

Get Ready **FOR COLLEGE**

International Students Edition



Welcome

City of Glasgow College would like to offer a warm welcome to all our international students. We have one of the largest international student populations in Scottish Further Education and our international student community is something we are extremely proud of. 2024/25 will be an exciting year to study here at our state-of-the-art twin site super campus.

We hope this guide will help you to enjoy your time with us. We have included information that we believe will support you to have a fun and happy experience while in Glasgow.

If you have any questions, need further information or guidance on any aspect of the guide, please get in touch with the International Team who will be happy to respond to your enquiry.

You can contact the International Team during business hours on:

Tel: 0141 375 5282

Email: International@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk

CONTENTS

WELCOME TO GLASGOW	4	STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION	21
TRAVELLING TO GLASGOW	5	EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION	22
ARRIVING IN GLASGOW	6	SUPPORTING YOUR STUDIES	23
IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS	8	HEALTH & WELLBEING	24
ACCOMMODATION	12	INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HUB	24
HEALTHCARE IN THE UK	16	COLLEGE SERVICES	25
MONEY MATTERS	18	HOW TO FIND US	26
FRAUDS AND SCAMS	19	CONTACT US	28



WELCOME TO GLASGOW

Glasgow is the largest city in Scotland and it is also the creative capital of Europe. Glasgow is also home to the Glasgow Hydro, a fantastic venue that hosts national and international music mega stars as well as global entertainment and sporting events. Glasgow is very close to some of the most beautiful countryside in the United Kingdom.

Within an hour you can drive to Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park or Edinburgh, or you can fly to London or Dublin. Within a few hours you can drive to Glencoe or Cairngorm National Park, where you can ski, hill walk, climb or cycle.

Glasgow also has fantastic museums, art galleries and public parks as well as some great places to eat. You can view further information on organising trips via [Visit Scotland](#).



TRAVELLING TO GLASGOW

The UK Immigration rules affect everyone who requires a visa to enter the United Kingdom. There are specific visas for studying in the UK. The following link will take you to the section about student visas: [Study in the UK](#).

Before travelling to Glasgow, we recommend you purchase insurance to cover the cost of your personal property while you are travelling and while you are living in Scotland.

For further information please email our [International team](#).



ARRIVING IN GLASGOW

When arriving at Glasgow airport, there are various modes of transport you can access. The getting To and from Glasgow Airport section covers information on accessing a bus, train or taxi to reach your destination.

Money

It is a good idea to have some pounds sterling with you when you arrive in Glasgow, you may need money for a taxi or a bus, for food or even accommodation. We recommend you bring with you £350 in British currency as well as your credit card or bank card.



Clothing

Scotland has changeable weather and we advise you to bring clothing to suit all occasions. We recommend cold-weather clothes for winter and a waterproof jacket. Lighter clothing is recommended for the summer months.

What not to bring: restricted items

There are controls on what you can and cannot bring into the UK. To ensure your goods are not taken from you by customs find out more on:

Bringing goods into the UK for personal use: Overview - [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

Registration at City of Glasgow College

On your first day you should report to our International Team at Riverside Campus. Ask for them at reception, or contact them on: 0141 375 5274 / 5282 or [email](#).

