

NURSING IN JAMAICA FIELD TRIP¹

FEBRUARY 14 – 23, 2025 (READING BREAK)

Complement your classroom learning through first-hand exposure to nursing in Jamaica. This optional one-week field trip during reading break will enable Practical Nursing students to interact with nursing students and instructors at [Brown's Town Community College](#), observe nursing practice in a variety of settings, and explore similarities and differences in community health in Canada and Jamaica.

Where & When?

- Saint Ann Parish, Jamaica from February 14 to February 23, 2025 (inclusive of travel).
- Participants will have face-to-face interaction with students from Brown's Town Community College, visit classrooms and lab facilities, and observe community health in a variety of settings and participate in health promotion. There will also be free time set aside to appreciate the culture and amenities that Jamaica has to offer.

Who is eligible?

- College of the Rockies students enrolled in Year 2 of Practical Nursing program during the 2024-2025 academic year:
 - a. Who are in good standing in the PN program and with no issues related to their progression in the program,
 - b. For whom there are no issues related to student conduct that would give the College concern about possible disruptions to the learning environment during the field trip,
 - c. Who are able to demonstrate that they:
 - have what it takes to succeed in a group environment,
 - are both curious and sensitive to cultural differences, and
 - are committed to representing the participating colleges and their partners in a responsible manner and acting in a professional and respectful manner during the exchange.
 - d. Who are Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents and 19 years of age or older as of the date of travel, and,²
 - e. For whom there are no impediments with legal or regulatory requirements related to travel to and entry into Jamaica.

¹ Information as of August 29, 2024. This learning abroad opportunity is subject to a risk assessment, which will be carried out in November 2024.

² International students are welcome to participate but are not eligible for financial offsets provided by the Global Skills Opportunity Program.

What will it cost?

The cost to participate in this exchange has been dramatically reduced thanks to support provided by Global Skills Opportunity.

Global Skills Opportunity seeks to increase the number of Canadian students studying and working internationally, including by widening access and equity in participation by low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students. Given this, **the maximum co-payment required from participating students is \$1,750**, which amounts to less than 1/3rd of the total average cost of the experience. In addition, **low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students can request an additional subsidy, reducing their co-payment to \$1,250.**

What does this cost include?

The cost includes airfare from Cranbrook to Montego Bay return, ground transportation in Jamaica, seven nights shared accommodation including breakfasts and dinners in Jamaica, two nights shared accommodation in transit hotels, travel medical insurance, farewell dinner and operational costs.

What does this cost exclude?

Participants are responsible for lunches in Jamaica and all meals while in transit, souvenirs, extracurricular outings, other personal expenses and getting to / from the airport in Cranbrook. Budget approximately \$500 for these costs.

Beyond the subsidy provided by Global Skills Opportunity, what other financial support is available?

- Participating students who will incur childcare / caregiver costs in order to travel to Jamaica may apply to the International Office to receive up to \$250 towards their costs.
- Students who are BC residents can apply for a [BC Scholarship Society One World International Scholarship](#). Contact College's Financial Assistance and Awards Advisor, Marifer Lam (lam@cotr.bc.ca), for more information.

Application procedure and deadlines:

- Complete an [application form](#).
- Arrange with Kerry Brinkert at the International Office to submit a \$500 deposit.
- Have an instructor who is familiar with you / your abilities submit a [reference form](#) to Kerry Brinkert at the International Office.
- Deadline: October 15, 2024.

Applicants may be interviewed by the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships.

Selection process:

- Your application form, instructor reference and interview will be considered by the College in confirming your eligibility with a view to selecting twelve (12) Year 2 Practical Nursing students. The College will select the first 12 students who are determined eligible by the College, and who have made a \$500 payment and have had an instructor submit a reference form.
- Applicants who are not selected will have their deposits refunded. **Deposits for applicants who are selected are non-refundable.** College of the Rockies reserves the right to cancel the program due to insufficient enrollment or other factors beyond its control. In case of program cancellation, College of the Rockies will refund deposits.
- It is the responsibility of participating students to continuously comply with the College's criteria for eligibility until the date of departure to one's international destination. Those who fail to do so will have their participation terminated and will not have payments made to the College refunded.

What happens after I'm selected?

- You will be asked to sign a letter of agreement in which you will commit to all aspects of the program, conduct yourself in a responsible and professional manner, and comply with College of the Rockies' risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad.
- Final non-refundable payment is due by October 31, 2024.³
- You will be expected to provide a copy of your passport to the International Office by October 31, 2024. Your passport must be valid until at least August 31, 2025.
- You will be expected to create a Global Skills Opportunity program profile and complete pre-departure and post-visit surveys. **Failure to comply may result in the College requesting that you repay Global Skills Opportunity funds that have been attributed to your experience.**
- You will be enrolled in College of the Rockies' Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course, which provides College recognition of enhanced global awareness and intercultural competencies. You will be expected to participate in activities and complete assignments related to the Global Engagement course, including four 1.5 hour sessions that will be scheduled between October 2024 and February 2025. Assignments focus on researching practical considerations and cultural aspects related to travel, identifying, assessing and developing strategies to manage risk, and developing strategies to communicate in culturally diverse contexts and manage culture shock.
- You will be asked to sign a waiver, College of the Rockies' risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad, and the College's protocols for responsible communications while traveling abroad. In addition, as part of College of the Rockies' risk management plan, you are required to register with the federal government's registry of Canadians abroad and provide confirmation that you have reviewed the federal government's advice for travel to Jamaica.

³ **All payments made to the College are non-refundable.** College of the Rockies reserves the right to cancel the program due to insufficient enrollment or other factors beyond its control. In case of program cancellation, College of the Rockies will refund payments that have been made.

- On Friday, February 14, 2025, all participating students will depart Cranbrook for Montego Bay, Jamaica, with an overnight stop in Calgary. (The College will make travel arrangements.) If you have class scheduled on February 14, it is your responsibility to obtain permission to be excused.
- In Jamaica, you will be expected to participate in all learning and cultural activities in an engaged and respectful manner. In addition in Jamaica, you will be asked to complete one reflective essay as part of the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course.
- You will return on the evening of Saturday, February 22, 2023, arriving in Cranbrook on Sunday, February 23, 2025 after an overnight stay in Toronto.
- By the end of the Winter Semester 2025, you will be asked to complete the final assignment related to the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course. This assignment is to engage in communications activity that describes how your international experience impacted learning in your field of study and / or your career goals and / or your personal growth. Failure to complete all Global Engagement Certificate of Completion course assignments to a defined standards may result in the College requesting that you repay Global Skills Opportunity funds that have been attributed to your experience.
- It is the responsibility of participating students to continuously comply with the College's criteria for eligibility until the date of departure to one's international destination. Those who fail to do so will have their participation terminated and will not have payments made to the College refunded.

Will I get credit for participating in this exchange?

- The field trip experience may be used as the basis for individual course assignments subject to the agreement of your professional practice instructor.

Need more information?

- Meet with the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships, Kerry Brinkert (kbrinkert@cotr.bc.ca)