

# COVID-19 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM FUTURE AND NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Last updated July 20, 2020

Where can I find information about MHC's response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

You can find information on MHC's response here:

<https://www.mhc.ab.ca/AboutMHC/CampusSafety/COVID-19>

Can I start my fall term online?

Many programs are available to start online for fall term. Others will be offered in a blended format and will require attendance on campus. You have received by email a table showing the delivery format for the 2020 fall semester of each program. The definitions for the terms can be found at our COVID-19 Fall 2020 landing page available here: <https://www.mhc.ab.ca/ProgramsandCourses/Academic-Programs/Fall-2020-Delivery>

This page will also give useful information regarding technology requirements and other questions you may have. Specific program information is also available on the Medicine Hat College website on each program page. Find your program page here – if your program page does not have a FALL 2020 UPDATE section yet, it will very soon. <https://www.mhc.ab.ca/ProgramsandCourses/Academic-Programs/Programs-of-Study?fltProgramsTabs=fltPrograms-azIndex>

Will all programs be offered online?

No. Many programs will be offered online but other programs will be offered in a blended format with both online and face-to-face components. You have received by email a table showing the delivery format for the 2020 fall semester of each program. The definitions for the terms can be found at our COVID-19 Fall 2020 landing page available here:

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If I start my program online for the fall 2020 term, will there be any effect on PGWP?

IRCC has recently updated PGWP regulations to allow for online study (for students with study permits) to begin a program where it is not possible to travel to Canada. Please see the detailed update from

IRCC here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/visitors-foreign-workers-students.html>

If I am not able to travel to campus in Fall 2020 or to begin my classes online, what are my options? How do I make these requests?

If you have paid a deposit, you may defer your deposit to the next upcoming term of intake. A new application, however, will be required to confirm interest and continued admissibility. Our business and EAP programs have a winter intake, but for most programs, the next available term will be fall 2021. You may also request a refund of the \$1500 deposit minus \$100. Refund and deferral requests should be made to Lulu Guan, [lguan@mhc.ab.ca](mailto:lguan@mhc.ab.ca).

Will there be any reduction/discount in tuition fees?

Tuition fees will not change for the fall semester of 2020. We know that the experience will be different than what you had expected, but faculty and staff are here for you to support your experience and help you achieve your educational goals. Please watch your email and check the landing pages listed above for more information on what the educational experience at MHC will look like for fall semester 2020.

If I do not secure a study permit by the August 15 study permit deadline, will I get an extension or can I defer to the next term?

While our study permit deadline is August 15, for programs that will be offered online and have seat availability, extension requests will be considered.

Your deposit can be deferred to an upcoming semester if you inform the College prior to the August 15 deadline that the study permit has been denied or delayed. You will need to pay the application fee and reapply for the next term. Please note that, apart from our business program and EAP, most programs only have a fall intake, so you will need to wait until the next fall to reapply in most cases.

What is the Fall 2020 application deadline?

The application deadline was June 15.

What technology will I need to enrol in online courses at MHC?

To be successful, students enrolling in Medicine Hat College in Fall 2020 will need:

- **Computer access** with the following operating system: Windows 10 or Mac 10.1.2 (or later). Smartphones would hinder the learning experience and are therefore not recommended.
- **Internet access.** An Ethernet connection is recommended over wireless access, with a basic internet connection of 10 mbps
- Students will require a **webcam and microphone.**
  - Students do not need accounts to attend live and/or recorded lectures through Blackboard Collaborate. Chrome is the recommended browser.

- All students can download Office 365 for free at:  
<https://www.mhc.ab.ca/Services/TechnologyAndSupport/Office365>

Some programs may have additional requirements. Please watch your email for program-specific information and more information on preparing for online study with MHC.

## What supports will be available to me for online learning? What College supports and services will be available in general?

MHC is committed to supporting students in their study, whether online, face-to-face, or blended. We continue to offer a full range of services to support you in your study and other areas, including access to a writing specialist, academic advisors, counsellors, and technology support, as well as supports specific to your needs as an international student, such as immigration advising and cultural supports. For students outside of Canada, these will be available using alternative methods, such as phone and online advising. You can see a full list of services for MHC students here:

<https://www.mhc.ab.ca/Services>.

## Can I come to study in Canada?

We welcome you to join us in Medicine Hat once you are permitted to and safely able to travel here. It will be important for you to be aware of travel restrictions and follow all College, provincial and federal health regulations and guidelines. You will need to reach out to us before making plans to travel to Canada and keep us informed of your travel plans so we may support you in understanding these regulations.

<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notices/221>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html>

## Can I apply for Winter 2021 or Fall 2021 now?

Unfortunately, no. We will begin accepting applications for winter 2021 in October and fall 2021 in November.

## Would you accept Duolingo or IELTS indicator scores instead of TOEFL/IELTS? What would an acceptable score for admission?

Yes, we accept both of those assessments. Duolingo scores of 105 are required to meet general ELP (IELTS 6.0) and 120 for advanced ELP requirements (IELTS 7.0).

## I have more questions. How should I ask them?

Please email [inted@mhc.ab.ca](mailto:inted@mhc.ab.ca) or [info@mhc.ab.ca](mailto:info@mhc.ab.ca) with any questions you have. We are very happy to help you.