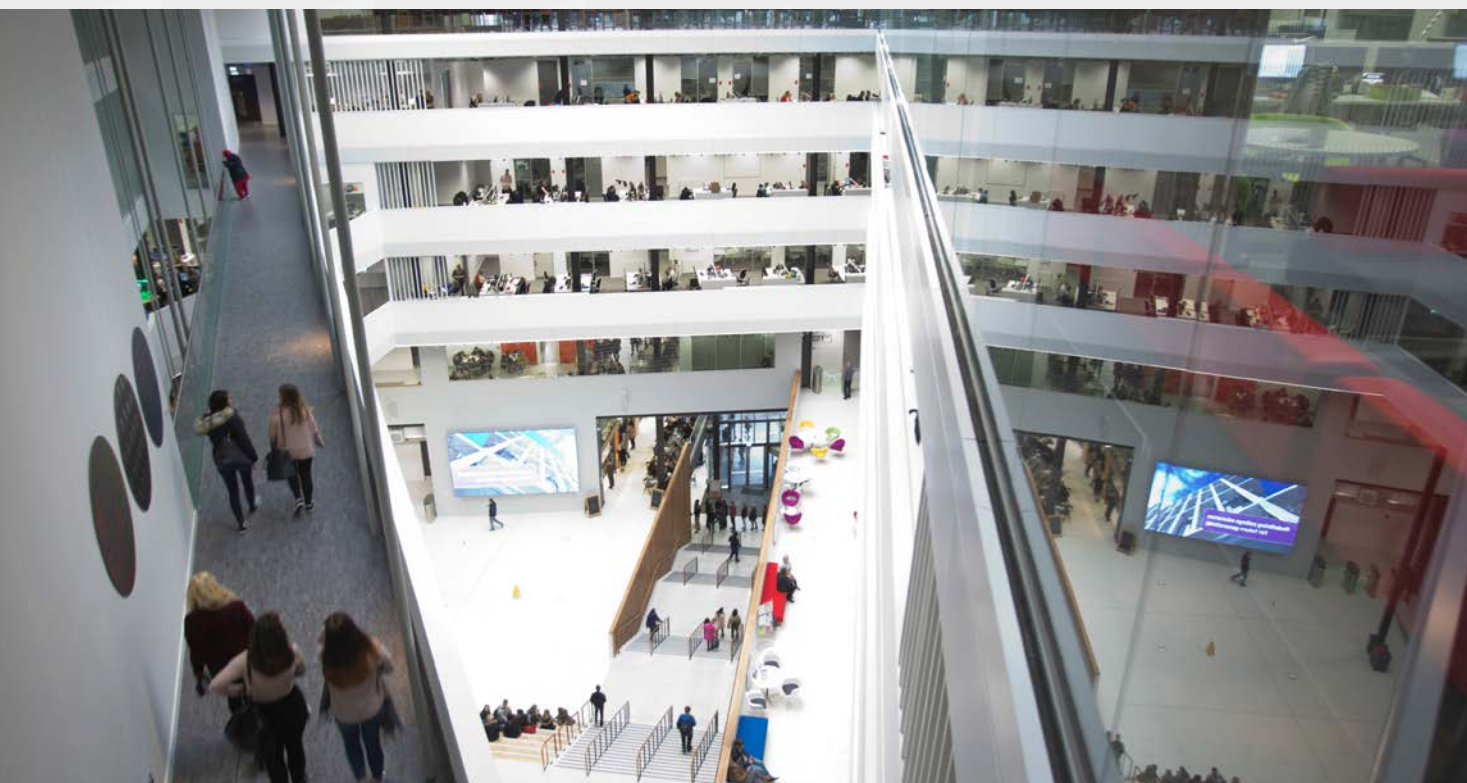
If you are on a Student Visa, you should bring your original documents such as qualifications, IELTS, and your passport and biometric residence permit / digital visa share code to the International Office. The International Office will process your documents and give you some essential information about Student Visa.

Students on other types of visa should ensure to send a scanned copy of their visa to the International Office [email](#).

If your visa status changes during course of study you must notify the college as soon as possible.

Once you have registered with the International Office, you will be enrolled onto your course by the lecturer. You will receive your timetable, essential course information and your student card within the first two weeks.

It is also a good idea to visit the Students' Association on your first day at college to find out about the sports clubs, societies and events that are available to you.



TIER 4 Student Requirements

City of Glasgow College have a Student Sponsor Licence' awarded by the UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) Office. This means that we take our immigration responsibilities very seriously. We comply with attendance monitoring and absence reporting as well as checking that you have the necessary documentation and permission allowing you to undertake study in the UK.

We require you to take your responsibilities seriously too. This means that you will need to:

- Collect your BRP (if applicable) within ten days of arriving in the UK.
- Register with the College at the appointed time.
- Provide appropriate documents, for example passport and UK biometric ID card.
- Attend your course and if you can't attend even for a day email the International Office to tell us why you are absent and the likely duration of your absence.
- Update us of any changes to your circumstances, for example: a change of address or phone number.



Employment

Student Visa holders on courses between SCQF level 6 and 8 are permitted to work 10 hours per week and can work full time during official College holidays.

There are some types of work that are prohibited.

You cannot:

- Be self-employed.
- Engage in business activity.
- Work as a sports coach or professional sports person.
- Work as an entertainer.

If you are on another leave to remain status, you may have different work permissions. Please email the International Office to check.

