

On arrival

The local airport is located about 5 km from the St. John's campus, and taxi service is available at a cost of approximately \$15 to \$20. If you experience difficulties upon arrival, contact the Office of Student Affairs at 1-(709) 737-7594, university security at 1-(709) 737-8561, or the commissionaire at the airport. If you wish to be met on arrival, notify your supervisor, the GSU 1-(709) 737-4395, or, if applicable, the International Student Advising Office 1-(709) 737-8895 at least 14 days beforehand. Be sure to give your flight number and date and time of arrival.

Emergency funding

In the case of a financial emergency, graduate students may be eligible to receive an emergency loan upon arrival. Students who need assistance must meet with the Coordinator of Student Support Programs, who will assess the request. The maximum amount available is \$500 and the money must be paid back within the current semester. For more information, call 1-709-737-7461. You may apply for an emergency loan at any time during your graduate program.

Amenities

St. John's offers all the amenities of a modern city. Several major shopping centres are located close to campus. The Avalon Mall on Kenmount Road (20 minute walk from campus), the Village Mall on Topsail Road, and Water Street in the downtown core (a 20-30 minute walk from campus) offer a wide variety of food, clothing, and household stores. Churchill Square, only a 10-minute walk from Memorial University, offers a number of stores and services, including a supermarket, a drug store, several restaurants and banks. In addition to these major centres, there are many restaurants and strip malls throughout the city.

While nearly everything you will need is available in St. John's, you may want to bring some supplies from home. Some students bring food items such as rice, wheat, salt, sugar, etc. from their home countries. This is quite unnecessary, as these things are available here at reasonable prices. There are a variety of ethnic shops, and nearly all supermarkets in St. John's sell a wide selection of cooking spices and supplies.

Climate

It is said that you can experience four seasons in one day in Newfoundland. The local weather is governed chiefly by two ocean currents: the Labrador Current from the north and the Gulf Stream from the south. Depending on the temperature of the currents and the direction of the wind, the weather may be cool or warm, wet or clear or foggy. Although we have much precipitation, our sunny days are bright and smog-free.

The maritime climate makes Newfoundland temperatures less extreme than other regions in the country. In the summer, afternoon highs are in the low twenties, while evenings remain cool, especially in open areas. St. John's winters are also among the country's most moderate, with an average temperature of 0° C. Throughout the winter months of December, January, February and March, mild days punctuate periods of snow and/or freezing rain, often with icy results. High winds and blowing snow are common and with the wind chill factor the temperature can at times be uncomfortably cold. The spring months of April and May are usually cool and rainy; the autumn months are generally crisp and sunny.

Average Monthly Temperatures and Precipitation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Highs (°C)	-1	-3	2	4	11	21	20	24	16	11	4	-2
Rain (cm)	4.04	6.48	9.04	4.90	6.60	8.66	1.42	9.19	8.38	12.3	20.7	5.08
Snow (cm)	43.9	73.9	65.0	53.6	30.5	—	—	—	—	—	41.9	67.6

Chart compiled by the GSU

“The key weather words in St. John's are variety, variability and very. The sheer number of possible meteorological events, winds, fog, cloud, snow and rain, and their almost haphazard combinations make each day, and some days each hour, a novelty.” - *The Psychology Guide to Life, the Universe, and MUN*, 1990.

Recommended clothing

Bring (or be prepared to buy) warm, water-resistant clothing. The fall and winter months call for a heavy winter coat, thick sweaters, lined boots, mittens (or warm, windproof gloves), scarves and hats. Winter coats should be well-insulated or lined. Suitable coats range in price from \$60 to \$400, and are available locally. If you are arriving in St. John's during the winter months, however, you should bring a coat and other warm clothes with you.

Since St. John's winters are usually wet, it is best to buy waterproof boots. If you buy leather boots, you should waterproof them with a silicon treatment (available at most shoe stores). Boots with thick treads provide a good grip on slippery sidewalks. In the spring and fall, a windbreaker (or water-proof jacket) and rain pants are recommended for walkers. Umbrellas are no match for the Newfoundland wind, so make sure your jackets have hoods.

For updated weather forecasts, call Environment Canada at 1-709-772-5534, or visit their website (www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca).

FINDING A PLACE TO LIVE

On campus

Memorial University provides a number of residences and apartment buildings for single and married students, but you must be registered as a full-time student to be eligible for residence.

Burton's Pond Apartments

The Burton's Pond Apartment complex, located on the eastern edge of the campus, houses 512 single students in four apartment buildings: Guy, Gilbert, Cartier and Cabot. A block of these apartments is reserved for graduate students. Fifteen two-bedroom family units are contained in a fifth building, Baltimore Court. A service building, Corte Real, contains a laundry centre, mail boxes and the International Student Advising Office.

