

Medical Insurance Policy

POLICY NO.	GC-POL-12
EFFECTIVE DATE (THIS REVISION)	September 8, 2026
ORIGINAL ADOPTION	October 7, 2024
NEXT SCHEDULED REVIEW	September 2027
APPLIES TO	All students, all approved and non-approved programs
RESPONSIBLE OFFICE	Office of the Registrar
REGULATORY BASIS	EQA Policy and Procedures Manual; EQA Code of Practice (international students) s.2.6; Medicare Protection Act
INSTITUTION	Guildford College PTIRU Institution No. 04470

1. Purpose

This policy explains health insurance requirements and support for Guildford College students, consistent with the EQA Code of Practice.

2. Requirement

Medical insurance coverage is mandatory for all residents of British Columbia. Students must present proof of coverage before registering and must maintain valid coverage throughout their enrolment. International students registering for a program of 15 weeks or more must provide evidence of sufficient health-care insurance coverage for the full duration of their stay.

3. Provincial Medical Services Plan (MSP)

Under the Medicare Protection Act, enrolment with the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP) is mandatory for eligible residents, including international students holding a study permit valid for six months or more. Students arriving from outside BC — including from another Canadian province — typically face a waiting period of up to 90 days before MSP coverage takes effect. During this period, temporary Visitors-to-Canada insurance is required.

4. What the College Provides

- Guildford College itself does not bear financial responsibility for a student's medical or dental costs.
- The Office of the Registrar directs students to provincial healthcare enrolment resources and to appropriate private insurers for interim coverage.
- Medical insurance information, guidance, and application forms are available from the Office of the Registrar and on the College's website, as required under the EQA Code of Practice.
- Students from other Canadian provinces are directed to contact their home province's medical plan regarding interim coverage while studying in British Columbia.

Approved by: **Firas Haddad**
President & Senior Educational Administrator, Guildford College