

Get prepared before the semester starts



New Student Update Winter 2026 #4 – December 11

Hello,

Now that you are registered for your classes, it's time to make sure you are well prepared for your first semester. January will be here before you know it!

In this **New Student Update**, you can find information about:

- [General New Student Orientation Sessions \(Reminder\)](#)
- [Getting your Student ID Card](#)
- [Loading your U-Pass](#)
- [Parking on campus](#)
- [Health and dental coverage](#)



General New Student Orientation Sessions (Reminder)

Attend a General New Student Orientation Session to explore available services, connect with peers and navigate our campuses. These sessions are open to parents and supporters as well. Don't miss this exciting opportunity!

- Dec. 16 | New Westminster Campus | [Register now](#)*
- Dec. 17 | Coquitlam Campus | [Register now](#)*

** Registration using desktop devices is highly recommended for better user experience.*

The online orientation course on Blackboard (DCUE 0200) should not be considered a substitute for these in-person orientation sessions. Check out the [Orientation webpage](#) for more details about New Student Orientation.



Getting your Student ID Card

Your Student ID Card is your official Douglas College picture identification. It is essential if you are utilizing services at the Library, accessing campus facilities outside of regular hours, using your U-Pass and more.

You can [request your Student ID Card](#) in person at Enrolment Services at either the New Westminster or Coquitlam Campuses or online by logging in to your [myAccount](#), selecting “**Student Records**”, and then “**Student ID Cards**” on the left of the page. When submitting the request, you will need to provide a copy of your government-issued photo ID (driver's license, BCID or passport) as well as a photo of yourself that

will be printed on your Student ID Card. Pre-ordered cards can be picked up after 3 business days at the campus of your choice or mailed to your address. If you are picking up your card in person, remember to bring a physical copy of your government-issued photo ID, as a digital copy will not be accepted. To beat the lines at the start of the semester, you are encouraged to request your card early.



Loading your U-Pass

Students registered in 3 or more credits of on-campus courses will be charged the U-Pass fee in their tuition for that semester. If you are included in this group, you will want to load your U-Pass onto your Compass Card. Check out the [U-Pass BC on Compass Card webpage](#) for instructions. Make sure you load your U-Pass each month. You can do this as early as the middle of the month prior. To help you remember, set up text or email notifications in your [U-Pass BC portal](#). For questions, please contact upassbc@douglascollege.ca.

Parking on campus

If you are thinking about driving to Douglas, it is important for you to learn how our parking services function so you can study without having to worry about your vehicle. Check out the [Parking webpage](#) to learn where you can park at our campuses and how to buy an ePermit beginning Dec. 19. [Electric vehicle charging stations](#) and [covered bike parking facilities](#) are also available on the two campuses.



Health and dental coverage

The [Douglas Students' Union \(DSU\)](#) administers a health and dental plan to make coverage more accessible and affordable for students. The extended health and dental plan supports you to maintain a high quality of health and ensures that you are covered if medical emergencies come up.

You have an opportunity from Jan. 19 to Jan. 30, 4pm to [opt in to the health and dental plan online and pay the fee](#). There is also an opportunity to add dependents during this two-week period in January. This is only for new students who are admitted for Winter 2026 and not enrolled in Fall 2025 courses.

Please note that BC Medical Services Plan (MSP), Travel Insurance and GuardMe are not extended health and dental plans.

For questions or more information about the DSU health and dental plan, please email services@thedsu.ca or check out the [DSU Health & Dental Plan website](#).

Stay informed!

If you want to revisit previous New Student Updates, please visit the [Orientation webpage](#) and refer to the column on the right.

Follow us on Instagram [@studentlifedc](#) to keep up to date with everything happening at Douglas College!

Questions?

Answers to some frequently asked questions are available at the bottom of the [Orientation webpage](#) under the “**Questions**” section.

If you have further questions, please email studentlife@douglascollege.ca. If you are an international student, please submit your questions through the [Douglas College International contact form](#).