

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Plan for Groups

GTOC Petition for Exception to Policy 1070

Virginia Tech [Policy 1070: Global Travel Policy](#) does not authorize university-supported international travel to locations where the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) has issued a Travel Health Notice Level 3 or higher. Also, Policy 1070 does not authorize student university-supported international travel to locations where the [U.S. Department of State](#) has issued a Travel Advisory Level 3 or higher. Policy 1070 allows for individual travelers or groups to petition the Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC) for an exception to Policy 1070. To request an exception to policy for high risk travel due to COVID-19 for a faculty-led international program, submit this form and all relevant attachments by the below deadlines to VTglobalsafety@vt.edu.

Program Type	Term	Petition Submission Deadline
Credit-bearing Faculty-led	Fall (embedded)/Winter 2022-23	August 15, 2022
	Spring 2023	November 15, 2022
	Spring (embedded) – March 2023	January 15, 2023
	Spring (embedded) – May 2023/Summer I 2023	March 15, 2023
Co-Curricular	All	30 days prior to departure

If your decision-making timeline requires an earlier response from the GTOC, please submit your petition with an earlier deadline group.

If your destination(s) is high risk for reasons other than COVID-19, follow petition procedures detailed in the [Procedure to Request an Exception to Policy – International Travel](#).

Program name:

Program dates:

Group Leader(s):

Destination Country(s)	CDC COVID-19 Travel Health Notice	U.S. Department of State Travel Advisory

Attach an itinerary that includes:

- All destination cities
- Detailed, daily events
- Transportation to any sites
- Lodging
- Closest emergency medical facilities
- Personal/unscheduled/free time

Pre-Departure Communication Plan

What is your plan to communicate financial risk related to your program and COVID-19 related expectations to participants? *This may be discussions during pre-departure sessions, e-mail, etc.*

How do you plan to address physical security and non-COVID-19 health safety during pre-departure sessions?

Explain any updates/changes to the program's conduct policies/expectations concerning COVID-19. *If this is a separate document, attach that document.*

Travel to Program

What are the current COVID-19-related entry requirements for travelers from the U.S. your first destination country?

If you have multiple destination countries, what are the COVID-19-related entry requirements for subsequent destinations, accounting for the time spent in each previous country?

What are your plans to accommodate unvaccinated participants? (*Vaccination status cannot be used as a screening criteria for applicants.*)

Are all of the participants in your program U.S. citizens/Permanent Residents? If not or unknown, what is your plan to support non-U.S. citizens/Permanent Residents in entering your destination(s) and returning to the U.S.?

Programming

Provider (N/A if none):

Partner university/institution (N/A if none):

What are your provider and/or partner institution's COVID-19 related requirements?

What is the plan for testing in the event a student is symptomatic during the program?

Can all lodging listed in your itinerary accommodate quarantine/isolation if needed? If not, what are your alternate lodging plans for quarantine/isolation?

What is your plan to support quarantine/isolation during your program (*meals, wellness check-ins, laundry, etc.*)?

What is the plan to continue the program if a program leader tests positive?

If your itinerary includes any personal/unscheduled/free time, what is your mitigation plan for COVID-19 exposure during those periods?

Return Travel

What is the isolation support plan if one or more students tests positive in the last week of the program because of symptoms or contact tracing?

Responsible person representing Virginia Tech to be local to the isolating participant(s)

Plan to fund the costs of that responsible person

Planned check-in frequency with isolating participant(s)

Lodging

Meals

Other

What is your plan to communicate current [CDC recommendations](#) for travelers entering the U.S. to participants?

Is there anything else you would like to note in your petition?