The DeGroote School of Business is pleased to welcome you to Canada! We have put together this handbook to provide you with an overview of some of the key questions that international MBA students have when coming to Canada. As this is just an overview, you are encouraged to visit McMaster University’s International Student Services Office (ISS) website and review their International Students Handbook*.

(*Please keep in mind that the ISS International Students Handbook has been written for McMaster’s international undergraduate student population who live in Hamilton and study on the main McMaster campus. Some suggestions or policies may not apply to you, an MBA student. If you are unsure about anything that you read in that handbook, please contact the International Student Services Office at iss@mcmaster.ca. For questions related to the Handbook for International MBA Students – 2017, please contact Danielle Rapanaro in the MBA Student Experience Office at premba@mcmaster.ca.)
Table of Contents

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME ................................................................. 6
Health Care (UHIP) .............................................................................. 7

WHAT TO PACK .................................................................................. 8
Clothing Tips and MBA Dress Code .................................................... 8
Electronic Devices and Electrical Appliances ................................... 8
Laptop Computers .............................................................................. 9
Household Items .............................................................................. 9

WHEN YOUR PLANE LANDS IN CANADA ........................................ 10
Arriving in Burlington from Pearson International Airport (Toronto) ... 10
Arriving in Hamilton from Pearson International Airport (Toronto) ..... 11
Tipping Hints ................................................................................... 11

ESTABLISHING YOURSELF IN CANADA ....................................... 12
Temporary Accommodation .............................................................. 12
Housing Information ...................................................................... 15
Banking and Financial Information .................................................. 16
Cell Phones ...................................................................................... 17
Ontario Photo Cards ...................................................................... 18
Changing Your Immigration Status in Canada ............................... 19
Other Resources ............................................................................. 19

TRANSPORTATION AND GETTING AROUND ............................. 20
Local Transportation ...................................................................... 20

SHOPPING IN HAMILTON/BURLINGTON ........................................ 22
Food & Grocery ............................................................................... 22
Housewares & Home Furnishings .................................................... 23
Pharmacy and Toiletries .................................................................. 24
Electronics Retailers ...................................................................... 24
Bookstores ...................................................................................... 25
Shopping Malls .............................................................................. 25
Shopping Districts ......................................................................... 26
FUN, DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

Dining and Restaurants.................................................................27
Tipping and Etiquette................................................................28
Entertainment & Extra-Curricular Activities..............................29

HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE

Hospitals....................................................................................30
Walk-in Clinics..............................................................................31
On-campus Health Services.......................................................31
Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000............................................32

WORKING IN CANADA

Work Permits................................................................................34
Social Insurance Number (SIN)......................................................35

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

About McMaster University.........................................................36
About Burlington, Ontario............................................................37
About Hamilton, Ontario..............................................................37
About the DeGroote School of Business.................................38
Important Phone Numbers.........................................................38
Registration Information............................................................39
Orientation Programs.................................................................39
Special Holidays.......................................................................39
Religious Services & Places of Worship.................................42
More Information.....................................................................43
Before you come to Canada, you need to make sure that you have the proper travel and study documents. The International Student Services (ISS) office’s International Students Handbook will provide you with the details on the following topics:

- Passport
- Study Permit
- Shipments and Canada Customs
Health Care (UHIP)

https://iss.mcmaster.ca/international-student-handbook/health-care.html Please familiarize yourself with Ontario’s University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP). UHIP is MANDATORY for all fully-registered international students. The plan provides doctors’ services, hospital ward accommodation, and all maternity claims even if pregnancy began before you arrived in Ontario, and limited coverage for medical care outside Ontario or Canada.

You are strongly encouraged to register for your UHIP card as soon as it is available. Your UHIP card should be carried with you at all times and must be presented at all doctor and hospital visits.

Please click here to learn more about UHIP enrollment at McMaster University.

UHIP website: www.uhip.ca

*More information on local hospitals and walk-in clinics can be found in the Hospitals and Healthcare section of this handbook.
What to Pack

Clothing Tips and MBA Dress Code

In Ontario, we experience four true seasons: summer, fall, winter and spring. The ISS website provides you with some suggestions for what types of clothes to bring with you and tips for purchasing clothing in Canada. Keep in mind that many items can be purchased once you are here. When you arrive in August, it will still be summer and the weather will be hot. Items like winter coats, boots and sweaters can take up a lot of room in your luggage so you might consider waiting to buy these things.

Please note that the MBA program has a business casual dress code. When you come to class, you are expected to dress in business casual attire. It is also suggested that you have a formal suit to wear for job interviews, presentations, networking and formal events. More details on the DeGroote MBA dress code can be found at http://cpd.degroote.mcmaster.ca/student-services/mba-dress-code/

Electronic Devices and Electrical Appliances

Before bringing electronic devices like laptop computers and printers, or electrical appliances like hair dryers and curling irons, please keep in mind that Canada operates on 110 Volts AC. Depending on your country’s voltage, you may need to buy multiple transformers or converters (to adjust the voltage of your electronic devices or electric appliances from 220 Volts to 110 Volts).
Laptop Computers

The DeGroote School of Business highly recommends all students entering the MBA program have a laptop. Use of a PC is highly recommended, however not required. If you are using a Mac, please install the required MS Office (including Excel) software.

Household Items

Do not worry about packing many household items such as dishes, pots and pans, cooking utensils, small appliances, etc. These items take up a lot of room in your luggage and add extra weight. There are plenty of stores in Canada where you can purchase these items at a very low cost. If your housing accommodation comes furnished, ask your landlord if dishes and cooking utensils are included in your rental. Some rentals might use the words “fully-equipped” to describe the kitchen. This typically means that all your basic cooking needs (dishes, cutlery, pots and pans, cooking utensils, etc.) are included. Items like towels and bed linens are not usually included in a furnished apartment or house, but are easily and affordably available for purchase nearby.

*PLEASE SEE THE “SHOPPING IN HAMILTON/ BURLINGTON” SECTION OF THIS HANDBOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHERE TO SHOP.
When booking your flight, you may want to avoid arriving on a national holiday as most offices and shops, including McMaster University, will be closed.

Most of you will be flying into the Pearson International Airport in Toronto, Ontario. Some of you may choose to spend a few days touring Toronto. However, if you are coming straight to Burlington or Hamilton from the airport, here are a few transportation options.

