

Mobility and Management:
How will COVID-19 shape
the new “normal”?

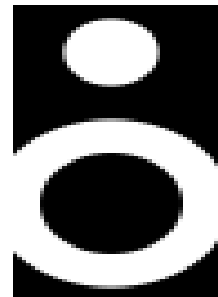
Wednesday, April 28, 2021

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Check to ensure speakers are turned on and up in 3 places:



**THE RING CENTRAL
SPEAKER ICON IN YOUR
BROWSER**



**THE VOLUME ON THE
COMPUTER SPEAKERS**



**THE SOUND CARD ON
THE COMPUTER**

Today's Panelists

Adria Baker, EdD, Associate
Vice Provost for
international Education,
Rice University

Catherine Ebelke,
PA-C, CTH, Montana State
University - Bozeman

Cindy Friedman, MD, Chief
of the Travelers' Health
Branch, Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Jeff Gaskill,
ACS Division Chief, East
Asia & Pacific Affairs -
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U.S. Department of State

Kalpen Trivedi, PhD,
Associate Provost for
International Programs,
University of
Massachusetts Amherst

Caroline Donovan
White, MA
NAFSA

Joann
Ng Hartmann, MS
NAFSA

Audience Poll

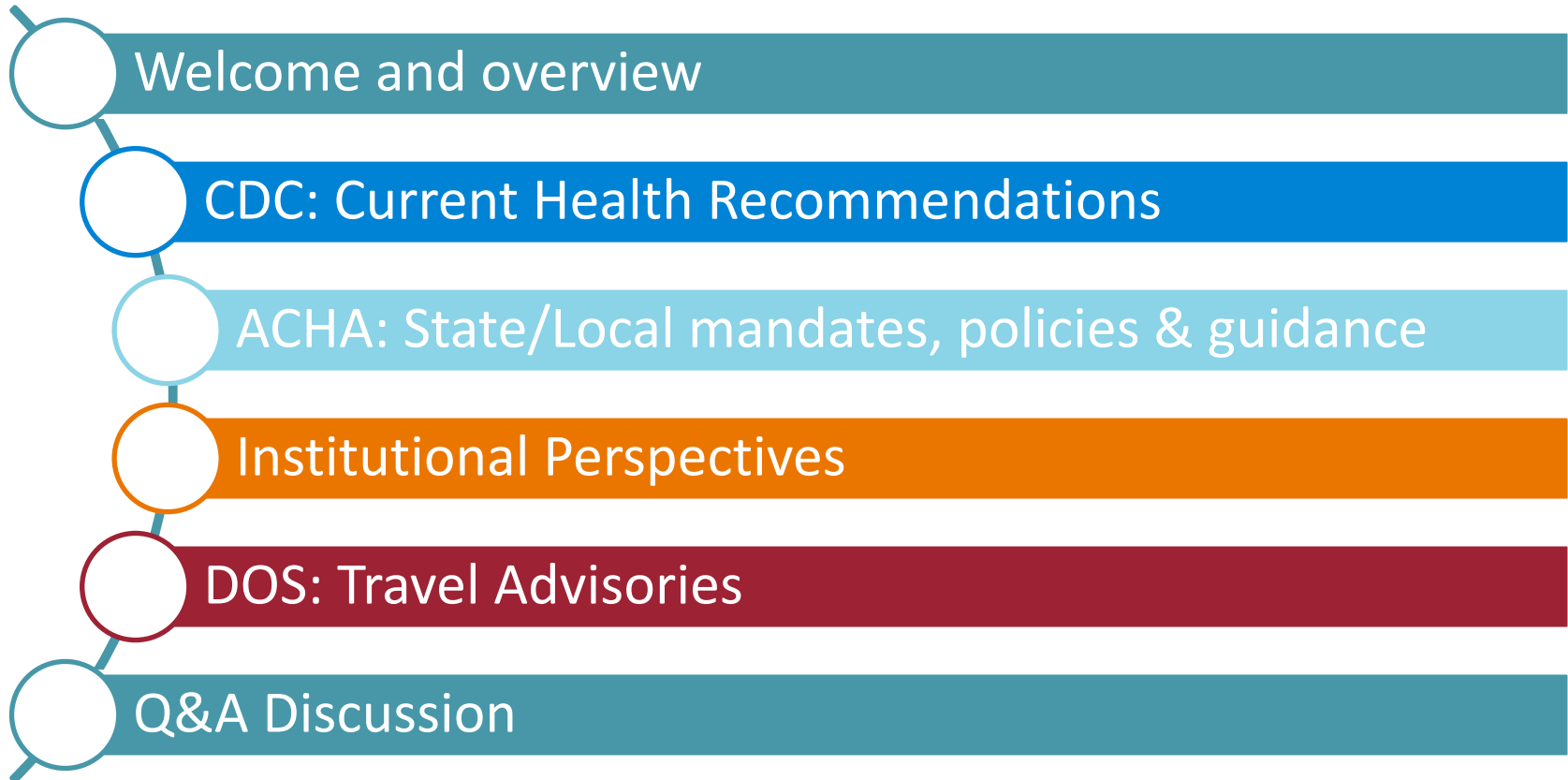
With which area of international education do you *primarily* affiliate?

