

# Wisdom from Brock International Students & Alumni

*A tip sheet by international students for international students.*



## Housing

- ➔ **Consider both on- and off-campus housing.**

### Off Campus

When choosing off-campus housing, ensure it is close to bus routes for easy access to school, and near grocery stores for convenience.

### On Campus

Choosing on-campus residence, especially as a first-year student, can ease your transition, simplify housing, and help you acclimate to the area and make friends quickly.

- ➔ **Summer could be the best time for a house search.** Make sure you see the house before making a payment.
- ➔ **Avoid housing scams.** [Familiarize yourself with housing laws](#) in Ontario before signing a lease.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT HOUSING](#) →



## Stay on Track

- ➔ **Plan ahead.** Plan housing and [immigration applications](#) early (as soon as you get your acceptance letter!). Deadlines approach sooner than you think.
- ➔ **Check the school website and student e-mail more often** instead of only listening to others.
- ➔ **Create a daily timetable and try to stick to it.** Discipline is extremely necessary.
- ➔ **Don't take on more than you can bear.** Remember you are here for your studies first before anything else.
- ➔ **Remember all the lessons your family and supporters instilled in you.** For many, university is the first time being responsible for yourself. If you are struggling, there are resources on campus to assist.



## Building a Network

- ➔ **Don't be shy of meeting new people and talking to them.** Try to meet many different people than you. Work on self-improvement and go out with people.
  - ➔ **Join campus activities and clubs.** Participating in extracurricular activities and clubs can help you build a network of friends/potential coworkers. It can also build your resume, gain experiences for job applications, and ease loneliness.
- [LEARN HOW TO GET INVOLVED](#) →
- ➔ **Be yourself.** It won't take long to find friends. Be open to new experiences and ways of doing things. There are [resources available on campus](#) to help you, if needed.



## Life in Canada

- ➔ **Canada is very diverse.** Be open to learning about different cultures as this can help if you experience culture shock.

[LEARN ABOUT LIFE IN CANADA](#) →

- ➔ **Familiarize yourself with the English names of various foods and [where to shop](#).** Try to eat healthy food.
- ➔ **Learn the bus routes** and plan where you will live while keeping in mind that you need to be near groceries or other services you may need. The [Transit app](#) has all the bus route information you will need.
- ➔ **Don't hesitate to go to doctors** as most things are covered by [UHIP insurance](#) and the care here is pretty fast and easy to access.
- ➔ **Look into the laws and policies yourself.** Don't assume it's like your own country.



## Everyday Student Life

- ➔ **Balance work and school.** Ensure your work hours do not take priority over your studies and that they [comply with immigration laws](#).
- ➔ **Utilize office hours.** Attend office hours and ask professors questions; they are there to help you.
- ➔ **Schedule breaks and stay connected.** Plan regular breaks and maintain connections with your family back home.
- ➔ **Stay informed.** Pay attention to Brock International's newsletters, [Instagram](#), and emails, as they often contain important information.



## From Badger to Badger

- ➔ **Do your best.** If you win, yay! If you don't, take feedback and implement it.
- ➔ **Don't hesitate.** Seek help if you need.
- ➔ **Finding a job can be challenging** but volunteering with Brock helps to build your resume.
- ➔ **Ask questions.** It will make your life easier.