Arriving in Burlington from Pearson International Airport (Toronto)

- **Airways Transit** Airport Shuttle (905) 689-4460 or [www.airwaystransit.com](http://www.airwaystransit.com) – Booking 48 hours in advance is preferred. Their Door to Door service is available 7 days a week, 365 days a year, by advance reservation. Shuttles are public and make multiple passenger drop-offs. The cost is $84 for one person.

- **Taxis** – Taxis are available at all major airport arrival gates. Negotiate with your driver for a flat rate. The cost from Toronto to Burlington can range between $63-$97, excluding tip. It is best to confirm prices when speaking with the driver or representative.

- **Airport Limousine** services – there are many airport limousine services available. Cost from Toronto to Burlington $63 to $88, excluding tip. It is best to confirm prices with the driver or representative.

- **More information** on ground transportation to and from Pearson International Airport can be found at [http://www.torontopearson.com/en/toandfrom/ground/#](http://www.torontopearson.com/en/toandfrom/ground/#)
Arriving in Hamilton from Pearson International Airport (Toronto)

- **Airways Transit** Airport Shuttle (905) 689-4460/ [www.airwaystransit.com](http://www.airwaystransit.com) – Booking 48 hours in advance is preferred. Their Door to Door service is available 7 days a week, 365 days a year, by advance reservation. Shuttles are public and make multiple passenger drop-offs. The cost is $90 for one person.

- **Taxis** – Taxis are available at all major airport arrival gates. Negotiate with your driver for a flat rate. The cost from Toronto to Hamilton can range between $98 and $130, excluding tip. It is recommended to confirm prices when speaking with the driver or representative.

- **Airport Limousine** services – there are many airport limousine services available. Cost from Toronto to Hamilton can range between $100-$140, excluding tip. It is recommended to confirm with your driver or representative.

- **More information** on ground transportation to and from Pearson International Airport can be found at [http://www.torontopearson.com/en/toandfrom/ground/#](http://www.torontopearson.com/en/toandfrom/ground/#)

- **Uber** – by downloading the app, you can request a pick-up. After entering your end destination, your estimated fare will appear. You can choose to accept the quoted fare and ride.

**Tipping Hints**

Canadians often tip for the services of a taxi. Here, a 15% tip is a common amount. Please remember that while tipping is customary, it is still your personal choice as to whether or not you leave a tip. If you are unsatisfied with the service you have received, you are under no obligation to tip.
Establishing Yourself in Canada

Once you arrive in Canada, you will need to establish your housing, banking and cell phone. Perhaps you require temporary accommodation before you move into your new home. You might also consider applying for an Ontario Photo Card and Social Insurance Number (SIN) so you have Canadian government-issued identification. All of these topics are addressed in this section of the handbook.

Temporary Accommodation

It is certainly ideal to know where you will be living before arriving in Canada. However, some international students choose to arrive in Canada in advance of the Pre-MBA Program to allow themselves time to get settled and look for housing in-person. If you need temporary accommodation while you look for housing, or while you wait until your move-in date arrives, here are a few suggestions of where to stay.
McMASTER UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE – SUMMER GUEST ACCOMMODATION

During the summer months, McMaster University offers affordable temporary accommodation in the student residence buildings (student dormitories). Accommodation dates are available between May 8 and August 12, 2017. If you are planning on living in Hamilton and need convenient temporary accommodation, Summer Guest Accommodation in the university residences is an excellent and affordable option. More information can be found at http://conference.mcmaster.ca/summer_guest.php.

When booking, be sure to familiarize yourself with the room cancellation policy. You do not want to get charged for a room that you no longer need to use.

Great option if you’re:

✔ Planning to live in Hamilton and need somewhere to stay while you look for housing

Not a great option if:

✘ You need temporary accommodation beyond August 12
✘ You want to look for housing in Burlington
Establishing Yourself in Canada

HOTELS IN HAMILTON

If you are looking for the privacy, comfort, services and amenities of a traditional hotel, you might consider temporary accommodation in a Hamilton hotel close to the McMaster University campus.

- **Admiral Inn** 149 Dundurn Street North

- **Sheraton Hamilton Hotel** 116 King Street West

- **Staybridge Suites Downtown Hamilton** 20 Caroline Street South
  An all-suites hotel. Suites include fully equipped kitchens. Complimentary onsite laundry facilities are also available.

- **Visitors Inn** 649 Main Street West
  [www.visitorsinn.com](http://www.visitorsinn.com)

When booking, be sure to familiarize yourself with the hotel’s cancellation policy. You do not want to get charged for a hotel room that you no longer need to use.

**Great option if you’re:**

✔ Planning to live in Hamilton and need somewhere to stay while you look for housing
✔ Housing move-in date is sometime between August 12 and September 1

**Not a great option if:**

✘ You’re staying there during the whole Pre-MBA Program (August 23 – 31). The hotels are close to the Hamilton campus but your early-morning commute will be a bit long. You will need to take city transit from your hotel to the Hamilton campus and then take the free shuttle to the Ron Joyce Centre in Burlington.
✘ You want to look for housing in Burlington

HOTELS IN BURLINGTON

If you’re looking for the privacy, comfort, services and amenities of a traditional hotel, you might consider temporary accommodation in a Burlington hotel close to the Ron Joyce Centre.

- **Quality Hotel Burlington** 950 Walkers Line
  [www.qualityhotelburlington.com](http://www.qualityhotelburlington.com)
  Ask about their special rates for DeGroote School of Business patrons. They also offer a convenient shuttle service to the Ron Joyce Centre.

- **Admiral Inn** 3500 Billings Court

- **Comfort Inn** 3290 South Service Road

- **Motel 6** 4345 North Service Road

When booking, be sure to familiarize yourself with the hotel’s cancellation policy. You do not want to get charged for a hotel room that you no longer need to use.

**Great option if:**

✔ You are planning to live in Burlington and need somewhere to stay while you look for housing
✔ You have already found housing (in Hamilton or Burlington) and need temporary accommodation during the Pre-MBA Program (August 23 – 31).

**Not a great option if:**

✘ You want to look for housing in Hamilton – you will have to commute from Burlington to Hamilton to conduct your housing search which could be inconvenient.
Housing Information

On-campus accommodation is not available to MBA students. Therefore, we recommend that incoming students look for off-campus rental accommodations.

WHERE SHOULD I LIVE?

The majority of our international students choose to live in Hamilton near the McMaster University main campus. There are lots of housing options here and the price of rent is typically lower than in Burlington. Students who live in Hamilton use the free DeGroote shuttle service to get to and from the Ron Joyce Centre in Burlington. Living in Burlington is only feasible if you have a car since Burlington city transit buses do not yet service the Ron Joyce Centre.

