



WELCOME



Ashton Matthias ✓ @BA '20

"During Outdoors Frosh, after paddling for hours and then flipping over our canoe, we sat around a fire and cracked open a bottle of wine as we watched the stars in Parc de la Mauricie. Super fun experience."





Welcome to McGill! This section will provide you with all of the most important details for your arrival on campus, including safety procedures, information about orientation events, and a handy checklist of tasks to get through in your first week.

Welcome

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to McGill, and to this year's SSMU Student Handbook!

This handbook is a one-stop guide to life as a McGill student, giving you all of the information you need to navigate everything from surviving your first week to finding a community in Montreal. For this year's handbook, we chose the theme <http://handbook> to recognize the integral role that social media and technology plays in a student's life. Whether you're coming to McGill for the first time, or entering your fourth year, we have all undoubtedly spent the last two years online in a way that we've never seen, moving our school, work, and social lives onto platforms like Zoom and Microsoft Teams.

I still remember the day that I first joined my entering class Facebook group back in February 2018. It was my first glimpse into my new social life at McGill. Seeing everyone's intro posts and connecting with others in my major was exhilarating, and I couldn't wait to get to campus. During my four years at this university, social media has had my back in so many ways. I've used it to find out about upcoming on-campus events, schedule study sessions, and connect with the editors at the campus paper I ended up working at for half of my degree, among other things. We recognize how central social media can be to student life, which is why we have made it a central theme of this year's handbook.

We hope that this handbook kicks off a fun and exciting year for you at McGill. And even though student life can feel very busy, don't forget to log off and experience all that McGill and Montreal have to offer.

Kate Ellis (they/them/iel)
Handbook Content Editor



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LETTER FROM THE SSMU PRESIDENT

Hello/Bonjour members of the Students' Society of McGill University,

It is my pleasure to extend to you a warm welcome to the 2022-2023 academic year on behalf of the SSMU executive team.

My name is Risann Wright, and I am a fourth year student pursuing a Bachelor of Arts, studying Honours Political Science. I am honoured and excited to represent you, and to advance your interests and priorities this year as SSMU President.

The year ahead promises to be filled with excitement and enthusiasm as we return to full in person activities at McGill. We are thrilled to be returning to our student spaces, including the University Center, the 3501 Peel Building, and Gert's Bar, and to be connecting with each other once again.

The SSMU is dedicated to advancing and promoting your rights as a student. We advocate on your behalf to the McGill administration for improved academic processes and policies, as well improved instruction, and services for students. We also advocate more broadly for student rights and access to quality public education. This year, the SSMU will take a student-centered approach, and will prioritize advocacy and student support.

My goals for this year include affecting lasting institutional change at SSMU in the areas of equity and student support, and developing space for student opportunity and advancement. I am filled with anticipation and enthusiasm for the year ahead.

I look forward to meeting you, and working together to meaningfully impact the lives of students at McGill University.
Have a wonderful and successful academic year.

Best wishes,
Risann Wright (she/her/elle)

First Week Checklist

WELCOME FELLOW MCGILLIANS!

- ☐ Check [McGill Key Academic dates](#) online and in this handbook (page 112). (bit.ly/3MKUEVd)
- ☐ Enter your Montreal address and emergency contact information on Minerva.
- ☐ Set up your [McGill email account](#) (bit.ly/37WOF0T).
- ☐ Join the Facebook group for the entering class of 2022-23 (fb.com/groups/mcgill22) and follow Campus Life & Engagement on social media | @clemcgill (bit.ly/39oNvvc) to stay up to date on summer programming.
- ☐ Register for McGill Pre-Registration Orientation (PRO), which is important for getting into your classes. (bit.ly/39EhzmZ)
- ☐ Create your first-year budget by going to the Student Budget Plan (bit.ly/3kEgDBg). For inquiries regarding financial aid, go to the McGill's Financial Aid program (bit.ly/3FbXvng)
- ☐ Submit your personal documents (bit.ly/3KLnUcN) and final grades (bit.ly/3FdWuLJ) to Enrollment Services. International students (bit.ly/3vFiMmm) should also submit their study permit and CAQ.
- ☐ Are you an out-of-province Canadian student? Notify your provincial Ministry of Health that you will be studying outside your province. You must bring your current provincial health card when you are at McGill.
- ☐ Think you may need any accommodations? We encourage you to reach out to the Office for Students with Disabilities (mcgill.ca/osd).
- ☐ Taking prescription medication? Bring as much as you are allowed with you to Montreal, or find what you take at a pharmacy in the city. If you need the assistance of a medical professional on a regular basis, find clinicians off-campus. (bit.ly/3kC8rBJ)
- ☐ Complete McGill 101 on myCourses. This is a virtual orientation program that will help you transition into McGill student life. Once you have completed the modules, you will find more resources and services that will be important for you as you go through your first year. (bit.ly/3vBeSuJ)
- ☐ Need someone to show you around? International students are eligible for the Buddy Program offered by the International Student Services. They will pair you up with a returning McGillian that will answer all of your questions about McGill and life in Montreal. (bit.ly/3vFgRhG)
- ☐ Relax, everything is going to be fine!