- Education Abroad
- International Enrollment Management
- International Student & Scholar Services
- International Education Leadership
- Teaching, Learning & Scholarship

Please respond using the poll feature on your screen.



Overview



Welcome and Overview

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Current Challenges & Issues

Institutions planning in-person return

Hybrid is here
to stay

Institutional Infrastructure

- Technology, staffing, funding

DOS Travel Advisory Levels

Risk management

Vaccine, COVID-19 testing,
health certificate/passport
requirements



Health recommendations
for Travel

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Overview

- CDC Travel Health Notices
- Latest CDC travel recommendations
- Issues for study-abroad programs
- Verifiable vaccination certificates

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)



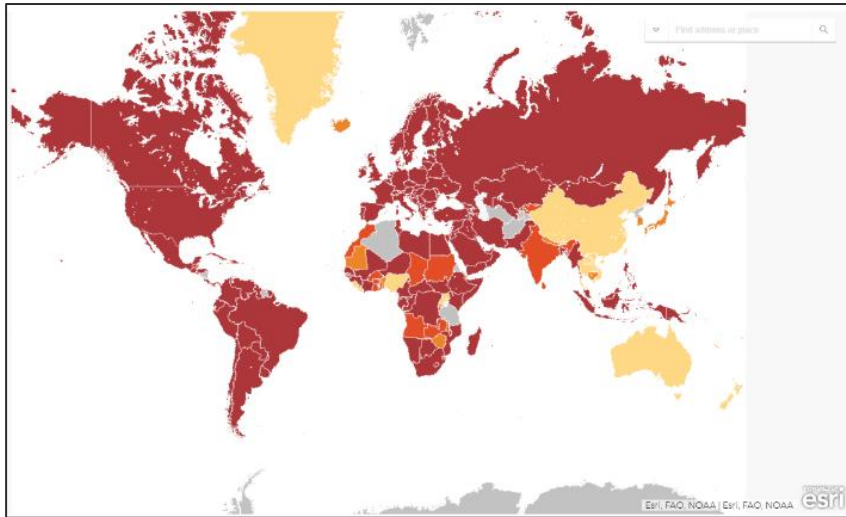
CDC advises fully vaccinated travelers to pay close attention to the current situation at their destination before traveling internationally

Travel Health Notice Level	Cumulative 28-day incidence rate per 100,000	Recommendation
4 Very High	>100	All travelers: avoid all travel
3 High	51-100	All travelers: avoid nonessential travel
2 Moderate	5-50	Travelers at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19: avoid nonessential travel
1 Low	<5	All travelers: wear mask, maintain distance (6 feet), avoid crowds, wash hands, check health