HOW DO I COMMUTE TO SCHOOL?

The DeGroote School of Business provides a free shuttle bus which allows MBA students to live in Hamilton and commute to Burlington for free. The shuttle bus picks you up on the main McMaster University campus and drops you off for classes at the Ron Joyce Centre. The free DeGroote shuttle bus also picks up passengers at the Appleby GO station in Burlington which allows students to take the GO train and commute to class from neighbouring cities like Toronto, Mississauga and Oakville. Before you choose a place to live, make sure you are close enough to transit options that will allow an easy commute to class.

HOW DO I SEARCH FOR HOUSING?

McMaster University’s Off-Campus Resource Centre is a great place to start your housing search for Hamilton – http://macoffcampus.mcmaster.ca. This office can help answer questions about your lease and ensure that your legal rights as a tenant are being met. They can also answer questions about different neighbourhoods and what amenities are close by. Most of their listings are for the city of Hamilton, but select Burlington listings can be found here too.

Housing postings are listed on the McMaster Off-Campus Housing website and Facebook page.

Other Effective Housing Search Options That Students Have Used Include:

- PadMapper
- Craigslist - Hamilton-Burlington
- Kijiji Hamilton
- Kijiji (Oakville/Halton Region)
- GottaRent.com
- Your Classifieds
- View it.ca
- Homestead
- Effort Trust
- Yellow Pages – Next Home
- Chinese Student & Scholarship Association BBS
- Realtor.ca
ADDITIONAL HOUSING TIPS:

■ Video for International Students looking to live Off-Campus: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=wl9pM876Y1E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wl9pM876Y1E)

Please note: This video interviews undergraduate students and mentions that McMaster students have a Hamilton bus pass included your tuition. Unfortunately, a bus pass is **NOT** included in the MBA tuition fees. Please see the Transportation and Getting Around section of this handbook for more information. This video also refers to Frosh Week. Please note that this is an orientation event for undergraduate students. MBA students have their own orientation programs – the Pre-MBA Program for International Students (August 23 to 31) and Onboarding (September 6 to 9).

■ Are you in the co-op program? Most rentals require you to sign an 8 or 12 month lease. When looking for housing, keep in mind that you might need to move out of town for a 4 month co-op work term. Under these circumstances, most students sublet their rental to another student during their work terms.

■ McMaster’s Off-Campus Resource Centre has divided the cities of Hamilton and Burlington into zones. Zone 1 is closest to the Hamilton Campus. Zones 10 and 11 are closest to the Ron Joyce Centre in Burlington.

Banking and Financial Information

When you arrive in Canada, you will want to set up a Canadian banking account. For more information on banks in the Hamilton/Burlington area, follow the links below.

**LOCAL BANKS:**

- BMO Bank of Montreal
- TD Canada Trust
- CIBC
- HSBC
- RBC Royal Bank
- Scotiabank

**MBA TUITION FEES:**

**HOW TO PAY YOUR TUITION:**
[http://mcmaster.ca/bms/student/SAC_payment_methods.html](http://mcmaster.ca/bms/student/SAC_payment_methods.html)

**HOW TO WRITE A CHEQUE:**
Cell Phones

You will probably want to get a cell phone when you arrive in Canada. There are many service providers available, all offering different options. Cell phone plans in Canada are relatively expensive in comparison to other parts of the world. Some plans require you to sign a 2-year contract. Leaving a contract early can result in a financial penalty. Other plans allow you to pay-as-you-go or offer 1-year contracts.

Will you be making a lot of long-distance calls? Do you need a data plan? How many minutes a month do you talk on your phone? These are all things that you need to consider when choosing your cell phone provider. Most cell phone providers have storefronets or kiosks at the local shopping mall. With so much choice, you might consider visiting a Wireless Wave store or an electronics retailer like Best Buy. They offer multiple cell phone provider packages which means you have more choice. Their knowledgeable staff can advise you of various plans offered by various providers and assist you in finding the plan that works best for your needs.
Establishing Yourself in Canada

Ontario Photo Cards

Having a Canadian government-issued photo identification card is a great option for international students living in Canada. The Ontario Photo Card costs $35 and is valid for 5 years. Instead of always having to carry your passport, an Ontario photo card allows non-drivers aged 16 years and over to access government, financial or business services that require proof of identity, such as cashing a cheque, opening a new bank account, obtaining a credit card, returning merchandise to a store, and obtaining hotel accommodations. You can also use this card to show proof of legal drinking age when asked to present identification (ID) at a bar or when purchasing alcohol.
Changing Your Immigration Status in Canada

If your status in Canada changes while you are studying at McMaster University, (e.g. you become a Permanent Resident), it is important for you to register this change with the University. A change in status affects a number of things including your tuition fees.

Should a change occur, you are required to bring the original of the Final Notice, issued by CIC, to the MBA Student Experience Office so that the university can adjust your tuition fees.

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON IMMIGRATION STATUS CHANGES.

Other Resources

Citizenship and Immigration Canada has an interactive tool for newcomers to Canada that provides you with guidance and resources to help you adjust to life in Canada.

http://www.cic.gc.ca/lctvac/english/
Transportation and Getting Around

Knowing how to get around your new city is incredibly important. This section of the handbook provides you with information on city buses, the DeGroote shuttle bus, taxis and other forms of public transit.

Local Transportation

DeGROOTE SHUTTLE BUS

A FREE shuttle bus is available for students, staff and faculty traveling between the McMaster main campus in Hamilton and the Ron Joyce Centre in Burlington. The shuttle bus also makes stops at the Appleby GO Station. The schedule for the shuttle, including pick-up and drop-off locations can be found at http://rjc.degroote.mcmaster.ca/transportation/.
HAMILTON CITY BUS

Hamilton’s public transit bus service, the Hamilton Street Railway (HSR), will take you to almost any place in Hamilton. Buses display their route number and destination on the front of the bus. Bus stops are marked at the side of the road with a sign showing which bus routes stop at that location. You do not have to wave down the bus – simply step to the edge of the sidewalk at the marked bus stop and the bus will stop for you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BUS SCHEDULES, FARES, ETC., PLEASE VISIT THE HSR WEBSITE AT WWW.HAMILTON.CA/CITYSERVICES/TRANSIT.

