RE: guidance for CSU graduate students proposing international travel

CSU is continuing to monitor and respond to the evolving situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, CSU is limiting non-essential international travel for students.

Essential international academic travel advances the academic development of the student in a manner that cannot be met on campus. Essential international research travel advances the mission of the University and cannot be completed remotely.

This is an important restriction that reduces unnecessary exposure both at home and abroad, and requires that students make intentional and informed travel decisions.

Students who believe their travel is essential must complete the steps below.

1. Register their travel with the Office of International Programs through myEdabroad (contact CSU’s International Risk Manager derek.smallwood@colostate.edu for the correct registration link)
2. Complete the Education Abroad Pandemic Travel Preparation form in myEdabroad. This document will prompt you to consider the ongoing challenges and risks of travel and identify ways to mitigate and respond to those challenges.
3. Request an exception to the CSU restriction on non-essential student travel, as authorized via email communication with your Department Head/Chair and Dean/VP.
4. Review CSU’s list of higher risk destinations. These countries presented elevated risk pre-pandemic and require an additional travel petition.
5. Students with CSU employment are required to inform their CSU supervisor of their international travel plans and ask if they have any specific post-travel safety requirements before you return to campus.

We are grateful to see the world reopen to travel and permit a return to your important international engagements. However, each country has navigated the pandemic with varying degrees of success, and some destinations remain particularly burdened or with limited access to vaccines. Given the ongoing fluidity, it is advisable to consider if going abroad in the current global climate is feasible and/or aligns with your personal risk tolerance.

Your well-being is important to CSU. While we want you to have an international experience, you need to assess if now is the time, and we need to remain flexible in this evolving situation.

If you need assistance in navigating next steps, contact derek.smallwood@colostate.edu.

All the best,

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Updated 01.05.2022