

**Colgate University**  
**Off-Campus Study Acknowledgement of Risk & Responsibility**  
**COVID-19 Study Group Addendum - Fall 2022**

Colgate University is looking forward to your participation in off-campus study for the fall 2022 semester. While Colgate University, collaborating universities, foreign governments, and host communities will attempt to maintain a reasonably safe and secure environment, the COVID-19 pandemic still presents risks and challenges. This document asks students to understand and acknowledge the risks and responsibilities inherent in both domestic and international travel associated with off-campus study groups during the fall 2022 semester as related to COVID-19. This document is an addendum to the general Acknowledgement of Risk and Responsibility agreement that you signed when you committed to your Colgate study group. In the event of any conflict between these two agreements, this agreement 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.**

**COVID-19 Risks**

- I understand and acknowledge that my decision to participate in a Colgate off-campus study group is voluntary and that by committing to participate in an off-campus study group for fall 2022 I voluntarily assume any and all risks associated with this study group, 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 collaborating university or other provider can guarantee my health or immunity from infection, regardless of whether I am vaccinated and boosted and regardless of precautions taken.
- I understand that Colgate University requires all students, including those on Colgate-sponsored study groups, to obtain one of the U.S.-approved COVID-19 vaccinations and to be fully vaccinated and boosted (unless granted an exemption for medical or religious reasons) for the fall 2022 off-campus study programs. Should I receive a vaccination exemption from Colgate, I understand that my host country, host institution or other entities may nevertheless mandate vaccination and are under no obligation to accept Colgate's exemption policy. In such an event, I understand that Colgate may be unable to assist me and that I will be fully responsible for any consequences that may result from an exemption to Colgate's vaccination requirement.
- I acknowledge that, notwithstanding the best efforts of Colgate University and/or the collaborating university or other providers to implement 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 the 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, and 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, collaborating university or other providers may implement various prevention and mitigation measures including, but not limited to, health screening and testing, physical distancing, use of face-coverings, personal hygiene requirements, vaccination, travel restrictions, contact tracing, and possible periods of quarantine or self-isolation. In addition, Colgate may require some or all of these measures, including but not limited to circumstances in which I am granted an exemption from the vaccine requirement as described above.
- I acknowledge that it is my responsibility, as a program participant and member of the community, to comply with any and all prevention and mitigation measures.
- I acknowledge that my failure to comply with any required 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 I am removed from the study group due to my failure to comply with these measures or for other reasons, I understand that I will:
  - forfeit any academic credit related to completion of the program; 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; and

- 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 offenses, I understand that Colgate University also reserves the right to dismiss me from program housing or from the program itself, and/or to impose other disciplinary consequences.

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

- I understand that during the 14 days prior to my departure I am required to monitor my physical symptoms and report any symptoms or incidence of COVID-19 to Colgate University's Office of Off-Campus Study and to my Colgate University study group faculty director.
- I understand and accept that during the 14 days prior to my departure I am *encouraged* to take actions to minimize my potential risk of contracting COVID-19 in order to protect my own health and that of the other participants on my program. Some of these precautions include: practicing physical distancing, washing hands frequently, and wearing face coverings outside of the household. I will remain diligent and avoid large gatherings or non-essential travel during this period.
- I understand that I might be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test and/or proof of being fully vaccinated 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 that Colgate University incorporates federal travel advisories as one of many factors in assessing the overall health and safety of the location of study groups and that Colgate University may elect to continue to operate a program in a location with a Level 4 travel advisory based on its evaluation of conditions prevailing in the program location.
- 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.
- 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.

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

- I understand and acknowledge that due to COVID-19, my study group and/or host country may elect to restrict travel 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 study group is based in the United States, I understand that I will need to follow any applicable Colgate University travel policy for personal travel.
- If my study group 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 out of 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 study group.

#### **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 study group.
- I understand and acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic has temporarily, but significantly, altered the academic and residential experience of my off-campus study group and that Colgate University and its collaborating institutions are 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 my faculty director or Colgate study group collaborating organization/university, or the program manager at the Office of

Off-Campus Study at Colgate University 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 study group location. 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**

- I understand that Colgate University and/or collaborating institutions may determine for health, safety and/or security reasons that the study group must suspend on-site operations and require students to return to their official place of residence.
- I acknowledge that both Colgate University and its collaborating institutions will put plans in place, to the best of their ability, to continue my study group 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 Colgate University suspends my study group 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 study group is suspended, 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 if my off-campus study group is suspended 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 still 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 better but 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, 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, understood, acknowledged and agreed 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.

Signature

Date

Print Name