BUS PASSES

Unfortunately, unlike other McMaster programs, MBA students do not currently receive an HSR bus pass through their McMaster University supplementary fees. However, for around $100/month, you can purchase an adult-fare monthly bus pass through the HSR company. Passes are loaded onto a reloadable electronic fare card called a PRESTO card. Monthly HSR bus passes are available for purchase in person at the HSR Ticket Office, 36 Hunter Street East, Hamilton, ON, or you can order one on-line at: www.prestocard.ca or call 1-8-PRESTO-123 (1-877-378-6123).

Purchasing single ride bus tickets and loading your Presto card can be done at the Compass Information Desk can also be bought at the Compass Information Desk, located in the McMaster University Student Centre (Hamilton campus). The Compass Information Desk is also a ticket agent for Burlington Transit, GO Transit, Megabus, Greyhound and Coach Canada.

TAXIS AND OTHER TRANSIT

- Burlington Taxi (905) 333-3333
- Blue Line Taxi (Hamilton) (905) 525-2583
- Hamilton Cab (905) 777-7777
- GO Transit Service  www.gotransit.com (to access Toronto and surrounding cities)
- Greyhound  www.greyhound.ca (coach bus service)
- Coach Canada  www.coachcanada.com (coach bus service)
- megabus  http://ca.megabus.com/ (discount coach bus service)
- Sobi Bike  This is a bike sharing system that allows users to take one-way trips via publicly accessible bikes. With over 110 bike hubs across the city, riders can pick up a bike at any hub and drop off at any hub. The approximate cost per hour is $4. For more information visit: https://hamilton.socialbicycles.com/
Shopping in Hamilton/Burlington

When you move to a new country, knowing the best places to shop will make your life a little easier. This section of the handbook will provide you with a list of some of the major retailers, stores and shopping districts to help you shop like a Canadian!

### Food & Grocery

Large grocery store chains offer an excellent selection of local and imported food products and spices. They are open 7 days a week and only close on major holidays. While most stores open at 8:00am and close by 10:00pm, some locations are open 24 hours.

- **Fortinos** — two locations within 3 km of the McMaster University main campus:
  - 50 Dundurn St. S, Hamilton, ON
  - 1579 Main St. W, Hamilton, ON
- **Food Basics** — conveniently located less than 2 km from the McMaster University main campus in Hamilton:
  - 845 King St. W, Hamilton, ON – Open 24hrs
- **Nations Fresh Foods** — located in Jackson Square in downtown Hamilton, Nations sells both fresh and prepared foods. They carry a wide variety of international cuisine, particularly for the Asian community:
  - Unit 445, 2 King St. W, Hamilton, ON
- **Walmart** — select stores, known as Walmart Supercentres, feature a grocery department:
  - 675 Upper James St, Hamilton, ON
  - 2065 Fairview St, Burlington, ON
Perhaps you prefer the joy that comes with being able to buy your food directly from the farmer, or enjoy being able to browse through a variety of specialty vendors. Farmers’ Markets are a great option. Just pay attention to their somewhat limited hours of operation.

- **Hamilton Farmers’ Market**  
  35 York Blvd, Hamilton, ON
- **Ottawa Street Farmers’ Market**  
  204 Ottawa St. N, Hamilton, ON
- **Burlington Farmers’ Market**  
  Located in the Burlington Mall parking lot off Prospect Street – see website for map location.

**Housewares & Home Furnishings**

There are many affordable places to shop for housewares and home furnishings. To help keep your costs down, try searching for furnished accommodations. If you do need to buy furniture or housewares/home accessories, here are a few stores/suggestions:

**FURNITURE**

- **IKEA** – If you’re looking to buy new furniture, bedding, kitchen wares or home accessories, IKEA is an affordable and stylish option. Do you need assistance getting your purchases home? IKEA can help arrange door-to-door delivery for a small fee.  
  - 1065 Plains Road E, Burlington, ON
- **Thrift stores/second-hand stores** – Buying your furniture at a used-furniture store can save you a lot of money.
- **Craigslist and Kijiji** – These are fantastic online resources for finding just about anything you may need. There are a variety of different categories on the sites where people post items they are looking to sell. Postings often include photos. Sometimes arrangements can be made to deliver the item, but often you will need to find a way to pick up the items you purchase.
- **Walmart** – Shop online and have your purchase delivered directly to your home.
Shopping in Hamilton/Burlington

HOUSEWARES/ACCESSORIES

- **Dollarama** – The Dollarama is a university student’s best friend. Everything costs $4 or less! Find items like kitchen dishes and utensils, clothes hangers, shower curtains, small storage containers and wastepaper baskets, party supplies, gift-wrap, seasonal decorations and canned/processed food products. If you’re looking for a good bargain, be sure to shop here when you move into your new home!
  Locations close to McMaster University main campus:
  - University Plaza – 101 Osler Drive, Dundas, ON
  - Jackson Square – 2 King St. W, Hamilton, ON
- **Walmart** – Find quality items at affordable prices. Great place for bedding, bath accessories, rugs, cookware, dishes, mirrors, lamps, small appliances, storage and organization aids, etc. You can shop in-store or online. Online orders can be delivered directly to your home.
- **HomeSense** – Offers you brand name and designer home décor and unique accessories from around the world, all for 20-60% less than you’d pay at a department or specialty store. Have fun shopping for the latest trends at bargain prices.
- **Department Stores**
  - **Hudson’s Bay** – Locations at most shopping malls
  - **Sears** – Locations at select shopping malls

Pharmacy and Toiletries

- **Shoppers Drug Mart** – A full-service retail drug store offering convenient locations. Departments include health and pharmacy, beauty and body, food and home. Most locations also feature a Canada Post postal office.
- **Rexall Pharma Plus** – A full-service large pharmacy offering extensive products, cosmetics, general merchandise, and health selections.
- **Walmart** – Has a Health and Wellness department which features a pharmacy and other health and beauty products.

Electronics Retailers

Need a new laptop, computer accessories, iPad, television, camera, video game console, or even a cell phone? **Best Buy** is a big box store specializing in electronics. **Walmart** has an electronics department and also offers the services of a pharmacy, grocery store, home décor, fashion, garden centre, and much more. If you are close to McMaster University’s main campus in Hamilton, the **Campus Store** features a computer and electronics section. In general, when shopping for a laptop or tablet, be sure to ask if a student discount rate is available.

