

Travel Guidelines for All Students of University of Maryland, Baltimore

THIS GUIDANCE WILL BE UPDATED AS CONDITIONS CHANGE.

Cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) are rapidly escalating worldwide. Due to the current public health situation, many countries have begun implementing strict screening procedures or closing their borders in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. The unified aim of UMMS, UMB, and FPI is to protect the safety of all staff, faculty, students, patients, and visitors across our campuses. These guidelines are to encourage safe travel by all members of our community.

NOTE: All guidance below referencing CDC Risk Assessment Levels are specific to CDC Risk Assessment Levels associated with the COVID-19 hazard. CDC Risk Assessment Levels associated with other hazards (e.g. Ebola, Dengue, Monkeypox, etc.) are not applicable and should not be considered in relation to the below guidance.

General Recommendations:

- All individuals planning international travel should review new travel restrictions being enforced in many countries due to COVID-19.
- Please note that the U.S. Government could close the borders partially or wholly at any time, changing this advice substantially. All travelers should factor the uncertainty into their travel planning.
- Given the rapidly evolving global spread of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), **all UMB students should self-quarantine for 14 days** after returning from travel to or through countries with sustained community transmission of COVID-19 (**CDC Risk Assessment Level 1-3**). An up to date list of these countries can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [website](#). As information is constantly changing and evolving, please check this reference frequently for updated recommendations.
- All UMB students contemplating or planning any international travel may contact International SOS, the medical and security assistance resource for UMB, at 215-942-8478 for up-to-date advisory information on any travel itinerary.

I. UMB Student PERSONAL International Travel:

Students are encouraged to monitor media and local information sources and factor updated, rapidly changing information into personal travel plans and activities. Students planning personal international travel accept all of the potential risks associated with leaving the United States. Examples of potential risks include: being unable to return to the U.S.; potential for quarantine either in another country or in the U.S.; disruption of studies; inability to return to clinical assignments; potential delay of graduation and licensure; financial consequences if forced to stay in another location for a period of time; financial aid consequences.

II. UMB-related Student International Travel:

For the purposes of this guidance, UMB-related student international travel includes students traveling internationally for internships, externships, research fellowships, data collection, service projects, clinical programs, courses, or as part of faculty-led group projects, whether or not the student is obtaining academic credit.

A. CDC [Risk Assessment Level 1, 2, and 3 Countries](#)

1. **UMB is immediately suspending UMB-related student international travel to or through any country that is under a CDC Risk Assessment Level 1, 2, or 3 advisory. This includes faculty-led or facilitated activities and individual UMB-related student international travel.**
2. **Students already present in a CDC Risk Assessment Level 1, 2, or 3 country, or who are in a country that becomes Risk Assessment Level 1, 2, or 3 while they are there, are required by UMB to:**
 - a) Contact the Student Affairs Office at their school for information about when and how to leave the international site, depending on the circumstances. Individual school leaders will communicate this guidance to impacted students, including anyone who planned their own international activities related to their studies.
 - b) Contact University of Maryland Immediate Care (UMIC) upon return to the U.S. to report travel and to receive guidance at 667-214-1899 or shealth@som.umaryland.edu.
 - c) Anticipate a self-quarantine for up to 14 days upon arrival in the U.S. and plan to contact UMIC again before returning to any UMB educational activities.
3. The Center for Global Education faculty and staff will act as a resource for students and school leaders on this issue, and can be reached at globaltimore@umaryland.edu

B. All Other International Travel:

1. **Until further notice, students, faculty, and administrators should use the following considerations to determine whether a UMB-related student international activity should continue:**
 - a) Will the overseas activity include clinical interaction with patients or visits to health care facilities?
 - b) What is the availability of personal protective equipment for students entering a clinical setting? (if limited or unknown, consider canceling activity)
 - c) What is the adequacy of health care facilities in country if the student falls ill (this information is found at the [UMB International SOS portal page](#), using the dropdown

country menu in the top left) (if limited in quality/availability, consider canceling activity)

- d) Will a potential UMB 14-day self-quarantine required by UMB upon return harm the student's ability to complete academic requirements or other important academic obligations? (if so, consider canceling activity)
- e) Does the student have the financial means to support themselves in the foreign setting if, for instance, they cannot return home as planned because of travel bans or inability to secure a flight? (if not, consider canceling activity)
- f) Does the student have a chronic health condition, are they immunocompromised, or have a condition that puts them more at risk for COVID-19 and/or the anxiety surrounding the outbreak? (if so, consider canceling activity)
- g) What does the UMB faculty member, affiliate, or local partner in the international setting recommend? If the on-the-ground partner has concerns about the safety of the student or capacity of the training site to support the student during a crisis, this is a strong factor in deciding to cancel or postpone an activity.

C. Advice for all UMB-related student international travel:

- 1. Students should either delay the purchase of airline tickets until immediately prior to planned departure or purchase refundable tickets.
- 2. All UMB students contemplating or planning international travel should contact **International SOS**, the medical and security assistance resource for UMB, at **215-942-8478** for up-to-date advisory information on any travel itinerary.
- 3. Students should purchase travel insurance and investigate airlines' cancellation policies.
- 4. Students abroad should be advised to follow the precautions outlined by the [CDC](#) and [International SOS](#) regarding health and safety measures.
- 5. Students should limit additional travel, beyond the program site, as much as possible.

D. Faculty and School Administrators should support students affected by program changes or cancellations related to COVID19 by:

- 1. Assisting students in departing a program early and helping with the attendant logistical complications this brings.
- 2. Supporting students as they work to determine if a project that is canceled can be rescheduled or take place online in whole or part.
- 3. Determining if online or local (Baltimore/US) options are available to replace a canceled international program.
- 4. Minimizing university-related negative consequences if a student must self-quarantine upon return to the US.