WHITWORTH UNIVERSITY

COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Off-Campus Programs | Office of International Education

The following presents considerations for contingency planning and guidance on possible scenarios related to COVID-19 disruption of faculty-led off-campus programs.

I. Airline & Pre-Departure Requirements

Unlike previous years, there are no airline or pre-departure (e.g. pre-flight testing) requirements related to COVID-19. However, use the following scenario and guidance as best practice.

Scenario: Student Develops COVID Symptoms Pre-departure

- There are no regulations that prevent an individual from traveling who either has developed COVID-19 symptoms or even tested positive.

- Guidance:
    - We recommend the individual get tested for COVID-19 and alert faculty leader if positive.
    - Strongly recommend strict masking around others.

II. Arrival & Entry Requirements

In contrast with previous years, most all countries have now fully removed all entry requirements related to COVID-19, including health declaration forms, online passenger data forms, proof of negative COVID test prior to arrival, and pre-scheduled COVID test to be taken post-arrival.

However, entry regulations are set by foreign authorities (not CDC) and are subject to change at any time. We recommend faculty leaders partner with OCP staff in staying apprised of these regulations and any possible change.

- Resources:
    - European Union regulations: https://reopen.europa.eu/en
    - U.S. Department of State per-country guidance: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/COVID-19-Country-Specific-Information.html
    - Delta Airlines Global Travel Requirements map: https://www.delta.com/us/en/travel-planning-center/find-your-destination/explore-top-destinations

III. COVID Disruptions Mid-Program

Scenario A) Student or Faculty Leader has Close Contact with COVID-19+ Individual

Close contact with a presumed or confirmed COVID positive individual does not trigger any specific regulatory step or requirement. Unlike past years, testing and quarantine is not required. However, the following guidance applies:

- <u>Guidance:</u> Recommend testing for COVID-19. While awaiting testing and test results, we recommend strict masking so as not to impact others on the program.

Scenario B) Student or Faculty Leader Develops COVID-19 Symptoms Mid-Program

Follow the guidance indicated above in Scenario A.

- <u>Resource:</u> *CDC COVID-19 Symptoms:* [*https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html*](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

- Individuals are not required to immediately quarantine after presenting one or more of the above symptoms. Many of these symptoms are common with international travel. However, due caution is wise, and we recommend the student/faculty leader mask until a COVID test result is determined. Continue to monitor symptoms. Most countries permit self-quarantine in a hotel/housing of ones' choice.

Scenario C) Student Tests Positive for COVID-19 Mid-Program

- <u>CDC/WA Department of Health guidance:</u> If test positive with no symptoms –quarantine until a negative antigen test result is confirmed. If test positive with symptoms –quarantine until no symptoms or fever for 24hrs.

- <u>OCP protocol:</u>
  1) OCP and faculty leader(s) will assist student with quarantine procedures, if needed.
  2) Program delivery should pause until all group members are tested anytime a student has a confirmed positive test result.
  3) OCP will liaise with EIIA insurance for support with quarantine expenses/claims, but this will be an individual responsibility up front.

  Note: EIIA insurance now provides <u>up to $5,000 per insured traveler for quarantine lodging and food</u> due to of exposure to or confirmed case of COVID-19. These expenses, however, are an up-front cost to the individual and will be reimbursed later through the EIIA claim process. It may be wise for students/families to have access to a credit card in case they face these unexpected, up-front expenses.

IV. End of Program (Return to U.S.)

Note: All CDC/federal U.S. government requirements regarding negative COVID tests prior to return to U.S. have been removed. <u>There is now no testing or proof of vaccination requirement in order to board a return flight to the United States.</u>

V. Important Considerations for Faculty Leaders

1. Faculty leaders whose programs utilize homestays must research possible quarantine housing (local hotel) in the event such action is necessary.

2. Programs with multiple faculty leaders should discuss what options and constraints exist in the event that one faculty leader experiences a COVID-related disruption. Relay this to OCP.

3. CDC Guidance:
   - For Fully Vaccinated Travelers: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html
   - Quarantine & Isolation: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html

VII. Contacts

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