# Accessing McMaster

McMaster is located in Hamilton, Ontario which is about 68km away from Toronto Pearson Airport. To arrive in Hamilton, public and private transport options are available for you.

The only public transit option is Go Bus route 40 (Hamilton/Richmond Hill Pearson Express). Check the [bus schedule](https://www.gotransit.com/static_files/gotransit/assets/pdf/TripPlanning/FullSchedules/FS29012022/Table40.pdf) or use the [Go Transit trip planning tool](https://www.gotransit.com/en/) to plan your trip. The bus station is located on the [ground level of Terminal 1](https://www.torontopearson.com/en/transportation-and-parking/public-transit-buses/go-transit). If you land in Terminal 3, you can take the [free train](https://www.torontopearson.com/en/transportation-and-parking/terminal-link-train) at the airport to get to Terminal 1, following the signage at the airport.

# Hamilton is Home

Welcome to McMaster! Located in Hamilton, Ontario, you will get a great opportunity to explore the city and surrounding area during your learning experience on campus.

McMaster’s campus is located in the residential area called Westdale Village and is surrounded by restaurants, towns to shop in, and many amenities and travel stations to allow you to explore.

If being close with nature is something you search for, McMaster is directly surrounded by [nature trails](https://www.alltrails.com/canada/ontario/hamilton) such as the Bruce trails, local waterfalls just minutes away from campus by public transportation, the [Royal Botanical Gardens](https://www.rbg.ca/), and many parks and nature reserves accessible by bike and the public bus system.

Those in search of a more [urban experience](https://tourismhamilton.com/events-calendar/) are never too far from amenities in downtown Hamilton – restaurants, concert theatres, hockey games, art galleries, street festivals and more.

# Public Transportation

How do I get around to discover all these great places?

The HSR and GO services offer many opportunities for you to travel and discover at a low price. With bus and GO stations located directly on campus, Main street, and in the surrounding area, the city and surrounding area are always accessible for you to discover

Both services can be accessed using a travel card called a “[PRESTO](https://www.hamilton.ca/home-neighbourhood/hsr/fares/presto-cards)” pass, a tappable card that is used on both the public bus system and train system surrounding McMaster. PRESTO cards can be picked up by students at the main campus store located in **Gilmour Hall B101** and are able to have money transferred onto them [via their online service](https://www.prestocard.ca/en/)

# Housing

With opportunities to live on campus via the block of suites in [Mary Keyes residence](https://hotel.mcmaster.ca/ec-student-2023/), or in public student housing available through private renters surrounding the McMaster area, your stay at McMaster will be a homely experience for you to enjoy.

To access a suite in Mary Keyes, please contact [reserve@mcmaster.ca](mailto:reserve@mcmaster.ca) for further information.

If you are planning to stay off campus for part or all of your time at McMaster, please connect with Jamie Wang at [visiting@mcmaster.ca](mailto:visiting@mcmaster.ca) to arrange a consultation, and he will be able to provide you with information and resources.

# Leisure and Recreation

McMaster hosts a public [athletics and recreation facility (DBAC)](https://rec.mcmaster.ca/programs) located directly on campus where you as a McMaster student have many opportunities to be active and healthy during your stay. The David Braley Athletics Centre provides programs for [intramural sports](https://rec.mcmaster.ca/programs/intramural-sports-0), [drop in activities](https://rec.mcmaster.ca/activities) for numerous sports and activities, and a brand new renovated [fitness centre called “the Pulse”](https://rec.mcmaster.ca/programs/pulse-fitness-centre)

The monthly fee to access this facility is $24/ month and allows you access to the outdoor track, pool, squash courts, saunas, open gym times, and member rates for instructional and intramural programs. [Click this link to register here](https://macreconline.ca/home/signin?redirect=%252Fmembership%252Findex)

# Health and Wellness

More information coming soon.

For UHIP questions, please reach out to Ana at [uhip@mcmaster.ca](mailto:uhip@mcmaster.ca). When you have all of your travel documents, please send Ana a copy of your travel documents (pdf) with your entry and departure dates, and your student number. She will adjust your UHIP subscription for you. You will need to do this for the start of every semester you are at McMaster.

# Grocery Shopping

Food Basics- 845 King Street W - accessible from McMaster at the bus stop STERLING at FORSYTH, Food Basics is a 9 minute bus ride away via bus 51 or bus 01 eastbound

Fortinos- 1579 Main Street W- accessible from McMaster at the bus stop MAIN opposite EMERSON, Fortinos is an 8 minute bus ride via route 01 or route 05 westbound

# General inquiries

You can reach us at [visiting@mcmaster.ca](mailto:visiting@mcmaster.ca) and we’ll help you get the information you need.