

Fellowship Checklist 2024-2025 – Part 2

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SIM card

Having a working phone number is very essential for the significant administrative/life tasks you will begin during your two weeks before starting your fellowship.

There are two main options:

- Bring your sim card with you from your country and pre-purchase a roaming plan etc for the first month until you get a local SIM/plan.
- Order a prepaid Canadian sim card to be delivered to your home country which you bring with you and activate when you land <https://www.simoptions.com/prepaid-sim-card-canada/>
- Option of the FONGO free app provides for free a Canadian local phone number for free calls (but not text). It might be enough for some people depending on their home country phone plan.
- If you have your SIN and have a bank account (see below) then it is easy to get a SIM card in person in Toronto from the major mobile companies.
- You can get a cheaper option online or from a store, the prices/deals are continuously changing.

Tasks to start upon arrival in Canada:

1. Apply for **LEVEL 2** background check with Toronto Police that is needed for CPSO/UofT registration.
 - a) Online application link:<https://www.tps.ca/services/background-checks/criminal-record-and-judicial-matters-check/criminal-record-and-judicial-matters-check-form/>
Letter will be emailed to you and takes 7-10 days.
 - b) You can apply in person - 40 College St, Toronto

- c) You can post your documents to someone in Toronto, to apply on your behalf. The level 2 background check will then be emailed to you, and you can submit it to the CPSO ahead of time.

2. Apply for SIN (Social Insurance Number)

- a) Online application link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html>
- b) Apply at Pearson airport on arrival - Service Ontario desk just when you exit the immigration office, but maybe closed depending on your arrival time.
- I. You will need your work permit, passport and proof of address in Canada.
 - II. Examples of acceptable proof of address in Canada:
 - letter or document from a government (federal, provincial, territorial, or foreign)
 - letter or document from a financial institution (bank statement, credit card statement, mortgage contract or statement, etc.)
 - residential tenancy agreement/lease
 - bill (such as a telecom provider, a cable provider, a utility provider, etc.)
 - any document issued by a school, college or university that shows your address.
 - employment contract that shows your address
 - letter from an organization or an institution attesting the mailing address of the applicant. The organization/institution and the applicant must sign the letter confirming the mailing address.
 - III. This will take 7-10 days to receive in the mail.
 - IV. You can collect a physical copy/print out from Service Canada in person (This is different to Service Ontario where you get your OHIP "Ontario Health Insurance Plan" and driver's license etc.).

3. Apply for a bank account

- a. In-person
- super quick process
 - Needed so you can pay for your CMPA and complete your registration with UofT and begin work.
 - minimum requirements: proof of address, work permit and SIN
 - Many variations on what banks require before you can open an account. Banks have offers for newcomers, so check a couple of banks before finalizing your bank. You will need to google/research yourself and it is highly advisable to call the banks themselves and ask for advice.

- b. Some banks may have agreements with your country/bank and so you can open prior to arriving in Canada.
- c. Some banks may allow you to open an account online if you present in person within 2 weeks with the required documents.

4. Apply for OHIP in person at Service Ontario

- a) When you arrive and you provide PGME with your work permit, they will send you registration instructions which will include how to apply for OHIP.
- b) You will need three separate, **original** (not photocopies or printouts of electronic documents) identification documents:
 - one that proves your OHIP - eligible immigration status (**your work permit**)
 - one that proves you live in Ontario (**your signed lease or other proof of address as described above previously**)
 - one that supports your identity (**passport**)
- c) Make an appointment online for OHIP if possible.
- d) OHIP office opens at 8.30am, be there early as there is a long queue even before the office opens.
- e) Closest Service Ontario location - 777 Bay Street Lower Level, Toronto, <https://www.ontario.ca/locations/serviceontario/bay-and-college-toronto>
- f) Not all Service Ontario locations can issue OHIP.
- g) UHIP is no longer needed as you can apply directly for OHIP.

For questions, please contact these current Medical Imaging fellows:

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