

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Soon after you arrive, please drop by the ICS office to introduce yourself, pick up your Welcome Package, and get information about upcoming events. We look forward to meeting you soon at the International Centre for Students!

Sincerely,

The Staff of the  
International Centre for Students