

**Colgate University**  
**Off-Campus Study Acknowledgement of Risk & Responsibility**  
**COVID-19 Addendum for Approved Programs - Fall 2021**

Colgate University welcomes your participation in off-campus study offered by a third party provider for the fall 2021 semester. While third party program providers, foreign governments, and the host communities will attempt to maintain a reasonably safe and secure environment, the COVID-19 pandemic still presents risks. This document asks students enrolled in approved programs to understand and acknowledge the risks and responsibilities inherent in both international travel and studying off-campus during the fall 2021 semester as related to COVID-19. This document applies to both international and domestic approved programs operated by third parties. This document is an addendum to the general Acknowledgement of Risk and Responsibility agreement that you signed when you committed to your program – in the event of any conflict between these two agreements, this document will be the controlling document, provided that this agreement does not supersede the waiver and release provisions set forth in the general Acknowledgment of Risk and Responsibility agreement, and those provisions apply to the risks described in this agreement. **Please read this document carefully before signing.**

**Colgate’s role in connection with approved programs operated by third parties**

I understand that although Colgate University has offered to accept academic credit if I successfully complete my chosen program and may apply financial aid towards my cost of participation in the program, the program is not conducted by or on behalf of Colgate, and that the University (a) has vetted the academic components of the approved program but cannot control the specific implementation of academic instruction or assessments, (b) does not have direct control over the health and safety protocols of the program, and (c) cannot guarantee academic credit for a partial semester of study or a refund of fees if I decide or am compelled to leave the program for health, safety or any other reasons. Nevertheless, the University is providing me with the information in this document to assist me in evaluating my decision to participate in the program. I acknowledge that my participation in the program is entirely voluntary and that Colgate University has informed me that if I choose not to participate in the program, I will be permitted to enroll to with the University for the fall 2021 semester.

**COVID-19 Risks**

- I understand and acknowledge that my decision to participate in an off-campus study program is voluntary and that by committing to participate in an off-campus study program for fall 2021 I voluntarily assume any and all risks associated with this program, including those related to COVID-19.
- I understand that there is presently no cure for COVID-19, that the disease can present a serious health risk and that neither Colgate University nor the off-campus program

provider can guarantee my health or immunity from infection, regardless of whether I am vaccinated and regardless of precautions taken.

- I acknowledge that Colgate University is requiring all students on Colgate-operated study groups to be vaccinated for COVID-19 (unless granted an exemption for medical or religious reasons). Although students enrolled in approved third party programs are only required to follow the vaccination requirements of the program provider, I understand that Colgate University strongly recommends that all students participating in off-campus study programs be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 prior to the start date of their approved program regardless of the rules set by their program provider, because being vaccinated increases protection for myself, my fellow program participants and the health of those with whom I may interact in my host country. I understand that many countries may require proof of vaccination as a requirement for entry into the host country. I further understand that Colgate will be unable to assist me and that I will be fully responsible for any consequences that may result if I am not fully vaccinated prior to the start of my program.
- I acknowledge that, notwithstanding the best efforts of the program provider to implement and require compliance with prevention and mitigation measures, I may become ill with COVID-19 during my program, and that such illness may result in personal injury, extended illness, temporary or permanent disability, or death.
- I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to consult a healthcare provider to discuss my medical history and the risk of participating in an off-campus study program--including risks related to COVID-19. I also understand that it is my responsibility, in consultation with my healthcare provider, to complete Colgate's Off-Campus Study [Self-Guided Action Plan](#) form to manage any ongoing medical conditions, if any, while participating in my program.
- I understand and acknowledge that scientists and medical professionals, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), have concluded that people of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. I have reviewed the [CDC website's list of medical conditions](#) that present increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and will obtain a full physical prior to departure and discuss my healthcare and COVID-19 prevention plans with my physician.
- I understand and acknowledge that the COVID-19 virus is and/or may be active in my location of study and/or other locations to which I may travel while I am participating in my program, and therefore, the risk of exposure from symptomatic and asymptomatic carriers is possible. Furthermore, I understand that COVID-19 has disproportionately affected certain racial and ethnic minority groups. I acknowledge that this may be relevant and have an impact on the local community in which I have chosen to study and/or travel.