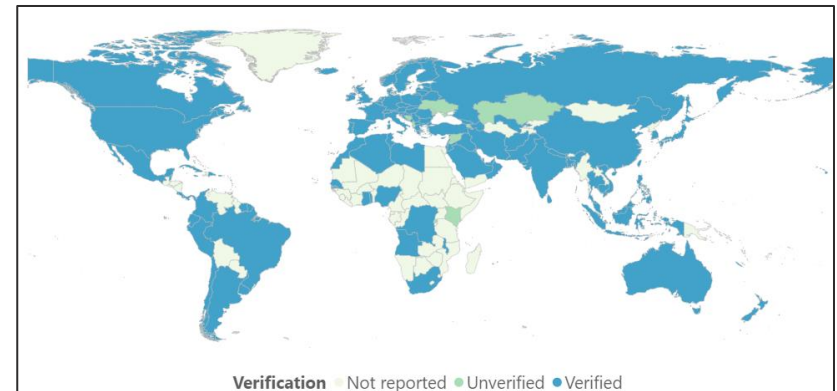
- Primary data: official case counts reported to WHO
- Secondary data: number of tests per capita and test-to-case ratio
- All criteria are measured over a 28-day period
- Reviewed by CDC daily
- Changes in THN level are updated on a weekly basis

Why are THN levels so high worldwide?

CDC Travel Health Notice map as of April 26, 2021



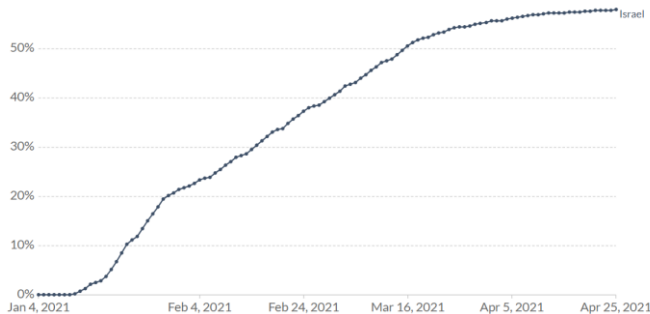
Countries reporting presence of SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern B.1.1.7 as of April 26, 2021



- Relaxation of control measures
- Variants of concern that are more transmissible
- Low vaccination coverage in many countries

As more people get vaccinated...

Share of the population fully vaccinated against COVID-19, Israel (Our World in Data)



Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases, Israel (Our World in Data)



- Fully vaccinated people are at low risk of symptomatic & severe COVID-19
- Fully vaccinated people are less likely to have asymptomatic infection and potentially less likely to transmit SARS-CoV-2 to others

Domestic travel

- Fully vaccinated travelers do not need to get tested pre- and post-travel or self-quarantine after travel

Domestic Travel RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS	Not Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated
Get tested 1-3 days before travel	✓	
Get tested 3-5 days after travel and self-quarantine for 7 days. Self-quarantine for 10 days if you don't get tested.	✓	
Self-monitor for symptoms	✓	✓
Wear a mask and take other precautions during travel	✓	✓

International travel

Fully vaccinated international travelers:

- No longer need to get tested before outbound travel
- No longer need to self-quarantine after travel
- Must show proof of a negative viral test before boarding a flight to the United States
- Should still get tested 3-5 days after travel

International Travel RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS	Not Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated
	Get tested 1-3 days before traveling out of the US	✓
Mandatory test required before flying to US	✓	✓
Get tested 3-5 days after travel	✓	✓
Self-quarantine after travel for 7 days with a negative test or 10 days without test	✓	
Self-monitor for symptoms	✓	✓
Wear a mask and take other precautions during travel	✓	✓

Students in study-abroad programs may face unpredictable circumstances in host country

- High Burden of COVID-19
- Restrictions of movement
- Difficulty accessing medical care if sick or injured
- Mandatory quarantine and lockdowns
- Adequate availability of testing
 - Must have access to testing and results no more than 3 days before flying to the United States

Programs planning to offer study-abroad should advise students to:

- Get fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before traveling
- Be aware of and follow all airline and destination entry requirements, such as testing, vaccination, mask wearing and quarantine
- Consider getting insurance to cover health care and emergency evacuation
- Discuss study abroad plans with their doctor if they are at increased risk for severe disease

Have You Been Fully Vaccinated?

