

September 30th, 2020

Residence COVID-19 Policies

In light of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, students are expected to follow specific policies in order to ensure their own and others' safety. These rules should be followed in addition to the standard Residence policies found on VGC's website (<https://vgc.ca/policies/>).

Before Arrival:

- Anyone arriving from outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days and complete a [self-isolation plan](#).
- Depending on availability, this may be in a homestay, VGC's Student Residence, or a hotel.
- When you know the dates you want to arrive in Vancouver:
 1. Inform VGC of your estimated date of arrival.
 2. VGC will tell you if there is space in homestay or residence (Special price will be applied to the residence stay during 14 days).
 3. Once confirmed, please book your flights. If your dates change, it will affect accommodation availability. VGC will try to work with date changes within a week from the original date.

You should not use public transportation to get to the Residence or during your 2 weeks of isolation. VGC encourages all students arriving in Canada to organize their airport pick-up using VGC's airport transfer service for your own and others' safety. If you have not organized your pick-up with VGC, you will be asked to provide a detailed explanation on how you intend to get from the airport to your Residence.

Self-Isolation:

In order to ensure your own and other student's safety, you are expected to follow the below rules to successfully complete your 2 weeks' quarantine in line with BC's Provincial requirements.

- You must stay in your room for the first two weeks and take online classes. You can only leave the Residence for medically necessary appointments.
- Do not go to school, other public areas or use public transportation.
- Avoid contact with older adults or those with existing medical conditions.
- If contact cannot be avoided, keep two metres' distance, keep interactions brief and wear a non-medical mask.
- Residence Orientation materials will be sent to you via email prior to your arrival.
- Get your food and groceries delivered directly to the Residence. Do not leave the Residence to go grocery shopping. Local options for ordering food include:
 - Fresh Street Market: <https://shop.freshstmarket.com/vancouverhouse>
 - Insta Cart: <https://www.instacart.ca/grocery-delivery/bc/near-me-in-vancouver-bc>
 - Spud.ca: <https://www.spud.ca/index.cfm?login=0&goto=/index.cfm>
 - Skip the Dishes: <https://www.skipthedishes.com/>
 - Door Dash: <https://www.doordash.com/en-US>

Post-Isolation:

Even after isolation, it is important that you observe certain rules to keep safe during your stay in the residence:

Rules:

- Do not invite any other students/guests in to the Residence suites. Visitors are currently prohibited in order to ensure resident's safety.
- Practice physical distancing and keep 2 metres apart from other students in common areas.
- Observe social distancing by avoiding crowded places and maintaining 2 metres' distance with others.
- Wear a non-medical mask and avoid touching surfaces when taking public transport.
- Wash your hands thoroughly when arriving at the residence.
- All deadlines for residence cancellations and extensions remain the same. You are required to provide 4 weeks for both cancellations and extensions.
- Each student will have their own views and concerns regarding the virus so make sure you respect other students' opinions and personal space. If you feel other students are not respecting your concerns, please contact vgchomestay@vgc.ca.
- Neither VGC nor the residence will be held responsible if a student contracts the virus during your stay. Students who do catch the virus are expected to remain in the residence and quarantine for a further two weeks in accordance with BC's provincial health advice.

Hygiene

- Keep your bedroom and bathroom clean. Disinfect high contact surfaces such as door handles, taps, and kitchen appliances. Current BC laws mean that the residence staff cannot enter the residence suites to clean.
- Residence staff will provide the necessary products such as mops, disinfectant wipes, and cleaning chemicals for your use.
- Weekly checkups will be made to ensure the condition of the Residence suites is acceptable.
- Residence staff will continue providing a weekly cleaning of the hallways and elevators.
- Wash your hands regularly.
- Wash all cutlery, dishes, and cups with soap after use.
- Cover your mouth when coughing/sneezing.
- If you feel sick or show any symptoms of the virus, seek advice from HealthLink BC (dial 811) and call the VGC emergency line immediately. If you are worried about your mental wellbeing, contact VGC straight away.

It is very important that you print these policies and your Residence Arrival Document and bring them with you when you travel to Canada. Please show them to staff at the border.

Please note - VGC reserves the right to change these policies at any time in line with the BC government's updates regarding COVID-19 safety measures.