ACCOMMODATION

College Student Accommodation

We strongly advise that you arrange your accommodation before traveling to the UK.

Our Student Accommodation is located at our Riverside Campus and St Luke's Terrace. The Student Accommodation is within the college grounds, and afford some breath-taking views of the city centre, within a contemporary student environment. Both offer excellent rooms and the latest in modern facilities.

The Student Accommodation at Riverside and St Luke's both have single and double rooms available all with en-suite bathrooms and shared kitchen/living facilities.



Prices for Riverside Accommodation, Thistle Street, Glasgow, G5 9XB:

Lease	Room	Price
Long-term	Single room	£145 per week
	Twin room	£111 per person, per week
Short-term	Single room for 1-4 weeks	£210 per week
	Single room for 5-8 weeks	£194 per week
	Twin room for 5-8 weeks	£141 per week, per person
	Twin room for 1-4 weeks	£210 per week, per person

Prices for St Luke's Accommodation, St Luke's Terrace, Glasgow, G5 0TR:

Lease	Room	Price
Long-term	Single room	£139 per week
Short-term	Single room for 5-8 weeks	£194 per week
	Single room for 1-4 weeks	£210 per week

To book a room:

Tel: 0141 375 5533 or

Email: accommodation@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk

We advise that you book your room as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Private Student Accommodation

As an alternative to our student accommodation, there are many privately-run halls near the college. Specifically tailored for students, they're easily accessible and within walking distance from our campuses. You can find out more in our handy Student Accommodation Guide.

All rooms are fully furnished with optional internet packages and en-suite facilities. There's also an on-site laundry, management office, 24-hour caretaker, CCTV and secure door entry system. Before you sign on the dotted line, here are a few things to remember:

Full details and prices can be viewed on our [website](#).

Flats and houses

If you have a group of friends, you can share a flat or house somewhere in the city. This way, you share the rent, food and utility bills. This type of accommodation can often be more affordable than other alternatives.



There are a number of ways to find property with a private landlord. Some landlords manage the letting process themselves; while others use letting agents to help them rent and maintain their property.

- Accommodation for Students.
- S1homes.
- Citylets.
- Letting in Scotland.
- Spareroom.
- Gumtree.
- Easy Room Mate.

Council Tax

Council Tax is a tax that pays for local services and water in the UK. Most full-time International Student will not pay Council Tax. However, there are some students who will not qualify for an exemption.

Council tax exemption – You will be exempt from paying council tax if you fall into the following categories:

- A full-time student who studies for 21 hours or more per week for at least 24 weeks or;
- A student under the age of 20 years old studying for 12 hours or more a week for at least 3 months.

HEALTHCARE IN THE UK

NHS Treatment - Tier 4 Visa Students

When you apply and pay for the Student Visa this will include a payment for the National Health Care surcharge. When you arrive in Glasgow you must register with a General Practitioner (GP / Doctor.) There are many GP Surgeries (Doctors Offices) throughout Glasgow and you will need to complete a registration form and provide evidence of your Student Visa. It is very important you do this as soon as possible as you may need medical care while you are in Scotland.

If you require a letter to register with a GP, you can get a Student Status Letter through CityLife.



Non-Tier 4 Visa Students- Student Visitors & Short-term students

When you apply and pay for the Student Visa this will include a payment for the National Health Care surcharge. When you arrive in Glasgow you must register with a General Practitioner (GP / Doctor.) There are many GP Surgeries (Doctors Offices) throughout Glasgow and you will need to complete a registration form and provide evidence of your Student Visa. It is very important you do this as soon as possible as you may need medical care while you are in Scotland.

If you require a letter to register with a GP, you can get a Student Status Letter through CityLife.

Dental Care

Dental treatment is not free of charge so when registering with a dentist it is a good idea to choose a dentist who treats NHS patients as the cost for treatment will be lower than if you were to be treated as a private patient.

MONEY MATTERS

To be accepted at City of Glasgow College you must prove that you have adequate funds available to finance yourself to the end of your course. This includes:

Expenses	Cost
Tuition fees	£7,950
Living Expenses - The UK Government advice is that you allow £1,015 per calendar month for approximately 9 months	£9,207
Total Funds Required for 1 Year of Study	£17,157

The Student Advisors can provide information and advice on student finances. They have created a Money Management e-zine for students with lots of hints and tips to save money while studying.



