



UMW POLICY ON EDUCATION ABROAD TRAVEL

University of Mary Washington
Center for International Education (CIE)

Preparing its students to be globally competent citizens is essential to the academic mission of the University of Mary Washington (UMW). Therefore, the University strongly encourages and promotes participation in UMW education abroad programs and international travel, in order to conduct research, engage in service learning, complete internships, participate in athletics and artistic performances, and take part in international long and short-term immersion trips organized by UMW faculty and staff, UMW approved education abroad partners, and UMW affiliated clubs and organizations.

The University is equally committed to promoting the safety and well-being of its students, faculty and staff while they are engaged in any education abroad program or in international travel associated with education abroad. CIE continuously monitors all global destinations where travelers participate in education abroad opportunities for various types of risks.

The University of Mary Washington strongly advises against travel to countries with a Department of State (DoS) Travel Advisory Level of 3 – “Reconsider Travel” for reasons other than COVID-19.*

The University of Mary Washington does not in any way support international travel to any country assigned a Department of State (DoS) Travel Advisory of Level 4 – “Do Not Travel” for any reason.

This policy applies to UMW students as well as faculty and/or staff leading or supporting any type of international travel as described above.

Additionally, each education abroad opportunity is evaluated, multiple times prior to departure, on an individual basis due to the specific nature of the program and the host country. All international travel requires a favorable review of local health, safety, and security conditions and operational viability, individual student plans (if applicable), vaccine availability and mandates, and additional information from the US Center for Disease Control. Should conditions deteriorate, the University and/or CIE may deem appropriate to impose restrictions on international travel.

Any questions about UMW’s Policy on Education Abroad Travel can be addressed to the Center for International Education (cie@umw.edu). UMW’s primary concern in this regard is the safety and well-being of all UMW students, faculty and staff engaged in UMW related education abroad and/or academic international travel.

**In accordance with [SCHEV Guidelines for Study Abroad](#) (Section III, bullet 5) a petition process is in place for faculty directors of UMW Faculty-led programs and independent travelers who wish to submit for an exception to this policy regarding travel to countries with a DoS Travel Advisory of Level 3.*