- **Apple Store**
- **Best Buy**
- **Walmart**
- **McMaster University Campus Store**
  McMaster University main campus, Hamilton
Bookstores

Whether you need your textbooks or you’re looking for a good murder-mystery, here are some suggestions of where to shop for books:

■ Campus Store
Looking for your MBA textbooks and course materials? Students can purchase orders online or directly at the Hamilton main campus, throughout the year. If placing your order online through the website, purchases will be charged to the customer’s account and shipped to the Welcome Center/Concierge Desk at the RJC for pickup.

■ Chapters and Indigo
Canada’s largest big box bookstore chain is owned by Indigo Books and Music Inc. Store names include Chapters, Indigo, and Coles.

■ Amazon.ca
Shop online from the comfort of your home!

Shopping Malls

Indoor shopping malls offer the latest trends, department stores, major retailers, and specialty shops. Even without a car, these malls are easily accessible by public transit:

■ Lime Ridge Mall – Located on the Hamilton Mountain, Lime Ridge is Hamilton’s largest indoor shopping centre and is accessible by bus.

■ Jackson Square – Located downtown Hamilton at the intersection of James St. North and King St. West, Jackson Square is a mixture of business offices and underground and above-ground shopping, offering a variety of convenient retailers, food courts, a movie theatre, public services and office space. The Hamilton Central Library, the FirstOntario Centre, the Sheraton Hotel, Nation’s Fresh Foods, the indoor Hamilton Farmer’s Market and McMaster University’s Centre for Continuing Education are also part of this city block which sits between Bay St. North, King St. West, James St. North and York Blvd.

■ Mapleview Centre – Located in south Burlington, Mapleview is a premier destination for fashion shoppers with more than 165 exceptional retailers. The Route 1, 1X and 101 Burlington city bus provides direct public transportation from downtown Hamilton to the Mapleview Centre.

■ Burlington Mall – Located in south Burlington, only a 10 minute drive from the Ron Joyce Centre, the Burlington Mall is a smaller-scale indoor mall with a good selection of affordable retailers.

■ Toronto Eaton Centre – The Eaton Centre is downtown Toronto’s largest shopping mall with over 230 stores, restaurants and services.
Shopping Districts

Looking for independently owned shops and boutiques? A hair salon? Restaurants? Specialty stores? Or how about a great place to walk around on a beautiful day? Check out some of these great streets and neighbourhoods that offer a unique blend of shopping, dining and entertainment:

- **Westdale Village**
  Located in West Hamilton, the McMaster University main campus is in the heart of the neighbourhood known as Westdale Village. Westdale offers many conveniences for students including a variety of shops, services, hair salons, banks, restaurants, pubs, an old-fashioned movie theatre, and so much more.

- **Locke Street**
  Located just west of downtown Hamilton in the Kirkendall neighbourhood, Locke Street South features eclectic shops and boutiques for fashion, gifts and home décor, restaurants, cafes, spas, salons, studios, medical and financial services, and more.

- **James Street North**
  Located in the Downtown Hamilton core, James St. North and the surrounding area offers some of the city’s coolest restaurants, interesting boutiques, independent art galleries, salons, and entertainment venues.

- **Ottawa Street**
  Located in East Hamilton, Ottawa Street is known for its antique and home décor shops, fabric stores, specialty shops and farmers’ market.

- **Downtown Burlington (Brant Street)**
  Located in south Burlington, the downtown core sits on the picturesque shores of Lake Ontario. Featuring shops, boutiques, restaurants, bars, a performing arts centre, a waterfront park, City Hall, salons, services, and so much more. Downtown Burlington is a great place to live and play!
Yes, you are here to pursue your MBA. But everyone needs to get out and have a little fun! You are living in a new city, with a new culture and so much to explore. Here are a few suggestions on how to make the most of your free time.

Dining and Restaurants

WHERE TO EAT ON CAMPUS (BURLINGTON)

- **RJC Café** – The main café area on the ground floor of the building serves breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks throughout the day. Multiple food options including pastries, salads, soup, sandwiches, pizza, hot entrees, coffee and tea are available at the Café.

- Coffee machines are available on the main floor, vending machines and microwaves are available on the first and second floor, and refrigerators are available in the second floor student lounge.
Fun, Dining and Entertainment

WHERE TO EAT OFF-CAMPUS (BURLINGTON)

- **Bombay Grill** (905) 681-1227
  3480 Fairview Street

- **Boston Pizza** (905) 631-0311
  3120 South Service Road

- **Jack Astor’s** (905) 333-0066
  3140 South Service Road

- **McDonald’s** (905) 632-3876
  686 Appleby Line

- **Squires Public House** (905) 333-6627
  3537 Fairview Street

WHERE TO EAT OFF-CAMPUS (HAMILTON)

- **August 8** (905) 524-3838
  1 Wilson Street, Unit 12

- **The Bean Bar** (Westdale) (905) 524-2326
  1012 King Street West

- **Boston Pizza** (905) 777-1919
  1563 Main Street West

- **Gate of India** (905) 528-5548
  201 James Street North

- **Mandarin** (905) 383-6000
  1508 Upper James Street

- **The Snooty Fox** (Westdale) (905) 546-0000
  1011 King Street West

Tipping and Etiquette

Tipping for service in Canada is a common practice. Tipping is expected in restaurants and bars, especially if you are pleased with the service provided. Here, tips range from 15-20%. Canadians also might tip for services at hotels, salons/spas, and taxis. Here, a 10% tip is a common amount. Please remember that while tipping is customary, it is still your personal choice as to whether or not you leave a tip. If you are unsatisfied with the service you have received, you are under no obligation to tip.

Trip Advisor, a travel review website, has an excellent article that outlines tipping and etiquette practices in Canada. Click on the web link to read the article: [www.tripadvisor.ca/Travel-g153339-s606/Canada:Tipping.And.Etiquette.html](http://www.tripadvisor.ca/Travel-g153339-s606/Canada:Tipping.And.Etiquette.html)
Entertainment & Extra-Curricular Activities

■ Get Involved at DeGroote! – When you are new to a country, one of the best ways to meet people and build a Canadian network is by getting involved. At the DeGroote School of Business there are many student clubs and associations in which you can participate. If you hear about a social event that the MBA Association is planning, find out more and try your best to attend. This is a great way to get to know your peers and build friendships in a fun and casual setting.

■ McMaster Adventure Recreation Clubs – McMaster Adventure Recreation Clubs are a collaborative of three unique Athletics and Recreation clubs; The Outdoor Club, The Climbing Club, and The WhiteWater Club. The Adventure Recreation Clubs strive to promote healthy active living in the outdoors and through adventurous endeavors. Their events and trips cater to all skill levels from beginners to advanced, and to all interests from those looking to climb to those looking to hike.