People are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

Verifiable Vaccination Credentials



CDC acknowledges there is increasing interest in **verifiable vaccination credentials** (VVCs) to certify vaccination, especially as it relates to travel both domestically and internationally



CDC's role is to participate in USG discussions and **contribute subject matter expertise** related to overall public health considerations



There will be no centralized, universal federal vaccinations database and **no federal mandate** requiring everyone to obtain a single vaccination credential



VVCs should be widely available, **accessible in digital and paper formats**, free, and meet equity standards



VVCs will meet **privacy, security, and anti-fraud** protections, as well as technological specifications

Final thoughts

- CDC uses a data-driven approach to assess COVID-19 risks and to provide recommendations to international travelers
- Consider the COVID-19 situation at destinations, including Travel Health Notice levels and local restrictions when planning study-abroad
- All travelers should be fully vaccinated before their trip



Travelers' Health Resources

- [Travel Health Notices](#)
- [Destination Pages](#)
- [Disease Directory](#)
- [Yellow Book 2020](#)


Social Media



Follow Travelers' Health on social media:

-  [@CDCTravelers](https://twitter.com/CDCTravelers)
-  [@CDCTravelersHealth](https://www.facebook.com/CDCTravelersHealth)
-  [@CDCTravel](https://www.figure1.com/@CDCTravel)

Email Updates



Subscribe to email updates to get travel notices, clinical updates, & healthy travel tips.

- Quarterly Newsletter
- Travel Health Notices (Weekly)
- Yellow Book Updates

Web links

- Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>
- Science Brief: Background Rationale and Evidence for Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/fully-vaccinated-people.html>
- When You've Been Fully Vaccinated: How to Protect Yourself and Others
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>
- Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html>
- Travel during COVID-19
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>
- COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Destination
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>
- How CDC Determines the Level for COVID-19 Travel Health Notices
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/how-level-is-determined.html>



State and Local Guidance

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Practical Health and Safety for International Travel at IHEs



Intentional
collaboration across
campus and community

Standing committee of
relevant parties

Excellent
communication crucial

Adaptability and agility

???

Identify and Utilize
Health and Safety
Resources and expertise

Outbound Travelers:

Program and Institutional Level Health and Safety Considerations



Knowledge of and access to US and Global Safety and Health Information and Resources

Effects of existing travel restrictions (eg, recent Level 4, European news) and potential for new unexpected travel restrictions – or lifting of same

Destination considerations

Insurance:
Evacuation
In-country
Availability

Travel Registry
essential

Myriad Unknowns

Outbound Travelers:

Student and Faculty Level Health and Safety Considerations



PDOs for students, faculty, staff crucial

- Strong Health and Safety component
- Mandatory
- Solid COVID knowledge
- COVID-related travel items
- Pre-Travel Health Screenings
- Emergency and Communication planning vital

Vaccination Considerations

- Requirements?
- Timeline
- Other needed immunizations
- Continuation of COVID precautions post-vaccination
- Acceptable Documentation

Testing Considerations

- Type of testing required
- Where, when, how
- Recent hx of COVID infection and Documentation of Recovery

Accessing Healthcare Abroad

- Physical health
- Mental health
- Destination healthcare system condition
- All-cause care may be strained due to pandemic

Incoming International Travelers:

International and returning US students, faculty, researchers, guests



Conflicting Information

- Establish policies and protocols to address current potentially conflicting mandates, regulations, recommendations
- Mechanisms to address these issues is crucial
- Collaborative approach across campus and wider community (local, state, tribal, national) entities
- Adaptability for inevitable changes
- Clear messaging
- Information provided to incoming travelers as far in advance of travel as feasible
- Establish and communicate policies for campus guests (students, researchers, guest faculty, visiting scholars) arriving from international points