## **Compliance with COVID-19 Measures**

- I acknowledge that the host government, local community or approved program provider may implement various prevention and mitigation measures including, but not limited to, health screening and testing, COVID-19 vaccine requirements, physical distancing, use of face-coverings, personal hygiene requirements, travel restrictions, contact tracing, and possible periods of quarantine or self-isolation.
- I acknowledge that it is my responsibility, as a program participant and member of the program community, to comply with any and all prevention and mitigation measures.
- I acknowledge that my failure to comply with any required actions relating to such prevention and mitigation measures may lead to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate removal from the program. I understand that I may also be charged with violations of the Colgate University Code of Student Conduct if I fail to comply with any required prevention and mitigation measures.
  - In the event that I am removed from the program due to failure to comply with these measures or other reasons, I understand that I will forfeit any academic credit related to completion of the program.
  - I also understand that if I am removed from the program, I will be responsible for any and all additional financial costs associated with my departure from the program, including but not limited to airfare, change fees, and temporary lodging. I further understand that I will forfeit any tuition, housing or other expenses already paid without the possibility of refund.
- I understand that I also will be subject to the laws and public health rules of my host country, and other countries to which I may travel, surrounding COVID-19 when studying off-campus. I understand that consequences of failure to obey these rules may include fines, legal penalties and/or deportation, as imposed by local authorities. If I am found guilty of such offences, I understand that my approved program provider also reserves the right to dismiss me from program housing or from the program itself, with consequences as described above. If I am dismissed, I understand that there will be no refund of program fees, tuition or other expenses that I have paid to Colgate University for my participation in the approved program.

### **Pre-Departure Travel Risks & Responsibilities**

- I understand and accept that I might be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test before being able to depart for my program location and that it will be my responsibility to secure and pay for any required testing prior to my departure or my return to the United States. I understand that it is my responsibility to consult with my air travel provider to ensure that I am fulfilling all pre- boarding and destination country requirements relative to COVID testing.
- I understand and acknowledge that there are inherent risks involved in travel to and from my off-campus study program location. I also understand that while the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), airports and airlines have instituted

policies to mitigate the risk to COVID-19, there are still opportunities for exposure to the virus during travel to and from my program and that it is my responsibility to research and review the safety procedures and protocols instituted by TSA, the airports, and airlines prior to commencing travel.

- I understand that on April 20 2021, the US Department of State raised travel advisories for most countries to Level 4 (“Do Not Travel”) to align their advisories with those of the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) for COVID-19. I understand the travel advisories for many, but not all, of the most common countries where approved programs operate were lowered to a Level 3 (“Reconsider Travel”) on June 8 2021 but that it is possible that my host country may remain in or return to a Level 4 travel advisory by the start of my program. I acknowledge that the Department of State and CDC Level 4 Travel Advisories/Recommendations recommend against international travel to countries subject to a Level 4 designation due to the global impact of COVID-19. I further acknowledge that the CDC recommends that unvaccinated travelers should avoid non-essential travel to countries in a Level 3 CDC COVID-19 travel advisory.
- I understand that approved programs are operated independently from Colgate University and that as noted above, while Colgate approves the academic credentials of approved programs, the approved programs are solely responsible for making determinations about the health and safety of their programs. I understand that my approved program may elect to continue to operate programs in a location with a Level 4 travel advisory based on the provider’s evaluation of conditions prevailing in the program location or other factors.
- I further understand that assessments of risk are inherently personal decisions and I have read and understand the applicable travel advisories from the U.S. State Department ([travel.state.gov/](https://travel.state.gov/)) and the CDC ([wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices)) and will continue to monitor and stay informed of future advisories, recommendations or restrictions that may be issued by federal, state, local or international authorities in order to make the right decision for me personally about whether to participate in a program under these circumstances.

#### **On-Site Travel - Risks and Responsibilities**

- I understand and acknowledge that due to COVID-19, my program and/or host country may elect to restrict travel within and/or outside of the country for any purpose. I agree to comply with any and all imposed restrictions and understand that my failure to do so will result in consequences as described in the “Compliance with COVID-19 Measures” section of this document.
- If my program allows travel within or outside of the host country, I understand that doing so carries particular risks while COVID-19 remains active. Among other things, any travel may increase the risk of contracting COVID-19, and travel outside the host country could result in me being subject to governmental or program quarantine rules upon re-entry to the host country, delays in my return due to COVID-19 outbreaks, or other

consequences that could result in my inability to fully engage in my chosen off-campus study activities or could jeopardize my academic progress on the program. In such an event the program provider may not provide a refund of tuition or program fees.

