TIMELINE PLANNER · FIRST WEEK · ALL STUDENTS

Your first-week timeline

Eight setup jobs for your first days in a new city. Put each one on a day, then tick it off.



HOW TO USE IT

1. Read the eight jobs. Some need another first: you need ID for a bank, and a SIN to work.
2. Write each job's number in a day box in the window.
3. Tick the job when it's done and note anything left to do.

1 Apply for your Social Insurance Number (SIN).
You need a 9-digit SIN to work in Canada. Temporary residents' SINs start with 9 and expire with immigration documents.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

2 Open a bank account.
The bank must confirm your identity. Bring original ID, not copies.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

3 Apply for provincial health coverage.
Ontario: no waiting period for OHIP if eligible. BC: apply for MSP as soon as you arrive.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

4 Arrange private or school coverage for any gap.
BC: MSP coverage may start three months after arrival; get private insurance while you wait.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

5 Copy your key documents and store the copies apart from the originals.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

6 Get your student ID card and check your timetable and rooms.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

7 Get a local phone plan and save your campus security number.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

8 Ride your route to campus once before classes start.
Day: _____ Notes: _____ ☐ Done

YOUR WEEK

Day 1	**Day 2**
Day 3	**Day 4**
Day 5	**Day 6**
Day 7	**Later this month**

Tip: put jobs that need an office or appointment on weekdays, and the rest on the weekend.

Addresses and opening hours I need

TRY THIS

Book anything that needs an appointment on Day 1, even if the appointment itself is later in the week.

CHECK

Your name should be spelled the same on your SIN, bank account and health card application as on your passport.

WHAT THIS SHEET LEAVES OUT

Other provinces' health plans, school health plans and opt-out dates, housing move-in, and course registration. Check your province's page and your school.

WITH A PARTNER

Compare plans. Did you order jobs the same way? Agree on one thing each of you will do first.

Sources (official pages, read on 2026-11-28): [1] Service Canada, Social Insurance Number: https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin.html (checked 2026-11-28). **[2]** FCAC, Opening a bank account: https://www.canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency/services/banking/opening-bank-account.html (checked 2026-11-28). **[3]** Ontario, Apply for OHIP and get a health card: https://www.ontario.ca/page/apply-ohip-and-get-health-card (checked 2026-11-28). **[4]** BC, How to enrol in MSP: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/msp/bc-residents/eligibility-and-enrolment/how-to-enrol (checked 2026-11-28).