COVID-19 Testing & Vaccinations

- **TESTING:**
 - Who?
 - What test acceptable?
 - Documentation?
 - When?
 - Where?
 - How?
 - Who pays?
 - Recent (<90 days) infection?
- **VACCINATIONS:**
 - Current requirements?
 - What type acceptable?
 - What documentation needed?
 - Availability upon arrival?
 - Routine Immunizations still crucial
 - MMR X 2 or titer
 - Meningococcal
 - Men B
 - TDaP
 - TB testing

Quarantine, Isolation Planning & Ongoing Support

- Housing and food
- Remote learning
- Healthcare access (physical and mental health)
- Challenges continue with xenophobia, isolation and other related issues
- Campus and community support essential as ever....even more so now

Orientation

- Important to include strong Health and Safety component
- Mandatory participation
- How to access and utilize healthcare while at US host institution, for both physical and mental health
- Welcome utilization of available services
- Provide solid COVID information including symptoms, seeking advice and care if concerns arise, continuing precautions even if vaccinated etc
- Provide resources for COVID-related supplies

International Travel Health and Safety Considerations in COVID Times



Foundational for
Travel

Resources and
expertise identified
and utilized

Intentional
collaboration

Clarity in decision-
making and
messaging

Excellent
Communication

Flexibility and
Adaptability

Institutional Perspectives

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The 'old' Normal

- Top-25 Public Research University in the US
- State flagship, R1 (Very High Research Activity)
- 22,600 undergrads; 4,300 grads; 4,500 distance
- 3,800 international students, including OPT
 - New international students each year: ~1,000 (UG/G – 50%-50%)
- 1,400 study-abroad per year (usually!)
 - Students Abroad in Spring 2020: ~770
- 2,000+ individual faculty, staff, student (non study-abroad) university-tracked international travel
- J-1 scholars/visitors: ~550 p.a.

The New 'Normal'

- Study-Abroad Students
 - Fall 2020: 17
 - Spring 2021: 47
 - Summer 2021 (estimated): 60
- New International Students
 - Fall 2020: UG-6/G-18
 - Spring 2021: UG-65/G-165
 - Fall 2021 (est.): UG: 300/350
- J-1 Scholars/visitors:
 - Fall 2020: 29
 - Spring 2021: 25
 - Fall 2021 (estimated): 40
- Approved faculty/staff International Travel
 - Fall 2020: 8 trips
 - Spring 2021 (YTD): 9 trips

Fall 2021 Opening Plans

- All faculty, staff, and students to return to campus in-person this fall.
- Vaccines required for all undergraduate and graduate students.
- All faculty and staff are also strongly encouraged to get vaccinated.
- All classes normally taught in-person will return to that mode of delivery (exceptions only for international students *UNABLE* to travel to campus).
- Student support services, such as the Learning Resource Center, Registrar's Office, International Programs Office, cultural centers, and more, will be available in-person.
- Small, in-person events will be offered to allow flexibility for any public health and safety COVID-19 guidance.
- Off-campus students will have access to university support services and resources.

Travel Risk Management



- Complex set of criteria for assessing travel risk
- Dept of State and CDC advisories generally given high weight, but are not dispositive
- Other sources of information:
 - Insurance and Intelligence providers
 - Five-Eyes government advisories
 - Local partners and providers in destination
 - Health data from WHO and Global Health Security Index
 - Currently, also Covid related data from Harvard Metrics on Case Rates, Johns Hopkins, National Data Sources

Covid Risk Assessment Snapshot

COVID Risk Assessment ★ 🔗 📄

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Add-ons Help Last edit was made 3 days ago by Andrea Drake 📈 Share

