

**Study Abroad Office
Site Risk Assessment Instructions for Restricted Travel Petition
COVID-19**

As part of the petition to study in a Restricted Travel Area, please address the points listed below in your Site Risk Assessment.

1. Program Details

- Program Name
- Host City and Country(ies)

2. Program Location(s)

- Review the [U.S. State Department \(DOS\) advisories](#) and [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) travel health notices](#), as well as the US Embassy's COVID-19 page (found within the [DOS Country Information pages](#)).
 - List the DOS and CDC advisory levels.
 - Highlight any specific concerns that are outlined in elevated levels/advisories.
 - Include DOS and CDC advice on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, as well as mitigate your risk based on other risk factors in your location.
- Beyond your host country, are there any locations near your program site(s) that are considered unsafe or are a Restricted Travel Area? If so, where?
- Related to COVID-19 testing and/or quarantine, review the US Embassy's site for your host country.
 - What are the entry requirements?
 - What are the exit requirements?
 - Are there any other requirements? If so, what are the specifics?
- Does the host-country currently have any stay-at-home, shelter-in-place, or other order in place? If so, what are the specifics?
- Address specific known issues for your host location during your program:
 - Seasonal concerns (e.g., hurricane season, typhoon season)
 - Political concerns (e.g., upcoming elections)
 - Health concerns (e.g., Zika, Malaria, coronavirus)
 - Geo concerns (e.g., earthquake zones)

3. Program Housing

- Provide details on living arrangements and study location, address and phone number of location, if known.
- Note: per COVID-19 risk mitigation best practices, to the extent possible it is advisable to have a single room with en-suite bathroom.
- Identify a plan for self-quarantine, should you become ill or test positive for COVID-19. Quarantine housing must include a private room with private bath.
- Address how you will arrange for meal delivery if quarantined.

4. Transportation

- Research how you will travel between accommodations location and classroom/study location. Address whether the areas you must travel through are considered to be in safe parts of the city, as well as whether the mode of transportation required to travel between these locations is considered safe.

- **Emergency Evacuation** – In the event of a major emergency or problem, you may need to evacuate out of the area or even the country. It is important to think about evacuation plans. How would you get out of the country if necessary? What if the international airport is closed or otherwise inaccessible? Are there trains out of the country? If so, from where to where?
- *Group Programs Only:* Faculty/staff group leaders are not permitted to drive students as part of any abroad program activity. Please confirm that the group leader will not be in the position to drive students during program related activities, and that drivers for program-related travel will be trained and insured professionals. (While policy does not prohibit group leaders from driving students outside program time, note that faculty are taking on a personal liability risk by driving students at any time.)
- Note: per COVID-19 risk mitigation best practices, it is advisable to decrease use of public transportation, if possible, and follow all CDC guidelines for public transportation.

5. Medical Care

- Medical providers, hospital locations, and drug translation guides are available on the GeoBlue Students website, the international health insurance provider for the UNC System: <https://members.geobluestudents.com/>
 - Research and identify the name, address, and telephone number of the nearest hospital that provides urgent/emergency care
 - Identify the name(s) and contact information for an English-speaking primary care provider closest to your program site. It is also advisable to identify in advance an English-speaking mental health provider and any specialists you may require.
 - If your program visits multiple locations, identify a health care provider in each location.
- Confirm you will register with GeoBlue via their website, using the information provided upon enrollment.
 - Students are advised to also download the GeoBlue app, which provides easy access to appointment scheduling and arranging for direct payment to medical providers.
- Note: If the medical providers you find are not an in-network provider with GeoBlue, you will need to pay out of pocket for any medical treatment, get a claim form from the provider, and then submit the claim for reimbursement. The Study Abroad Office recommends participants and program personnel to identify GeoBlue in-network providers, make an appointment and then request Direct Pay at least 48 hours prior to an appointment to avoid paying out-of-pocket expenses for medical care at the time of service and needing to submit claims.

6. Health & Safety Contact Information

- List the national emergency number (911 equivalent).
- List the name, address, and telephone number of local police.
- List the name, address, and telephone number of the local hospital.
- List the name, address, and telephone number of a local primary care provider and any specialist you may require.
- List the address and phone number for the U.S. Embassy or Consulate Office that is closest to your location.

7. Registration with U.S. Embassy

- If the petition is approved and you are accepted to study abroad, you must register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). <https://step.state.gov>
 - Enrollment gives you access to updated information about areas abroad and makes it easier for the US Embassy or Consulate to contact and assist you if a crisis occurred in your current location.

- Create an account with STEP and then click on their "Email Subscriptions" link to select the countries in your region to receive alerts & warnings for those countries.
- Please confirm you will complete this registration process.

8. Registration with AlertTraveler

- All students studying abroad or registered with the International Travel Gateway are required to download, activate and utilize the app (with GPS location enabled) for the duration of the program.
- AlertTraveler is a risk management mobile application that provides country and city intelligence, safety and security alerts, and allows NC State Study Abroad to request and receive instant check-ins with students in the event of an incident. [Activate AlertTraveler](#)
- Please confirm you will complete this registration process.