

How to Apply for BC Medical Services Plan (MSP)

All eligible residents who are living in British Columbia for 6 months or longer, including international students, are required to enroll in the BC MSP Plan. You are recommended to enroll as soon as you arrive in BC.

The BC MSP Plan is effective on the fourth month of a newcomer's arrival, so in order to have medical coverage during the waiting period, you need to purchase private medical insurance for the first three months. You can purchase private insurance through David Cummings Insurance, or any other comparable private insurance company.

More information about David Cummings Insurance can be found here:

<http://www.david-cummings.com/vcc/enrolment/index.htm>

There are two ways to apply for BC MSP:

Online

You can apply for BC MSP online on their website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/msp/bc-residents/eligibility-and-enrolment/how-to-enrol>

Before you apply, you need to ensure you have the following information:

- The latest version of Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Apple Safari, or Internet Explorer 11
- A clear digital copy of your study permit (and those of your dependents if you are applying for them as well)

By Mail

You can download the BC MSP application form from their website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/forms/102fil.pdf>

1. Fill out the form online (pdf fillable) and ensure you don't skip any questions. If so, they will not process your application.
2. Once you completely filled out the form, print a copy
3. Sign and date the bottom the form
4. Include a clear photocopy of your study permit, and those of your dependents if applying for them
5. Put both the completed application form and a copy of your study permit in a white envelope
6. On the white envelope (*also see image on the back of page*):
 - a. paste a domestic postage stamp on the top right hand corner
 - b. write your return mailing address on the top left hand corner
 - c. write the MSP mailing address in the center of the envelope
 - d. seal the envelope
 - e. put the envelope in a Canada Post mailbox or to a post office

How to address an envelope:

The diagram shows a rectangular envelope with a grey border. On the left side, there are three lines of text: *Your name*, *Address*, and *City, Province, Postal Code*. On the right side, there is a rounded rectangular box containing the text **Postage Stamp**. In the center of the envelope, there is a block of text: **Health Insurance BC**, **Medical Services Plan**, **PO Box 9678 Stn Prov Govt**, and **Victoria BC V8W 9P7**.

Once you submit your MSP application online or by mail, it may take up to two months to process your application. You will receive your BC Services card by mail to the address that you wrote on your application form. If your address has changed since the time you submitted your application, you must contact MSP as soon as possible to provide them with your updated address. You will also receive a statement showing how much you will need to pay along with the payment deadline. You do not need to pay until you receive your statement.

Contacting MSP

Telephone: 604-683-7151 (Note: main office located in Victoria)

Office hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm

Website: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/msp/bc-residents>

Mailing Address: Medical Services Plan
P.O. Box 9035 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E3