Each single student apartment can accommodate four students, each with a private bedroom, sharing a kitchen, living/dining room and bathroom. All apartments are fully furnished with the following:

Kitchen: refrigerator, stove, cutting board, fire extinguisher, kitchen table and four chairs

Bedrooms: mattress, built-in bed, built-in desk, shelves, study chair, study lamp, set of window curtains or vinyl blinds, closet

Household items: broom, dust pan, wet mop, mop bucket, toilet brush, shower curtain, plunger

Furniture: two tables 24" x 24", two two-seat chesterfields; two table lamps, one set of vinyl blinds.

Apartments are allotted by the date of application. The \$20 processing fee may be paid by cheque or money order (payable to Memorial University), or by credit card (VISA or Master Card). You must submit an application for each semester and be registered as a full-time student for the entire period of occupancy.

Family accommodation in Baltimore Court is assigned according to a priority system. Check with the supervisor of Burton's Pond Apartments for more information.

Supervisor, Burton's Pond Apartments, 309 Hatcher House, Memorial University, St. John's, NL A1B 3P7; Tel: (709) 737-7590; <i>burttons@mun.ca</i> ; <i>www.housing.mun.ca/bp/</i>

Field Hall Residence

Field Hall is designed to meet the particular needs of graduate students. It is located on the north side of campus by Long Pond and Pippy Park. The building consists of four floors. The first level houses Bitters Restaurant and Lounge, which is owned and operated by the GSU. The second floor contains the GSU offices and departmental offices for students.

The top two floors contain 29 single rooms for graduate students. Each room measures about 18' x 12', and contains a single bed, a large desk, a dresser, a large book shelf, a two-seat chesterfield, a coffee table and a refrigerator. There is a large closet and ample storage space. Telephone, cable television and computer network hook-ups are available in each room.

The kitchen on each floor is equipped with two stoves, two sinks, a microwave and plenty of communal cupboard space. There are men's and women's washrooms and showers on each floor, as well as a TV room and a dining room. Laundry facilities are located in the basement, along with extra storage space for bikes, boxes and furniture.

For information about room availability, call the Residence Co-ordinator at (709) 737-4331. You can complete an online application form at www.gsumun.ca.

Paton College

Paton College is the primary undergraduate residence on campus, and consists of men's, women's and co-ed houses. Paton College is no longer available to graduate students.

Student Housing Office, 309 Hatcher House, Memorial University, St. John's, NL A1B 3P7;
Tel: (709) 737-7590; www.munhousing.ca/pc.

Off campus

The Off-Campus Housing (OCH) division of Memorial University provides information, web resources and programming to students of Memorial University who secure off-campus housing through their website.

Students can find regularly updated listings of rental accommodations in St. John's on the Off-Campus Housing website (mun.homes4students.ca). Listings can be searched by proximity to campus, rental types and price.

Off-Campus Housing, Room 316F Hatcher House, Memorial University, St. John's, NL A1B 3P7; Tel: (709) 737-7365; Fax: (709) 737-3520; www.munhousing.ca/och; och@mun.ca

Choosing a place to rent

You may want to secure temporary lodgings for your arrival. Your department, the GSU, or the international student adviser may be able to assist you to find you a place or suggest where to look. Rent in St. John's is reasonable, but remember that heat costs can be high in winter and rent prices tend to increase close to campus. While the following estimates do not include utilities (hot water, power, heat), Newfoundland Power will provide information to prospective tenants on the previous year's heating costs for a given address.

- \$300-\$350 per month for a bedsitting room
- \$375-\$475 per month for a single bedroom apartment
- \$450-\$550 per month for a two-bedroom apartment
- \$600-\$800 per month for a house (three or more bedrooms)

Things to know before you rent:

- How much is the rent? Are heat, electricity, hot water and cable television included?
- Is it furnished? What appliances are provided? Do they work?
- What parking facilities are there?
- Is it insulated?
- Is a deposit required? How much?
- Is a lease required?
- Are there door and window locks?
- Are there smoke detectors and fire extinguishers?
- Are there any bugs or rodents?
- Is there enough heat in each room?

For boarders:

- Are meals included?
- What are the kitchen privileges?
- Are there any visitor restrictions?
- Are there any curfews?

Other online databases of available accommodations include:

www.thetelegram.com (The Classifieds section of St. John's newspaper, *The Telegram*)
www.munhousing.ca/och (Housing, Food and Conference Services has an Off-Campus Housing section on their website)

What is a lease?

A lease is the official rental agreement between you and your landlord. It is a legal contract that sets out what rent you have agreed to pay. It also states the premises the landlord agrees to provide. It may be quite simple, or it may contain certain conditions (e.g., quiet hours, restrictions on keeping pets). Regardless of any verbal promises, any changes or additions to the lease should always be noted in writing.

In addition to a lease, all tenants and landlords must abide by the Residential Tenancies Act, a provincial statute. This outlines your rights and responsibilities whenever you lease property in the province. Your landlord should give you a copy of the Residential Tenancies Act when you agree to rent his/her property.