🖨️ 🔍 90% View only

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	A	B	C	D	E	AD	AE	BD	BE	CD	CE	CF	CG	DF
1	COUNTRY	REGION	Spring 2021 Destination for UMass Amherst students	Andrea's Current Assessment (4.21.21)	Andrea's Current Assessment (4.12.21)	CDC (4.21.21)	CDC (4.12.21)	US DOS (4.21.21)	US DOS (4.12.21)	WHO Efficiency of Care (static)	Global Health Security Index assessment (static)	Harvard Metrics on Case Rates (4.21.21)	Harvard Metrics on Case Rates (4.12.21)	WHO current COVID infection rates/spre (4.21.21)
2	Argentina	South America		4- Red	4- Red	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 4	75	58.6	Red	Red	Communi
3	Australia	Pacific	Yes	1-Green	1-Green	CDC Level 1	CDC Level 1	USDOS Level 2	USDOS Level 2	32	75.5	Green	Green	Clusters of
4	Belize	Central America		3-Orange	3-Orange	CDC Level 2	CDC Level 3	USDOS Level 2	USDOS Level 3	69	31.8	Yellow	Yellow	Communi
5	Bhutan	Asia		1-Green	1-Green	CDC Level 1	CDC Level 1	USDOS Level 1	USDOS Level 3	124	40.3	Green	Green	Sporadic
6	Brazil	South America		4- Red	4- Red	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 4	125	59.7	Red	Red	Communi
7	Cambodia	Asia		2-Yellow	2-Yellow	CDC Level 2	CDC Level 2	USDOS Level 3	USDOS Level 2	174	39.2	Yellow	Yellow	Sporadic
8	Chile	South America		3-Orange	3-Orange	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 3	USDOS Level 3	33	58.3	Red	Red	Communi
9	China	Asia		2-Yellow	2-Yellow	CDC Level 1	CDC Level 1	USDOS Level 3	USDOS Level 3	144	48.2	Green	Green	Clusters of
10	Colombia	South America		4- Red	4- Red	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 3	22	44.2	Red	Orange	Communi
11	Costa Rica	Central America		3-Orange	3-Orange	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 3	36	45.1	Orange	Orange	Communi
12	Croatia	Europe		3-Orange	3-Orange	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 3	USDOS Level 3	43	53.3	Red	Red	Communi
13	Cuba	Central America		4- Red	4- Red	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 4	39	35.2	Yellow	Yellow	Communi
14	Cyprus	Europe		2-Yellow	2-Yellow	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 3	24	43	Red	Red	Clusters of
15	Czech Republic/Czechia	Europe		3-Orange	3-Orange	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 3	USDOS Level 3	48	52	Red	Red	Communi
16	Denmark	Europe	Yes	2-Yellow	2-Yellow	CDC Level 4	CDC Level 4	USDOS Level 4	USDOS Level 3	34	70.4	Orange	Orange	Communi
17	Dominica	Central America		2-Yellow	2-Yellow	CDC Level 2	CDC Level 2	USDOS Level 3	USDOS Level 3	35	24	Yellow	Green	Clusters of

☰ Assessment by Country Country Specific Considerations Other/university level considerations Program Specific Explore

Travel Policies

- Undergraduate Study-Aboard
- Bespoke and granular assessment per location
- Study-abroad philosophy
 - Available
 - Allowable
 - Accessible
- Restrictions will continue through 2021-22, with gradual expansion of opportunities
- Reviewing vaccine requirements for all study-abroad participants
- Faculty/Staff Approved Travel
- Each request individually reviewed
 - Dean's recommendation
 - IPO travel risk assessment, including Covid-specific risks
 - Provost's Approval (per IPO recommendation)
- Policy will be gradually loosened starting summer of 2021

Protocols for COVID-19: *Looking to Fall 2021 and Beyond*

Protocols: Campus communications, testing, vaccinations found: return.rice.edu.