Frosh and Orientation



THERE ARE A NUMBER OF EVENTS ON CAMPUS TO HELP YOU GET ADJUSTED TO LIFE AT MCGILL!



ORIENTATION

Orientation refers to events organized by Campus Life & Engagement to introduce you to the campus and the university, such as Discover McGill. For up to date information on this year's orientation events, check the Fall 2022 orientation page. (bit.ly/3vHfgrP) Some faculties may have additional orientation events. Keep an eye on your McGill email for information about faculty-specific events.

FROSH WEEK

Frosh refers to student-run events designed to help you get to know Montreal and meet your fellow classmates. These events typically last 3-4 days and occur before the start of classes in the fall.

Many students choose to attend Faculty Frosh, which is organized by individual faculty student associations and designed to appeal to a wide audience of incoming students. However, there are also alternative frosh events run by other student and campus groups. It is up to each individual whether they choose to attend their faculty frosh or one of the alternative events.

ALTERNATIVE FROSHES

Fish Frosh: a "dry" (non-alcoholic) frosh hosted by Christian groups at McGill and open to students regardless of religious background.

Jewish Frosh: a frosh hosted by Jewish campus groups intended to help students feel welcome in McGill's Jewish community and Jewish Montreal.

Outdoor Frosh: a frosh hosted by the McGill Outdoors Club that focuses on outdoor activities including cycling, hiking, and climbing.

Muslim Students' Association Frosh: a non-drinking, halal frosh option open to all students.

Rad Frosh: a social and environmental justice oriented frosh hosted by the Quebec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) at McGill.

For more information on frosh, including registration deadlines, visit (bit.ly/3w0MgtY).

ALCOHOL AT FROSH

All faculty froshes and some alternative froshes include events in which alcohol is served. That being said, you can have a great frosh experience whether or not you choose to drink! Students are never required to consume alcohol to participate in frosh events and some froshes have designated alcohol-free events. SSMU will also be running dry events during some of the inter-faculty frosh events to provide an alternate option to students.

If you do choose to consume alcohol during frosh, you can find information on drinking and using drugs safely on page 59 of this handbook.

OTHER WELCOME EVENTS

Outside of official orientation and frosh week, there are a number of welcome events hosted by student groups and campus organizations. Keep an eye on your McGill email and the social media of any groups you are interested in for information on these events.



Service Point

mcgill.ca/servicepoint

(514) 398-7878 |

LOCATED AT 3415 MCTAVISH STREET

SERVICE POINT IS YOUR FIRST POINT OF CONTACT AS AN INCOMING STUDENT AT MCGILL. DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, DELIVERY OF SOME FUNCTIONS HAS BEEN ADAPTED, BUT ITS JOB REMAINS THE SAME: TO ASSIST YOU AND ANSWER ALL YOUR QUESTIONS.

HOW TO USE SERVICE POINT: ▼

IN-PERSON APPOINTMENTS FOR INCOMING OR RETURNING STUDENTS

Book an appointment to get your McGill ID. This is crucial to gain access to buildings and events. Before showing up in person to get your ID, you must register for at least one class and upload your photo using the photo upload tool.

