

**FALL 2020
REOPENING PLAN**



**STUDY ABROAD &
INTERNATIONAL /
DOMESTIC TRAVEL**

STRATEGY FOR STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS AND MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TRAVEL

Study Abroad Strategy

The Global Education Office has created our strategy during COVID-19 by comparing and matching our protocols to the best practices and resources in the field. These included:

- Monmouth University's own Managing Emergencies Abroad Handbook and the Crisis Management Team meetings held twice a week.
- The Department of State (DOS) travel advisories.
- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advisories.
- The Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) and their subcommittees.
- Association of American College and University Programs in Italy (AACUPI).
- Direct communications with our international partners and providers.
- National Association of Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA) – Association of International Educators.
- The Forum of Education Abroad.
- Best practices from 8,000+ universities shared through listservs such as SECUSS-L.

The criteria to approve study abroad programs in fall 2020 include:

- CDC travel advisory is at a 2 or lower.
- DOS travel advisory level is at a 2 or lower.
- Students are not required to self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
- The program has retained the infrastructure and resources needed to support Monmouth students, which includes:
 - Adequate administrative and support staff is on campus.
 - Faculty teaching on site (not remote for full semester).
 - Review and approval of COVID-19 related emergency response plans and continuation of academics i.e.:
 - Students reside in single bedrooms.
 - Accommodations have the capacity for students to self-isolate.
 - Adequate health insurance and health resources available.
 - Widespread testing and hospital accommodations available.
 - Travel restrictions between the EU and other countries have eased allowing Americans to travel freely.
 - Visas are obtained in time.
- *or*
- The 90-day academic program is reviewed and accepted by Global Education Committee.

By July 1, 2020 all fall 2020 study abroad programs were reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Travel would only be granted only to those programs which meet the established criteria above. Unfortunately none of our programs were approved for travel during the fall 2020 semester.



If a student currently resides in their host country and would like to continue their Study Abroad Program with no threat of imminent harm, or if a program can travel based on established criteria, the following strategy will be implemented:

- Current CDC levels, DOS levels, and travel advisories due to community spread of COVID-19 are consistently reviewed. Recommendations are made by the Global Education Office as needed.
- Students continually monitor conditions and are responsible for following local government and host institution regulations regarding program updates as well as masks and social distancing requirements.
- Risk and Release forms signed.
- Students are restricted from travel outside the host country, and in some instances host city.
- Consistent health checks are given by host intuition.
- Biweekly health and safety check-ins with the Global Education Office are conducted.
- Global Education Office will assist the student with emergency travel to the United States for health reasons.

Monmouth University-Sponsored International and Domestic Travel for All Employees is Suspended Until the Following Conditions are Met:

- CDC travel advisory is at a 2 or lower.
- DOS travel advisory level is at pre-COVID-19 levels.
- Ample commercial airline capacity/options are available.
- Host country/state lockdowns, stay at home orders, and local mobility restrictions have been relaxed.
- No mandatory quarantine for incoming visitors to host county/state or to the U.S./N.J. when returning.

Exceptions to international and domestic travel policy

Given the uncertainties of COVID-19, Monmouth University strongly suggests that employees and students defer from travel during the fall 2020 semester.

- Exceptions to the suspension of Monmouth-sponsored travel must be approved by the employee's area vice president.

Communication Plan

- Fall 2020 study abroad suspension is communicated to campus community by Presidential Memo.
- Global Education Office follows up with each student directly affected by the suspension.
- The Provost's Office and area deans communicate the travel suspension policy and updates directly with their faculty and employees.



- Student club advisors and club presidents communicate travel suspension policy and updates directly with their student members.
- The fall 2020 International and Domestic Travel Policy is included in the “Return to Work” policy that is distributed to the Monmouth University community.

Incoming International Student Strategy

The Global Education Office is closely monitoring CDC levels, DOS levels, presidential proclamations, and travel restrictions. We update individual international students as changes to their U.S. Embassy, travel restriction, or commercial airline capacities emerge. If students can travel to the Monmouth campus despite these challenges, the following strategy will be implemented:

- Students will be instructed to log into the Student Health Portal and complete the Symptom Tracker questionnaire every other day. The Health Center will track responses and contact students via telehealth when necessary.
- Monmouth University will require all international students to self-quarantine for 14 days before attending any Monmouth-sponsored events.
- Students who need accommodations for the 14-day quarantine will work the Global Education Office to find suitable rooms on or off-campus.
- Students would be able to use the “Grab and Go” dining option on campus for all meals.
- The student will be required to limit their movements and wear a mask at all times except when alone in their room.
- Any student who develops symptoms is instructed to contact the Health Center and be tested.
- After the 14-day period passes with no symptoms, students are cleared by the Health Center to use campus facilities with their masks on.
- All new and continuing international students are required to enroll in a Monmouth University-approved health insurance plan that covers COVID-19 related expenses for the fall semester. Students with proof of enrollment in an alternate health insurance plan that covers COVID-19 related expenses may sign a waiver to opt out of the Monmouth-approved plan.