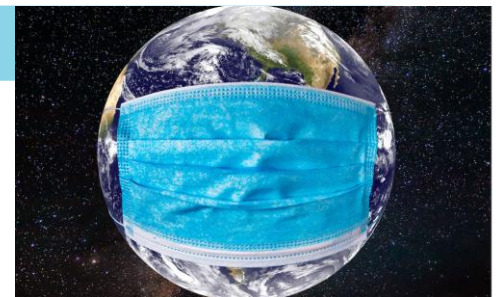
- **Fall 2021 – In-person instruction** on-campus, but offering digital educational support, to help international students who are still abroad waiting for a visa.
- **Vaccinations** offered at on-campus clinics to all Rice community. Not required, but strongly encouraged.
- **Testing, masking, social distancing** strongly required if on-campus.
- **Travel** protocols for Summer 2021 and Fall 2021

Communication and Reactions:

- Reconciling **state/local mandates** can be confusing, yet clear communication on guidance is required for success at many levels.
- **Report on what is the status at that moment** in time – what we know now. Anything and everything is subject to change. **Empathy and kindness** are key critical. Everyone is dealing with difficult times.
- How **creative** can you get to communicate updates?
- Ultimate **decision-making** – and communication - with the Crisis Management Leadership with Provost and President.
- Address concerns as you are able. Be **transparent**.

Some Covid “Keeper” New Norms:

- Keeping some online access, meetings, etc., as desired.
- Thinking “outside of the box” at all times.
- More rotating schedule possibilities.
- Multi-venue trainings and international engagement.



Insights Learned and Projections for the Future

The Global Pandemic and International Students, Scholars & Partnerships

- Every decision has a significant **“domino effect”**.
- **Four pillars** that are intermeshed, with over-reaching consequences:
 - Status of Covid-19
 - Institutional policies / Academic decisions
 - ICE/SEVP laws
 - U.S. Consular visa processing status
- Residential college system; Research institution – **Reactions include**: Great teaching. Seeking more extensive college life experience. Experiential education limited, but new models are emerging.
- Mobility limitations has opened a **multi-tiered opportunities** for educational exchange, recruitment and outreach.
- We must be **hopeful, patient, creative** and **advocate** as we can. Learn what communication avenues are most effective for your international students, scholars, and campus.





DOS Travel Advisories

Q&A Discussion

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Resources

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Upcoming Events

www.nafsa.org



Date	Topic
April 29 12pm-1pm EDT	Webinar: Responsible Education Abroad: Best Practices for Health, Safety and Security, held jointly by NAFSA and the Forum on Education Abroad
May 6 10am-12pm EDT	Peer to Peer Conversation: Restarting Education Abroad
June 1 9am-1pm EDT	Workshop: Getting Started with Virtual Exchange, half day program
June 1 9am-1pm EDT	Workshop: Global Operations for International Education Leaders
June 1 1:30pm -5:30pm EDT	Workshop: Budget Modeling, Control Management, and Financial Sustainability in Internationalization
June 1-4, 2021	NAFSA Annual Conference and Expo

NAFSA Resources



- **Website:** NAFSA Resources for Operational Resilience
- **Website:** NAFSA Coronavirus Critical Resources, including regulatory resources
- **Digital Download:** NAFSA's Toolkit for Managing in Times of Global Uncertainty
- More information at www.nafsa.org/coronavirus

Additional Resources

- **American College Health Association (ACHA)**
 - www.acha.org
 - COVID-19 Information and Resources for Campuses
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
 - www.cdc.gov
 - Domestic and International Travel during COVID-19
 - State & Territorial Health Departments
- **Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs**
 - www.travel.state.gov

NAFSA Commitment

- **ADVOCATE:** Strong and resilient advocacy through Public Policy
- **EDUCATE:** Commitment to providing resources and programs that are innovative, time sensitive, and relevant
- **INNOVATE:** Vitality and energy of member leaders through the work of Knowledge Communities, Committees and the Regions





NAFSA: Association of International Educators is the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to international education and exchange, working to advance policies and practices that ensure a more interconnected, peaceful world today and for generations to come.