Dear international students, U.S. residents and expatriates, and exchange students,

We look forward to seeing you in less than 4 weeks on 31 August for the start of International Student Orientation (ISO).

This email has reminders and also answers to questions people have been asking.

1. To-Do (if you haven't already)
   
a. Complete everything that is required of you - https://apps.carleton.edu/newstudents/checklist/.

b. Arrival Form - regardless of how you are arriving at Carleton, EVERYONE should complete the ARRIVAL FORM by 15 August, https://apps.carleton.edu/intl/arriving/iso/.

Pick-up and transportation from the airport to Carleton is free for all students who need it and who complete the form BEFORE 15 August.

c. Health Insurance - Everyone must complete the insurance information by 15 August, https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/business/students/healthinsurance/. If you do not have a credit card to pay for the required annual health insurance, you can have the payment charged to your student account.

EVERYONE who purchases the Carleton Health Insurance should remember to print up the "Insurance Card" which is actually a piece of paper that states your insurance coverage and CARRY that with you in your wallet or purse as you travel. If you will be at Carleton for 4-years, you will have to renew your insurance every summer and print up a new card.

d. Gift to Share - EVERYONE is asked to bring a small gift that will be exchanged with another student during ISO. The gift does not have to be expensive but hopefully represent a country or culture you are from. No need to gift wrap it beforehand as it might be inspected by airline security or customs; if you can put it in a plastic or paper bag and that can serve as your wrapping paper.

e. Homework - You are asked to read the handout, "Introduction to American Academic Writing", which can be found at our home page, https://apps.carleton.edu/intl/, before you arrive for ISO. Please prepare to share and discuss what you learned.

2. Answers to some questions

a. Language Requirement Exemption - If you are fluent in another language, spoken and written, you should consider petitioning for an exemption by looking at the requirements, https://apps.carleton.edu/newstudents/registration/language/. You are strongly encourage to do it as soon as possible within your first term rather than wait until later. Some people who obtain the exemption do take another language for their own interest, and that is up to you.
b. Shipping your things - some people have asked about shipping their information to Carleton, please see https://apps.carleton.edu/newstudents/contact/faq/#post_office. Main thing is that things should arrive at Carleton after 15 August and not before as they won't be accepted.

c. Arrival Day, 31 August, & Family Reception - We will have an informal gathering for dinner on 31 August. A slightly more formal reception will be held the next morning for breakfast for any members of your family that might accompany you. Please say your good-byes before breakfast as afterward you will head into ISO activities and they head home. For any parents interested, there will be an informal Question and Answer session.

I will send at least one more email before arrival, but for now best as you complete things and get ready to come here.

FINAL REMINDERS - Remember to keep all your travel documents with you on your person (not in your checked bag), e.g., passport, I-20 or DS-2019 (if you are on an F or J visa). Complete your insurance policy (if you are on Carleton's health insurance) and carry your insurance information with you.

On Arrival Day, 31 August, we'll meet everyone at the airport and transport students down to Carleton if you request it. If you arrive on your own, follow these instructions https://apps.carleton.edu/intl/arriving/arriving/, and arrive at Parish House. Again as mentioned, anyone who arrives earlier than that must arrange for their own own housing as you cannot check into your room until 31 August.

We look forward to meeting you.

Luyen Phan