FRAUDS AND SCAMS

Some criminals specifically target international students, telephoning them and pretending to be from a legitimate organisation (such as the UK Home Office or a education agent). They demand money (calling it a “fine” for a non-existent immigration problem) and claim that if you do not pay them quickly, there will be damaging consequences (for example, deportation or cancelling your visa).

The UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs) has had reports of students being targeted by fake calls purporting to be from the Home Office, demanding action or threatening huge fines. They have even created a phone number to call back which sounds as if it is a genuine Home Office number.

Some students become criminals themselves when they allow money from unknown sources to pass through their bank accounts. Read about the dangers of [money laundering](#).

If you think you’ve been targeted please speak to our International team at the college or contact [Action Fraud](#) to report it.

How to respond

If you receive such a call (or a similar contact by any other means, for example email or text) we advise as follows:

- Do not give the caller/sender any personal information, and do not confirm that any information they have is correct.
- Do not make any payment. The Home Office does not issue financial penalties.
- You may wish to tell the caller/sender that you know about the fraudulent contact they are making, and that you will be reporting it to the police and the Home Office. Or you may simply wish to hang up.
- Report the incident to our international team, who can report the fraud to the police and to the Home Office if you wish.
- If you wish, you can report the matter online to [Action Fraud](#).
- You can also help other potential victims of this fraud by adding details of your experience to a discussion about this specific fraud on the [Who Calls Me](#) website.

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Students' Association is here to represent you within the college and at a national level through the National Union of Students.

Every student over the age of 16 is a member of the Students' Association which gives you the right to take part in the affiliated clubs and societies as well as vote in the Student Elections.

As a student of City of Glasgow College, you have access to sports clubs such as football, basketball, badminton and rugby. There is also a gym facility at our City Campus where students can use the most up to date equipment. If you want to start a new club or society, the Students' Association are there to help make your idea become reality by offering support and funding.

You can speak to your Student President or contact the Students' Association Team on:
0141 375 5322 or citysa@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk

Student Representation

Students of City of Glasgow College are encouraged to get involved with the student representation system. Every class elects a Class Representative. To learn more about the Class Rep system visit our [website](#).

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

City of Glasgow College ED&I Statement sets out the College's overall aim to ensure: Equality, diversity & inclusiveness for all:

- Fairness.
- Opportunity.
- Respect.

The college represents a rich diverse student population and ensures that every student regardless of their background reaches their full potential and is successful to achieve their learning and progress to positive destinations.

We are also committed to equality, diversity and inclusion. We have duties under the Equality Act 2010 which ensures our College is an accessible space to work and learn, these are reflected in our College Values. This includes ensuring fairness, opportunity & respect for all staff and students.

SUPPORTING YOUR STUDIES

We want you to enjoy your studies and experience with us at City of Glasgow College. That's why we offer a range of support services to help you throughout your time at college.

If you need help with your coursework or assessments, speak to your lecturer as soon as possible. They can arrange extra help to get you back on track.

The Learning Support team is here to help students with a disability, health condition, or an additional support need (ASN) such as dyslexia, autism, or mental health issues.

You can meet with a Learning Support and Development Advisor to discuss the support available and any reasonable adjustments that might need to be put in place to help you succeed in your studies.

Learning Support can also help you develop effective learning strategies through a range of Skills Development Workshops, covering topics such as note-taking, time management, and study planning.

For further information you can email learningsupport@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Staying well during your time at college is important and to ensure you are receiving the support you need. There is information available on accessing college services and self-help resources on our [website](#).

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HUB

You will find a wealth of information via the Students' Association [International Student Hub](#) including:

- Culture shock.
- Healthcare in the UK.
- Bank accounts and student status letter.
- Council Tax.
- Emergency contact numbers.
- Laws and customs.
- Post office.
- Religion.
- Library.
- Cost of living.

COLLEGE SERVICES

Remember the college services are here to support you in providing a positive and enjoyable learning experience at Riverside and City Campus.

International Team:

- Student Visa's.
- Arriving in Glasgow.
- Change in circumstances.
- Employment.
- NHS (National Health Service).