Leases may take three possible forms: week-to-week; month-to-month; or for one year. The type of lease will determine when the rent is due, and what notice you must give the landlord before you move out. It will also determine what notice the landlord must give if you are asked to vacate the premises.

If you notice any damage after moving into the apartment, you should let the landlord know as soon as possible. To avoid dispute, you should write and sign a note describing the damage and when you noted it. Keep a copy of the note.

If several people decide to rent an apartment together, they are called co-tenants on the lease. If a co-tenant fails to pay his or her share of the rent, the other co-tenant(s) will be responsible for paying the entirety. Also, tenants are held responsible for damage caused by co-tenants or guests. It is important to remember these points when agreeing to share an apartment.

For more information on the rights and duties of landlords and tenants, contact:

Residential Tenancies Division
Department of Government Services
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
5 Mews Place
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL
A1B 4J6
Tel: (709) 729-2610 / 729-2608 / 729-5829
www.gs.gov.nl.ca/cca/rt/

INDEX OF IMPORTANT NUMBERS

The School of Graduate Studies

Memorial University of Newfoundland
 IIC-2012, Inco Innovation Centre
 St. John's, NL A1C 5S7, Canada
 Tel: (709) 737-8200
 Fax: (709) 737-4702 Fax:
sgs@mun.ca
www.mun.ca/sgs

The Graduate Students' Union

GH-2007 Feild Hall
 216 Prince Philip Parkway
 St. John's, NL A1B 3R5, Canada
 Tel: (709) 737-4395
 (709) 737-3395
gsu@gsunmun.ca
www.gsumun.ca

Memorial University of Newfoundland Contact List

(All numbers are in the (709) 737-xxxx exchange unless otherwise noted.)

Anthropology	8870		Ethnomusicology Program		7479
Aquaculture Program	8154		Financial Services	8221	
The Works (Aquarena/Field House)		3799/3000	Folklore	8402	
Arts, Faculty of	8254		Food Science		8530
Biochemistry	8530		French and Spanish		7636
Biology	7498		Geography	7417	
Bitters Restaurant and Lounge (Feild Hall)		3300	German and Russian		8831
Bookstore	7440		Graduate Students' Union (GSU)		4395
Botanical Garden (Field Centre)		8590	Graduate Studies, School of		8200
Burton's Pond Apartments		7599	Health Science Library		777-7036
Business Administration, Faculty of		8854	History	8420	
C-CORE	8354		Human Kinetics and Recreation		8130
Career Planning Centre		8876	Human Resources	4615	
Cashier's Office		2599	Humanities Program	8110	
Chaplaincy			International Student Advising Office		8895
Anglican	4376		International Student Resource Centre		2002
Pentecostal		4374	Legal Aid	7633	
Roman Catholic		8589	Library, Queen Elizabeth II		7428
Salvation Army		4375	Linguistics	8134	
United Church		4376	Marine Studies Program		778-0522
Chemistry		8746/3471	Mathematics and Statistics		8784
Classics	8593		Medicine, Faculty of		777-6762
Cognitive and Behavioural Ecology Program		8154	Memorial University of Newfoundland-Main		8000
Computational Science Program		8154	MUN Radio (CHMR 93.5FM)		4777
Computer Help Centre		4595	Music	7486	
Computer Purchasing Centre		2673	Native Liaison Office	2118	
Computer Science	8627		Nursing, School of		777-6695
Computing and Communications		8116	Ocean Engineering Research Centre		8804
Counselling Centre	8874		Ocean Sciences Centre (Logy Bay)		3708
Daycare (MUNSU/MUN Childcare Centre)		4728	Oil and Gas Studies Program		4519
Disabilities (Glenn Roy Blundon Centre)		2156	Off-Campus Housing	7365	
Distance Education & Learning Technologies		8700/8701	Paton College (Hatcher House Rm 309)		7590
Earth Sciences	8142		Pharmacy, School of		777-8300
Economics	8248		Philosophy	8336	
Education, Faculty of		8587	Physics and Physical Oceanography		8735/8736
Employment (Centre for Career Development)		2033	Political Science	8179	
Employment Relations Program		3046	Psychology	8496	
Engineering and Applied Science, Faculty of		8900	Queen's College		753-0116
English Language and Literature		8277	Registrar's Office	8260	
English as a Second Language		8740	Religious Studies	8166	
Environmental Science Program		8154	Residence Coordinator, Feild Hall		4331
Emergency Loans	7461		Science, Faculty of	8154	

Graduate Studies at Memorial

Social Work, School of		8165
Sociology	7443	
Student Aid		729-4244
Student Affairs and Services		7594
Student Health Services		7597
Transcripts	8267	
Wellness Educator	2659	
Women's Studies Program		3322

Notes: