



International Student
CONNECT



Étudiants Internationaux
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TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Many communities in Ontario have a public transportation system. You can buy individual fares, but it is often cheaper and easier to buy monthly passes or fares in bulk. Some systems have special rates for students and seniors.

Bus and/or subway schedules vary depending on your community so check for availability during the week and on the weekends. There may be the occasional service disruption or road construction, but alternative transportation is often provided where necessary. Look for information about local transit on campus. To learn more about public transportation in your area visit the Ministry of Transportation at www.mto.gov.on.ca or findlink.at/transit.

Taxis or Cabs – You can call a taxi dispatch or use a smartphone app to arrange a taxi. In some cities, you can wave a taxi down in the street. In Ontario, there are meters in all licensed taxis and the driver's information is posted; these things should be clearly visible. You can ask the driver for an approximate cost before you get in. Look for a local taxi service in the Yellow Pages, or visit www.yellowpages.ca.

CYCLING

Many Ontarians ride bicycles for recreation or as a means of transportation to and from work or school. Some communities have designated cycling lanes for commuters and recreational cycling paths. As a cyclist, you must obey all traffic laws. Cyclists under 18 years of age must wear a bike helmet.

To learn more about cycling and safety, call ServiceOntario at 1-800-267-8097 or visit the Ministry of Transportation at www.mto.gov.on.ca.

DRIVING

You may use a driver's license from your home country for the first 60 days that you are in Ontario. If you want to drive after 60 days, you must have an Ontario license. To get an Ontario driver's license, you will need to present identification documents. You should also bring your driver's license and proof of your driving experience from your home country when you apply for your Ontario license. You may need to take a vision test and pass a knowledge test. In some cases, you may need to take a road test.

For more information on obtaining an Ontario driver's license, visit www.drivetest.ca or findlink.at/driverinfo.

To find out which documents you will need, visit www.drivetest.ca or findlink.at/licensing.

Learn about the rules of the road in Ontario at www.mto.gov.on.ca or findlink.at/drivetest.

Insurance – Every car owner must have insurance. Ontario has a no-fault insurance plan. If you are injured or your car is damaged in an accident, you file claims with your own insurance company, not the other driver's company.

Learn about no-fault insurance at the Insurance Bureau of Canada: www.ibc.ca or findlink.at/nofault.

Find insurance brokers and companies in the Yellow Pages or at www.yellowpages.ca.



OTHER TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Car and Truck Rentals - You can rent cars and small trucks for the day, a weekend or longer through private rental companies. Read the contract carefully. Look for a rental company online. Note that rental terms are different for those people who are under 25 years of age.

Car Share - In larger cities, you can join a car sharing service that allows you to rent a car for short periods of time and pay by the hour. These services have convenient pick-up and drop-off locations. Look for car sharing companies online.

Carpooling - Carpooling is when you share a drive with another person and this can be a low-cost environmentally friendly way of getting around. Commuters often carpool for inter-city travel. Contact your student association to find out whether carpooling is available at your educational institution.

Trains and Intercity Buses - VIA Rail Canada is the most widely used rail service in Ontario. There are also a few intercity bus companies that offer economical travel options within Ontario and to other provinces. For more information on transportation services in Ontario, visit findlink.at/OnTransp.

IMPORTANT NOTE

- Carry your driver's license for identification.
- Always have your insurance and ownership papers in the vehicle.
- Never drink and drive.
- Don't phone or text while driving.
- Always wear your seatbelt
- A special license is required for trucks and motorcycles