



Hello and welcome to the International Education Program at New Westminster Secondary School!

As a new student, it is important for you to read carefully and understand the following information on orientation, medical coverage and completion of forms.

Pre-Departure Check List

Now that you are preparing to depart for Canada, let's look at a few things that need to be completed. Please consider the following checklist:

- Have your parents complete and notarize the custodial (guardian form) for your homestay.
- Apply for your study permit from the Canadian consulate or embassy.
- Contact your host family and introduce yourself.
- Provide the International Program office and your host family your arrival information.
- Purchase optional items from the list on page two to bring to Canada.

Orientation

You are required to attend the Welcome and Orientation for new students. You will be introduced to the school, your classmates and your community. As well, you will be take the Canadian English Language and Math Test during this time. You will be advised of the Welcome and Orientation start date in your Letter of Acceptance.

Staff will be available and signs will be posted to direct you to the orientation site.

On the first day of orientation, please bring:

- Your Passport and student authorization
- B.C. Medical Care Card (if you have one)
- Latest report cards (please see Final Departure List on page two)

Medical Insurance

You must have medical insurance while they attend our school. All arrangements for both private and British Columbia Government Medical Service Plan (MSP) coverage will be completed during orientation.

If you have any questions regarding medical insurance, contact the International Education office at 604-517-6285 or iep@sd40.bc.ca .

You may also view the International Program website for more information on private insurance. www.newwestschool.com Forms and Documentation tab, School Life tab

Final Departure Check List

You are almost ready to go! Most things that you will need for school and your home in Canada can be purchased in New Westminster. However, the checklist below outlines some items and documentation that fit into “Required” and “Optional” categories that can be prepared before you leave.

Required:

- Most up to date report card from your current school. (Translated into English).
- Completed Course Selection Form (Attached).
- Prescription medication. If you use prescription medication, you should bring the name of the medication as well as the complete instructions for use.
- If you wear glasses or contacts, extra sets of both and the lens prescription.
- Documentation from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC).
- Name, address and phone numbers of your host family in Canada.

Optional:

- Clothes for Physical Education (PE) class. Students taking PE will be required to change to shorts or sweat pants, T-shirt and gym shoes.
- Laptop or personal computer. A computer is not required but students may want to have for school projects, skype and so on.
- Mobile phone. A mobile phone is not required but students and parents may want to have for keeping in touch with the host family and friends.
- School supplies such as pens, pencils, 3-ring binders, loose-leaf paper, subject dividers and pencil case. These can be purchased in New Westminster but students may want to buy at home and bring with them.
- Your favorite shampoo, toothpaste and so on. These can be purchased in New Westminster but students may want to bring their own supply at least for the beginning.
- Seasonal clothing. Students may want to bring warmer jackets and clothing for the changes in weather throughout the school year.
- Become familiar with the Canada Customs Declaration Form that you will complete electronically on arrival at Vancouver International Airport. <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/forms-formulaires/e311-eng.pdf>.

Where to Find Information

Throughout the school year, students and parents can visit the New Westminster School District International Education Web Page www.newwestschool.com for the most up to date program information. Besides news and announcements on the International Education website, students can find access to other sites for useful day-to-day information.

You can follow us on Twitter (NewWestSchool_Intl) at @NewWestSchool

Some examples are as follows:

New Westminster Secondary School: www.nwss.ca/

Translink (general information): <http://www.translink.ca/>

Translink Trip Planning <http://tripplanning.translink.ca/>

Parks & Recreation <https://www.newwestcity.ca/parks-and-recreation>

We are looking forward to your arrival here in New Westminster and into the International Program. If you have any questions before your departure, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following:

iep@sd40.bc.ca or (1) 604.517.6285

International Education Program Staff

- Karen
- Trevor
- Sara
- Yiwen
- Somi