■ City of Hamilton – There’s always something going on in Hamilton. Whether it’s the monthly Art Crawl on James St. North or a neighbourhood street festival, check out these city websites to find out what’s going on in “the Hammer”! [www.tourismhamilton.com](http://www.tourismhamilton.com/) [www.hamilton.ca/attractions](http://www.hamilton.ca/attractions)

■ City of Burlington – Experience the beautiful City of Burlington! Whether it’s the Rib Festival on Labour Day weekend or the Sound of Music Festival at Spencer Smith Park, Burlington has a lot to offer. [http://tourismburlington.com/](http://tourismburlington.com/) [www.burlington.ca](http://www.burlington.ca)

■ View Magazine - Looking for something to do on the weekend? Check out the View Magazine, a free weekly publication that acts as your arts, entertainment, and dining guide to what’s hot and happening in Hamilton/Burlington/Niagara.

■ Movie Theatres – Love going to the movies? Check out Cinema Clock for local movie times and theatre locations.

■ James Street North Art Crawl – If you love art and music, check out the James Street North Art Crawl, which occurs on the second Friday of every month. Thousands of people walk the streets, visiting the numerous galleries, shops and restaurants. The majority of galleries are on James Street North in Hamilton between Murray Street and King William Street. Admission is free and most galleries are open until 11:00pm. [www.jamesstreetnorth.ca/blog/](http://www.jamesstreetnorth.ca/blog/)

■ Core Entertainment – An entertainment powerhouse bringing the best concerts, sporting events and theatre to the city of Hamilton. Check out their website to see who’s coming to town! [www.coreentertainment.ca/](http://www.coreentertainment.ca/)

■ Ontario Travel – Get out and explore the province of Ontario! Find out what this beautiful province has to offer. [www.ontariotravel.net](http://www.ontariotravel.net)
Getting the proper healthcare depends on your specific needs. Do you have a health emergency or just a sore throat? This section of the handbook will address the different types of healthcare and health services available to you.

Remember to always carry your UHIP card with you. You need to present this card when you visit any hospital or clinic.

Hospitals

Hamilton, Ontario has become an epicentre for healthcare, research and health sciences. In the event of a healthcare emergency, there are many hospitals in the local area.

HAMILTON HOSPITALS

- **Hamilton Health Sciences**
  Hamilton Health Sciences is a family of six hospitals and six specialized healthcare facilities serving more than 2.3 million residents of Hamilton and south central Ontario.

- **St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton**
  St. Joseph’s Healthcare’s Charlton Campus (known as “St. Joe’s” to local residents) is a 750-plus bed acute care hospital located at 50 Charlton Avenue East in Hamilton, Ontario.

- **Main Street West Urgent Care Centre**
  The Urgent Care Centre serves as an alternative between the doctor’s office and an Emergency Department (ED) as an option when someone is not sick enough to visit an ED but can’t wait for an appointment with their doctor. The Urgent Care Centre is located very close to the McMaster University main campus (Hamilton).
BURLINGTON HOSPITALS

- **Joseph Brant Hospital**
  For the past 50 years, Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital has provided the greater Burlington community with a wide range of inpatient, outpatient and outreach services.

- **Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital**
  This brand new, 1.6 million square foot hospital opened in 2015, serving the Halton region (Burlington, Oakville, Milton and Halton Hills). Its services range from emergency care to mental health, diabetes care and dialysis.

On-campus Health Services

COUNSELLING SERVICES

- Private and confidential counselling services are available by appointment at the Ron Joyce Centre for MBA students. Personal appointments with social worker Melanie Walker can be booked by emailing Melanie directly at info@melaniewalker.ca. Melanie is available to provide counselling over the phone, in person and through email. Workshops on stress management, time management, and working in groups are also run throughout the term.

Walk-in Clinics

At a walk-in or after-hours clinic you can see an experienced nurse or doctor, often without an appointment. They offer convenient access to advice, assessment and treatment for minor illnesses and injuries such as cuts, bruises, minor infections, sprains and skin complaints. Services vary by location but typically offer diagnosis and treatment, prescriptions, and referrals. (Source: [http://www.ontario.ca/page/walk-clinics](http://www.ontario.ca/page/walk-clinics))

Unfortunately, MBA students do not have access to the Student Wellness Centre on the McMaster University Hamilton campus and must instead visit a local off-campus walk-in clinic for traditional doctors’ services.
HAMILTON WALK-IN CLINICS

- Dundurn Medical Centre
  Located close to McMaster University’s main campus and easily accessible by public transit. Open every day of the year except Christmas Day (December 25th), the clinic offers a variety of services including an on-site pharmacy.

- Locke Street Walk-in Medical Clinic
  Close to three pharmacies, two major hospitals, and is located on the Hamilton downtown bus route. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

BURLINGTON WALK-IN CLINICS

- Halton Family Health Centre
  HFHC is a regional health care centre located on the Southeast corner of Walkers Line and Dundas in North Burlington. Their facility is designed to meet your urgent, primary and specialized healthcare needs through:
  - A walk-in clinic
  - Family medical, dental, naturopathic and specialist practices
  - On-site services: pharmacy, natural dispensary, laboratory, and X-Ray

- Burlington Walk-in Clinic
  The Burlington Walk-In Clinic operates as a walk-in clinic and a family practice that includes an on-site pharmacy.

In Case of Emergency:
Call 911

Dialing 911 from any phone will put you in touch with local emergency services (fire, ambulance, and police).

Telehealth Ontario:
1-866-797-0000

Telehealth Ontario is a free, confidential telephone service you can call to get health advice or general health information from a Registered Nurse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

That means quick, easy access to a qualified health professional, who can assess your symptoms and help you decide your best first step. They can help you decide whether to care for yourself, make an appointment with your doctor, go to a clinic, contact a community service or go to a hospital emergency room.
As an international student who studies or has studied in Canada, you may seek employment in Canada in 3 situations:

1. **On-Campus Employment**
2. **Off-Campus Employment**
   - Co-ops and Internships
   - Working Off-Campus
3. **Post-Graduation Work Permit**

To legally work in Canada, you need to apply for the proper documentation. For more information, call Citizenship and Immigration Canada’s Help Centre: 1-888-242 2100. To speak with an agent, call between 8am to 4pm (local time).
Working in Canada

Work Permits

Provided below is some basic information on work permits. The International Student Services website also has some good, comprehensive information about this topic.