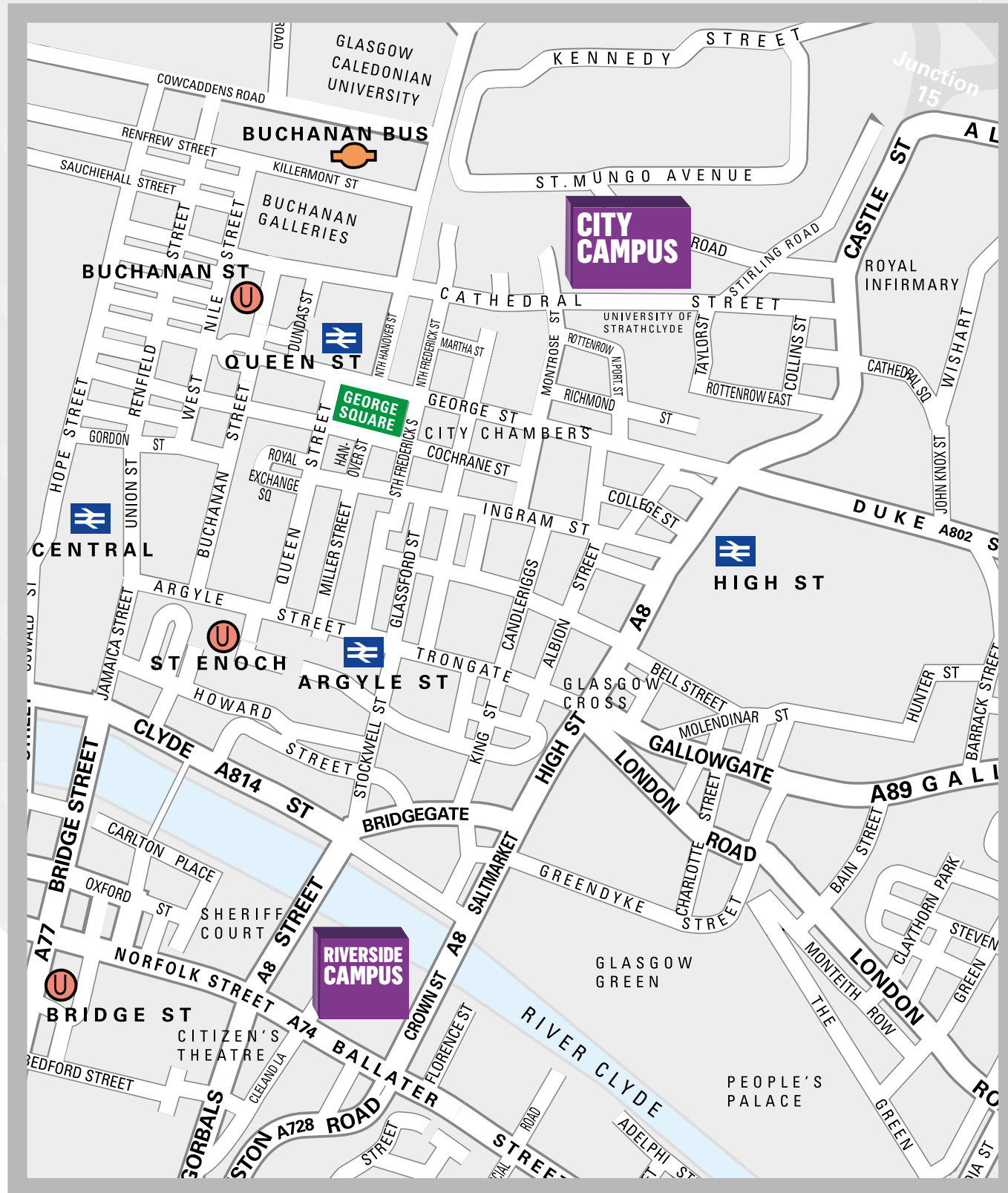
Student Services:

- Accommodation.
- Careers guidance, employment applying to University.
- Study skills.
- Learning support.
- Counselling and wellbeing support.

Students' Association:

- Sports and social activities.
- Societies.
- Volunteering Hub.
- Class representatives.
- Student Status Letters.

HOW TO FIND US



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CONTACT US

For queries contact our international team

Email: international@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk

Tel: 0141 375 5282

You can also contact our Student Advisors for advice and support around wellbeing and guidance.

Email: studentadvisors@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk

Tel: 0141 375 5192

cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk



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