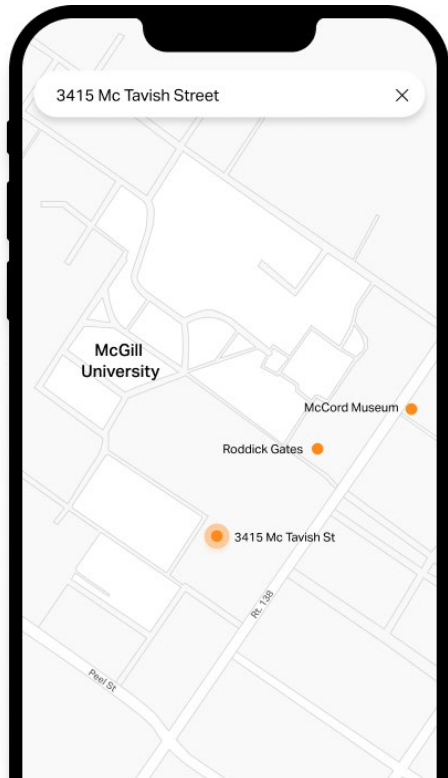
bit.ly/3OUekYB.

Alternatively, if you need to pick up documents, meet with the Commissioner of Oaths (for signing documents regarding your claim for Quebec Residency tuition status), or anything else related to student services, book an appointment here (<https://bit.ly/3vD29YA>).

You must consider the following before entering Service Point in person:

- ★ BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
- ★ PRESENT YOUR MCGILL ID IF YOU HAVE YOURS ALREADY.

If you are going to Service Point to obtain it, then you must present a valid government-issued identification (e.g. your Study Permit).



Emergency Support



ALWAYS DIAL **911** IN CASES OF EMERGENCY. AFTER CONTACTING EMERGENCY SERVICES, CALL MCGILL SECURITY SERVICES IF YOU ARE ON CAMPUS.

SAFETY MCGILL



MCGILL SECURITY SERVICES

DOWNTOWN LOCATION

Burnside Hall, 805 Sherbrooke St. West,
Room 120, Montreal, Qc H3A 0B9

Email: campus.security@mcgill.ca

General Inquiries: (514) 398-4556

Emergencies: (514)398-3000

MACDONALD LOCATION

Laird Hall, 21111 Lakeshore Road
Room 101, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, QC H9X 3V9

Email: macdonald.security@mcgill.ca

General Inquiries: (514) 398-7770

Emergencies: (514) 398-7777

- 12 Students can also register for health and safety alerts through the McGill mobile app (mcgill.ca/app/). For more information, visit the Campus Public Safety webpage (bit.ly/3MEUgYi).

MCGILL WELLNESS HUB

(514) 398-6017

mcgill.ca/wellness-hub

Brown Student Services Building | 3600
McTavish Street, 3rd floor

The McGill Wellness Hub is a centralized location for health and wellbeing on campus. The Hub offers resources for physical and mental wellness. More detailed information about the services provided by the Wellness Hub is available on page 46.

MCGILL SPORTS MEDICINE CLINIC

(514) 398-7007

mcgillathletics.ca/sports

475 Pine Ave W, Montreal, Quebec H2W 1S4
To make an appointment with a physiotherapist, athletic therapist, massage therapist, click here (bit.ly/3vFjRdU).

SAFETY SSMU



DRIVE SAFE

(514) 398-8040

drivesafe.ssmu.ca

SSMU DriveSafe is a service offered by the SSMU. Their patrols will drive you home safely to anywhere on the Island of Montreal or in the Mohawk Territory of Kahnawake, as well as a South Shore shuttle four times on Friday and Saturday nights. Unless otherwise stated, the service is free and is operational every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11 PM - 3 AM (Fall and Winter Semesters).

WALKSAFE

(514) 398-2498

walksafe.ssmu.ca

executive@walksafe.ca

SSMU Walksafe is a volunteer service that offers free and confidential accompaniment for people walking by themselves. Volunteers will go with you anywhere you need on the island of Montreal. Walksafe is available from 9 PM - midnight from Sunday - Thursday and 9 PM - 3 AM on Friday and Saturday (Fall and Winter Semesters).