WHAT IS A WORK PERMIT?

The Work Permits program is administered by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and issues work permits to eligible foreign students who wish to work temporarily in Canada. The program also issues work permits to the spouses and common-law partners of work permit and study permit holders in Canada, which enable them to work during their spouse’s or partner’s term of employment or studies.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A WORK PERMIT?

You may require a work permit. The application form and work permit application process is available online through CIC. There is typically a processing fee of $155 for work permit applications. http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/work.asp

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU CAN CONTACT CIC AT 1-888-242-2100 OR TTY: 1-888-576-8502

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

For either off-campus or on-campus employment you will need to apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN). The International Student Services website also has some good, comprehensive information about this topic.
WHAT IS A SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER (SIN)?

The Social Insurance Number (SIN) is a nine-digit number that you need to work in Canada. It is mandatory that all non-Canadians provide their SIN number at the time of employment. Job offers cannot be processed without a SIN number. All employees are required by Service Canada to present their SIN to their employer within 3 days of starting work.

Please note that SINs are valid for the duration of the Work Permit. You will receive a temporary SIN that begins with the number “9”.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A SIN?

Applications for SINs are administered through Service Canada. The fastest way to obtain a SIN is to apply for one in person at a Service Canada Centre. For more information on how to apply for a SIN, please visit the Service Canada website. For information on the required documentation you must present, please go to http://www.service-canada.gc.ca/eng/sin/apply/proof.shtml.

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY SIN?

As mentioned before, the fastest way to obtain a SIN is to apply for one in person at a Service Canada Centre. If everything is in order, you will get your SIN during your visit.

IF YOU APPLIED BY MAIL, YOU SHOULD RECEIVE YOUR CONFIRMATION OF SIN LETTER IN THE MAIL WITHIN 20 BUSINESS DAYS FROM THE DATE THE APPLICATION IS RECEIVED.
About McMaster University

- Established in 1887 in Toronto, Ontario, the University moved to its current Hamilton location in 1930.

- Consistently ranked as one of the country’s most innovative educational institutions, McMaster University fosters a culture of exploration and discovery. Students are encouraged to look at their education and world in new and different ways.

- McMaster has pioneered a number of programs that have changed how professors teach and students learn. Problem-based-learning (PBL), developed at McMaster, has now spread across North America as a preferred method of instructing students.

- 2012 marked the 125th Anniversary of McMaster University.

- McMaster University has 24,473 full-time undergraduate students, 3,514 full-time graduate students, and more than 182,000 alumni in 134 countries.

- The university has 985 full-time instructional faculty (excluding clinical educators), 93 per cent of which hold a PhD or MD.

- One of only four Canadian universities ranked among the top 100 in the world (Shanghai Jiaotong University Academic Ranking of World Universities, August 2016).
About Burlington, Ontario

- Situated on the shores of Lake Ontario and conveniently located within 40 minutes of Toronto and an hour of Niagara Falls, Ontario, the City of Burlington is recognized as one of Canada’s most dynamic cities.

- Burlington is a diverse, energetic and innovative community with a well-educated, highly skilled workforce that attracts the best in business from across Canada and around the world.


- In 2016, MoneySense magazine named Burlington as the second best city in which to live in Canada.

About Hamilton, Ontario

- Hamilton is the fourth largest city in Ontario, the ninth largest in Canada.

- Located along the western shores of Lake Ontario, Hamilton is 50 minutes from Toronto and an hour from the Canada/U.S. border in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

- As home to a world-class university, a leading Canadian college and the six-site hospital system known as Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton is quickly becoming recognized as a leading educational and health care community.

- Hamilton’s economic sectors of focus include: advanced manufacturing, agriculture/food processing, creative industries, clean-technology, Hamilton innovation, life sciences and transportation/goods movement.

- The Real Estate Investment Network of Canada (REIN) has ranked Hamilton as the second best place in Ontario to make a real estate investment.
About the DeGroote School of Business

- 2012 marked many anniversaries for the DeGroote School of Business:
  - 50th anniversary of the MBA Program
  - 25th anniversary of Canadian entrepreneur Michael G. DeGroote’s landmark gift to McMaster for the business school
  - 20th anniversary of the DeGroote School of Business (renaming of the business school to “The DeGroote School of Business” and grand opening of the DeGroote building in Hamilton)

- There are approximately 530 students enrolled in the MBA program – 22% of those students are international

- AACSB accredited. Fewer than 5% of business schools worldwide have earned AACSB accreditation, the highest standard in management education.

- Proponent of experiential learning – focus on giving students hands-on experience

- As a pioneer in the creation of the co-op MBA model of learning, the DeGroote School of Business is the premier co-op MBA school in Canada. We also offer full-time and part-time MBA options that meet the complex needs and learning styles of the leaders of tomorrow.

Important Phone Numbers

- McMaster switchboard (905) 525-9140
  - Student Experience – Academic: ext. 20511
  - Student Experience – Career: ext. 27759
  - Campus Store: ext. 20566
  - Innis Library: ext. 22081
  - Housing Information: ext. 24086
    (macoffcampus.mcmaster.ca)

- Emergency: Police/Ambulance/Fire
dial 911 from any phone at no charge
Registration Information

Registration for September 2017 courses is done online and begins the week of July 26, 2017. Detailed information regarding registration is sent to all incoming students via email in mid-July.

YOU CAN FIND THE "REGISTRATION GUIDE" ON THE DEGROOTE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS WEBSITE AT HTTP://MBASTUDENT.DEGROOTE.MCMASTER.CA/REGISTRATION/

Orientation Programs

- **Pre-MBA Program**
  for International Students:
  August 23 to 31, 2017

- **Onboarding Week**
  for all newly admitted students:
  September 5 to 8, 2017

