

Student International Travel Safety

INT-04



About This Policy

Effective Date:

08-15-2006

Last Updated:

08-15-2006

Responsible University Office:

Office of the Vice President for International Affairs

Responsible University Administrator:

Vice President for International Affairs

Policy Contact:

Graduate Student Travel

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Related Information

- * [U.S. Department of State, Current Travel Warnings](#)
- * [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Travelers' Health Information](#)
- * [U.S. Department of State, Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#)
- *
- * [Interim Guidance for Indiana University concerning Ebola Virus Disease \(EVD\) for Travelers to Affected Countries](#)

Related Forms

- * [Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Form](#)

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Scope

University units, administrators, and faculty member who are involved in organizing student travel; undergraduate or graduate/professional students who travel overseas on a university-sponsored instructional program or who travel individually using funding from IU.

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Policy Statement

Indiana University regularly monitors international information relevant to the safety of IU students since their safety and security is of the utmost importance. In evaluating the safety of travel abroad on university-sponsored programs, IU gives primary consideration to Travel Warnings issued by the U.S. Department of State and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Guidelines

Effective August 15, 2006, the following policy applies to IU students:

For **University-sponsored or organized instructional programs**, including faculty-led instruction and other sponsored course work, **for undergraduate and graduate/professional students**:

Indiana University will not offer or support study abroad in countries that are under a U.S. Department of State Travel Warning. Requests for exemptions based on "special circumstances" are evaluated on a program-by-program basis through a process established by the Safety and Responsibility Committee of the system-wide Overseas Study Advisory Council (OSAC). For more information see: <http://overseas.iu.edu/policies/safety/index.shtml>

Upon advice of University infectious disease specialists, and taking into account warnings from the CDC, travel to countries experiencing serious outbreaks of infectious disease may be prohibited.

For **individual travel by undergraduate and graduate/professional students** who plan to use funding from Indiana University to pursue research, study or other University-related business:

The University will not provide funding for students to travel to a country under a U.S. Department of State Travel Warning that recommends that U.S. citizens depart from that location or defer non-essential travel to it.

Undergraduate and graduate/professional students who travel to countries for which other categories of travel warnings have been issued must sign a waiver that should be submitted to the department head to be kept in the student's file.

Upon advice of University infectious disease specialists, and taking into account warnings from the CDC, travel to countries experiencing serious outbreaks of infectious disease may be prohibited.

NOTE: [Please see special requirements for students traveling to Cuba](#)

Information on Travel Warnings

It is the responsibility of the sponsoring unit (e.g. Center, Department, Institute, or School) at Indiana University to comply with and enforce this policy. Current information on travel warnings for individual countries is available at:

US Department of State:

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/outbreaks.htm>

Indiana University units that regularly send graduate students abroad may also obtain automatic email distributions of U.S. Department of State Travel Warnings by registering at:

<https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>

Providing Contact Information while Overseas

While traveling abroad on university-sponsored or -funded programs, graduate/professional students are strongly advised to provide information about their travel itinerary and contact information in the destination country to their sponsoring unit at IU. This should include hotel and personal addresses, mobile and office telephone numbers, email information, and an alternative contact with an institution or individual in the country. Such information is necessary if emergencies arise either with family members in the United States or with events in the country of residence.

In addition, graduate/professional students are advised to register upon arrival in their country of destinations with the U.S. Embassy. This can now be done on-line at: <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/>. Registration is especially critical where the destination country is one in which current Travel Warnings exist and a "special circumstances" waiver has been obtained from OSAC as described above. In the event that issues affecting the safety of U.S. citizens unexpectedly arise, the U.S. Embassy needs up-to-date contact information for visitors in order to disseminate safety information, evacuation orders, or other updated travel warnings.

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Additional Contacts

| Subject | Contact Name | Phone | Fax | Email |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Undergraduate Student Travel | Kathleen Sideli | 812-855-9304 | 812-855-6452 | sideli@iu.edu |
| Graduate Student Travel | David Zaret | 812-855-5021 | | ovpia@iu.edu |
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History

This policy was established in August 2006.