### **On-Site Risks and Responsibilities**

- I understand and accept that it is my responsibility to comply with any ongoing COVID-19 surveillance testing required by my program.
- I understand and acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic has temporarily, but significantly, altered the academic and residential experience of my off-campus study program and that my program of choice is implementing many changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to, class scheduling, instructional methodology, classroom density, physical distancing measures, housing occupancy and behavioral guidelines, co-curricular and extra-curricular programming. I agree to participate and accept these changes as part of my participation. I understand that policies and procedures may change during the course of my program, and agree to comply with any and all policies and procedures that may be implemented.
- I understand and acknowledge that the risk of exposure to or infection by COVID-19 during the program may arise from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and/or others, including, but not limited to, program staff, faculty, students, volunteers and contractors, and may occur despite the exercise of prudent precautions.
- I acknowledge that I have the opportunity to contact the Office of Off-Campus Study at Colgate University and/or my approved program provider to discuss any risks associated with participating on my off-campus study program. Furthermore, I understand that I can consult the websites of the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of State, as well as that of the local U.S. Embassy and the embassy of my host country to obtain information on COVID-19 in my planned location of study. I take responsibility for informing myself about conditions on-site and protecting my health to the best of my ability to minimize my risks of exposure and infection.

### **Potential program suspension or cancellation**

- I understand that my program provider may determine for health, safety and/or security reasons that the program must suspend or cancel on-site operations and require students to return to their official place of residence. I also understand that Colgate University reserves the right to require my return from a program due to health and safety conditions even in the event that the program provider continues to operate.
- I acknowledge that approved program providers may put plans in place, to the best of their ability, to continue my program of study virtually, but that there can be no guarantee that the virtual program will be comparable to the program as originally contemplated.

- I understand that if my provider program suspends or cancels my program but the host university remains open, I will not be allowed to continue my studies as a direct enroll student at the host university.
- I acknowledge that if the program is suspended or cancelled that it may be my responsibility to secure and pay for all arrangements for my departure, including but not limited to airline change fees and fares, as well as temporary accommodations. I understand that under these conditions, any refund would be dependent on the policies of the program provider and that Colgate will not refund any monies paid or due to the program provider.
- I understand that if my off-campus study program is suspended or cancelled after arrival on-site, I will need to return to my home residence rather than to the Colgate University campus.

### **Other risks**

In addition to the risks described above, I acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic may pose additional risks, including but not limited to unavailability of some U.S. consular services, the possibility of interrupted academic study that may impact my ability to complete an entire full-time semester enrollment, the possibility of being placed in quarantine by the host country upon arrival and/or upon return to the United States or my home country; possible inability to travel and/or return to the United States or my home country when and how I would prefer; and/or illness, injury or travel impediments associated with civil unrest resulting from COVID-19 outbreak and/or governmental responses thereto. I understand that the scope of the COVID-19 pandemic, the manner in which the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus is transmitted, and the timing, scope and location of possible surges in outbreaks of COVID-19 are not yet fully known, and as a result this agreement may not fully identify the risks associated with my participation in my program.

### **Acknowledgement, representation, warranties**

As a participant on this program, I acknowledge that I have not relied on representations or warranties from Colgate University or any party related to Colgate University or the program provider, including any officer, faculty or staff member, agent, volunteer, or student, regarding the safety of, or the risks of, participating on my off-campus study program. I do, however, acknowledge and represent that I have relied instead on my own judgment as to whether to undertake the opportunity to study off campus and all of its attendant risks. To the extent that I choose to participate in this program, I assume all risks inherent thereto, whether known or unknown, including but not limited to those described above.

I have read, understand, acknowledge and agree to the foregoing. I affirmatively acknowledge that by checking this box I am entering into a legally binding agreement and that my identity as represented is true and accurate.

*CC to parent/guardian*