Special Holidays

Holidays and special occasions are important to Canadians. Many holidays have a rich history with yearly traditions and activities. The following chart is meant to be used as a quick reference tool. Clicking on the name of the holiday will direct you to online resources where you can learn more about the history of the holiday, common traditions, and what businesses are open/closed on that day. As some of these holidays are only “observed”, meaning they are celebrated but businesses, schools, government offices, etc. remain open, we have also included a column which lets you know if McMaster University will be open or closed on that day.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>Is McMaster University Closed?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Years Day</td>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>The official beginning of the new calendar year. After the parties on New Year’s Eve, many Canadians are happy to have New Years Day off. Most businesses and government offices are closed.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valentine’s Day</td>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>A day for romantics and couples in love. Couples exchange flowers, chocolates, gifts and cards. Symbols include hearts, red roses, and the colours pink and red. Valentine’s Day is an observed holiday.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Day</td>
<td>the third Monday in February</td>
<td>Family Day is a time for families to spend some quality time together. For more information on Family Day, click <a href="#">here</a>.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term recess “Reading Week”</td>
<td>one week in mid-February (Please see the MBA Academic Calendar for dates)</td>
<td>Around the middle of the winter term, classes at Ontario universities take a one week recess. Students may use this time to catch up on reading, assignments, or study for upcoming tests. Some students use this opportunity for leisure and/or travel.</td>
<td>No – classes are not in session but the administrative offices at the University are open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day “St. Patty’s Day”</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Rooted in Christianity, St. Patrick’s Day is now typically a day to celebrate Irish culture. Many people celebrate at pubs and drink green beer, wear green clothing, and revel in all things (often stereotypically) Irish. You don’t have to be Irish to celebrate this observed holiday!</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring Equinox</td>
<td>Religious Christian holiday celebrating the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Non-religious celebrations focus on the new beginnings of spring and the figure of the Easter Bunny who brings chocolate eggs to children. For more information on the history of Easter, click <a href="#">here</a>.</td>
<td>Yes – McMaster is closed on “Good Friday”, the Friday preceding Easter Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Day   “May two-four Weekend”</td>
<td>the Monday before May 25</td>
<td>This holiday honours Queen Victoria’s birthday. Firework celebrations are a common occurrence. This is also the weekend that many Canadians choose to open their cottages and swimming pools for the summer season.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Day</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>The celebration of Canada’s birthday! Traditional celebrations include fireworks displays in the evening.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Holiday  “August Long Weekend”</td>
<td>the first Monday in August</td>
<td>One of the busiest weekends in the summer for travel.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Day</td>
<td>the first Monday in September</td>
<td>Typically considered to be the last weekend of summer before school begins. Many Canadian families savour these last few days of summer vacation before going back to school.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>the second Monday in October</td>
<td>Canadians get together with family and friends to celebrate all they have to be thankful for. Turkey is traditionally served for dinner.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>Is McMaster University Closed?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Halloween</strong></td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>The history of Halloween can be traced back hundreds of years to both pagan and Christian roots. Modern day celebrations include dressing up in costumes, “trick-or-treating”, carving pumpkins, and adorning one’s home with spooky decorations.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Remembrance Day</strong></td>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Canadians take time to remember the soldiers past and present who have fought for the freedom of our country. Popular symbols of this day include a red poppy flower worn on the lapel of your jacket.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas Eve</strong></td>
<td>December 24</td>
<td>The night before Christmas. While many Christians will attend church services, this is also a popular day for shoppers who are trying to buy a last minute gift!</td>
<td>Sometimes – it depends on where Christmas Eve falls in the week each year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas Day</strong></td>
<td>December 25</td>
<td>Religious Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Both Christians and non-Christians celebrate Christmas as a time to spend with family and exchange gifts. Christmas has many religious and non-religious symbols including nativity scenes, Santa Claus, Christmas trees, twinkling lights and presents.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boxing Day</strong></td>
<td>December 26</td>
<td>A popular day for shopping! Now that Christmas is over, all of the major retailers put their stock on sale.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McMaster Christmas break</td>
<td>Typically the week between Christmas Day and New Years Day</td>
<td>McMaster University closes every year for a week over Christmas.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Years Eve</strong></td>
<td>December 31</td>
<td>Canadians celebrate the end of the calendar year and the beginning of the new year by getting together with friends/family. When midnight strikes, people typically have a champagne toast and cheer, “Happy New Year!” Most businesses remain open on New Year’s Eve.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on holidays in Canada, please visit any one of these websites:

- [http://gocanada.about.com/od/canadatravelplanner/a/canada_holidays.htm](http://gocanada.about.com/od/canadatravelplanner/a/canada_holidays.htm)
- A good reference for what is open and what is closed on Canadian holidays.
Other Important Information

Religious Services & Places of Worship

PAUL AND SALLY BATES INTERFAITH CENTRE

The Paul & Sally Bates Interfaith Centre is located on the second floor of the Ron Joyce Centre (RJC-265). It is a space for meditation, prayer or quiet reflection.

The room is open to all students, faculty and staff. A sign outside the door will show when the room is “available” and “occupied.” People who wish to use the room may enter when it is in use but are asked to do so quietly. An area for storage of personal items is available in the cabinet in the seating area adjacent to the Interfaith Centre.

RELIGIOUS CLUBS ON CAMPUS

If you want to connect with other McMaster students who share your faith, consider joining one of the McMaster University religious clubs. Please click here for the clubs directory.

PLACES OF WORSHIP IN HAMILTON

Are you looking to attend services at a local place of worship? Listed below are places of worship located within close proximity to McMaster University’s main campus:

- **Adas Israel Synagogue** 905-528-0039
  125 Cline St.
- **Binkley United Church** 905-529-0740
  1570 Main St. W.
- **Canadian Martyrs Catholic Church** 905-528-4632
  38 Emerson St.
- **Diocese of Hamilton** 905-528-7988
  700 King St. W.
- **First Unitarian Church** 905-527-8441
  170 Dundurn St. S.
- **Grace Lutheran Church** 905-527-0877
  1107 Main St. W
- **Hamilton Buddhist Temple** 905-549-4816
  45 Hempstead Dr.
- **Hamilton Downtown Mosque** 905-527-7371
  221 York Boulevard
- **Hindu Samaj Temple** 905-921-0661
  6297 Twenty Road
- **LIFT Church** 905-531-5438
  1280 (TwelveEighty) Bar in the McMaster Student Centre
- **Muslim Association of Hamilton** 905-383-1526
  1545 Stonechurch Rd. E.
- **Sikh Society of Hamilton** 905-561-2806
  86 Covington St.
- **Westdale United Church** 905-528-4215
  99 North Oval
More Information

Visit the International Student Services (ISS) website at https://iss.mcmaster.ca/ to check out their International Students Handbook https://iss.mcmaster.ca/international-student-handbook.html. Here you will find further information regarding your stay in Canada.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ALSO CONTACT DANIELLE RAPANARO AT premba@mcmaster.ca. DANIELLE IS A DEGROOTE MBA RECRUITING AND ADMISSIONS ADMINISTRATOR AND HELPS COORDINATE THE PRE-MBA PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.