MSERT

(514) 398-3000

msert@ssmu.ca

msert.sus.mcgill.ca

The McGill Student Emergency Response Team (M-SERT) is a volunteer service run by the SSMU for those students who need emergency first aid services. MSERT volunteers are certified First Responders and Emergency Medical Responders under the Canadian Red Cross. Coverage includes Frosh, on and off campus events, and nightly on-call response to all residence buildings except for Solin Hall between the hours of 6 PM and 6 AM.

COVID-19 Pandemic



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW

ACADEMICS

ARE IN-PERSON CLASSES MANDATORY?

For Fall 2022, McGill is planning a full return to in-person activities, including large lectures. Students will be expected to be present on campus. However, McGill is planning on maintaining appropriate measures to ensure that campus is safe. If you have any concerns regarding your immunocompromised status, you can reach out to OSD to discuss learning accommodations for this upcoming year. Students can also contact the Office of the Dean of Students (bit.ly/3yZKQmG). (mcgill.ca/coronavirus)

HOW CAN SSMU SUPPORT YOU DURING THE PANDEMIC?

It's SSMU's job to ensure that students are given safe and accessible learning environments throughout the pandemic. If you are faced with unsafe learning conditions, contact the Vice President (University Affairs) (ua@ssmu.ca), the SSMU Student Rights' Researcher and Advocacy Commissioner (srrac@ssmu.ca), or the Accessibility Commissioner (accessibility@ssmu.ca) for support. Every student is entitled to a safe and accessible learning environment, and SSMU remains in discussions with McGill about how to best ensure these conditions.

VACCINATION AND MASKS

WILL YOU NEED TO BE VACCINATED?

McGill does not require students to show proof that they have been vaccinated before starting classes or to participate in any on-campus activities. However, as of January 2022, all international students entering Canada must be fully vaccinated with a series of Government of Canada recognized vaccines (bit.ly/3y61kJs). If you want to get vaccinated in Montreal, you can book an appointment via ClicSante (portal3.clicsante.ca). All adults can register for their first, second, third (booster), or fourth (for immunocompromised individuals or an optional additional dose for others) dose, regardless of residency or citizenship.

ARE MASKS REQUIRED ON CAMPUS?

In line with Quebec law, masks are no longer mandatory on campus. However, McGill strongly encourages students to continue to wear masks. Procedural masks remain available at several locations, including the entrances to most buildings on campus (bit.ly/3FvwEi8).

AS A STUDENT, YOU MAY BE WONDERING HOW THE ONGOING PANDEMIC WILL IMPACT YOUR EDUCATION AT MCGILL. HERE ARE ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PANDEMIC AND MCGILL.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS FAQ IS CURRENT TO JUNE 2022. FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON MCGILL'S COVID MEASURES, VISIT [MCGILL.CA/CORONAVIRUS](http://mcgill.ca/coronavirus).

TESTING

WHERE CAN I ACQUIRE AT-HOME RAPID TESTS?

In Quebec, rapid test kits are available for pickup at select pharmacies once every 30 days to residents over 14 years of age, regardless of citizenship or residency. To book an appointment for pickup, select "Distribution of free covid screening test" on Clicsante (portal3.clicsante.ca).

CAN I GET A PCR TEST?

PCR testing is only available at screening clinics to members of certain priority groups. To see if you are eligible, visit the Government of Quebec's page on testing (bit.ly/3LHVFNH).

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND TRAVEL

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

When coming back to Canada, follow the guidelines set by the Government of Canada (bit.ly/3kzVzMf) so you are up to date as to what the requirements are. McGill is working closely with the federal government to make sure that international students will be able to enter Canada, have all their government documents, and understand quarantine requirements. As of April 2022, there are no testing requirements for fully vaccinated individuals entering Canada. Vaccination requirements remain in place (bit.ly/3kzVzMf).

RESIDENCES

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS IF I WANT TO LIVE ON CAMPUS?

McGill has announced that student residences will be open to "close to normal" operations in Fall 2022 and accommodation will be guaranteed to all eligible first-year students who have requested it.